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BANGLADESH

Official Statement on Anti-Indian Propaganda in Bangladesh Press

Following is the text, of. the statement made by the official spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on January 30, 1976:

Government of India are surprised and pained at the renewed outbursts of anti-India propaganda in the Bangladesh press. It appears that the earlier stories of Indian troop concentrations and intervention threats having failed to carry conviction, new ones are being concocted. the latest being that India is behind the activity of some stray hands of miscreants in a small part of a district of Bangladesh.

The Government of India wish to state categorically that allegations that India is providing arms, training, funds or sanctuary to such miscreants are utterly false and baseless. Government of India's offer to Bangladesh to send its own representatives to see for themselves whether there is any unusual military activity on the Indian side of the border remains open. It is a proof of India's friendly attitude that it has continued to provide training to hundreds of Bangladesh military personnel.

India desires a peaceful border and a strong, stable and prosperous Bangladesh because this is in India's own interest and consistent with India's policy of working for a structure of durable peace and cooperation on the sub-continent.

The attempt to revive anti-Indian feeling is Particularly regrettable in view of the understanding reached during the recent visit of the high-level delegation from Bangladesh led by Mr. Justice A. Sattar when both sides agreed to refrain from hostile propaganda and to work for promotion of friendship and cooperation in the interests of the progress and well-being of their peoples.

The Government of India are led to the inescapable conclusion that allegations of Indian involvement are being made out of domestic compulsions or some other reason.

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FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

Indo-FRG Joint Statement on Economic Cooperation

Following is the text of the joint statement issued in New Delhi on January 25, 1976 at the conclusion of the visit of Mr. Egon Bahr, Minister for Economic Cooperation, Government of the Federal Republic of Germany to India:

Mr. Egon Bahr, Minister for Economic Cooperation of the Government of the

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Federal Republic of Germany, visited India from January 20 to January 26, 1976, at the invitation of the Indian Government.

During his stay Mr. Bahr was received by the President of India, Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, and the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi. He also had meetings with the Minister for External Affairs, Shri Y. B. Chavan, the Minister of Agriculture, Shri Jagjivan Ram, the Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission, Shri P. N. Haksar and the Deputy Minister of Finance, Shrimati Shushila Rohtagi.

The meetings gave both sides opportunities for a comprehensive exchange of views on the relevant international and bilateral issues of economic cooperation between India and the Federal Republic of Germany.

Both sides agreed that the disturbances in the international economic situation during the last few years had seriously affected and

also changed the existing pattern of the economic relations in the world.

Both sides noted with satisfaction that constructive dialogue was now proceeding in several international forums. They agreed to continue their efforts in promoting a consensus; amongst the participants in this dialogue

Minister Bahr explained that the Federal Government intends to adapt the principles and modalities of economic cooperation to the requirements especially of the most seriously affected countries, which include India.

He announced that, beginning with the financial year 1976-77, the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany will further improve the terms of capital assistance to India, viz. the aid will be repayable over a period of 50 years with a grace period of 10 years and carry an interest only of 0.75%. The grant element of such assistance will be 84% as compared to the grant element of 66% of the present capital assistance. Despite the impact of the energy crisis on the German economy, the Federal Government will continue to offer completely united aid which enables the recipient countries to use it most efficiently.

There was an identity of views that growth of agricultural production and rural development should receive the highest Priority. This would directly benefit a majority of people, improve their living conditions and have a very favourable impact on the Indian economy. Indo-German cooperation should, therefore, concentrate on agricultural projects and such industrial undertakings, as are of vital importance for rural development. It was accordingly agreed that amongst the various sectors of Indian economy, irrigation, generation and transmission of power and production of fertilisers would be the priority sectors for future economic cooperation.

During the talks it was noted with satisfaction that Indo-German cooperation in science and technology was growing in several directions. The cooperation in developing new sources of energy such as solar energy and efficient uses of traditional sources

of energy such as coal has been specially successful. It was agreed that collaboration in these fields should be strengthened.

Reviewing trade between India and the Federal Republic of Germany, both sides confirmed their willingness to promote expansion of trade in both directions. It was noted that the European Community has become India's most important trading partner and that there was wide scope for further expansion.

Minister Bahr informed the Indian Government about the forthcoming visit of a delegation of German industrialists-with the intention to discuss the possibilities for more German investments and industrial and technical collaborations in India. In this context the improvements in the Indian procedures for industrial approvals were regarded as a positive factor.

Both sides also noted that a beginning has already been made in industrial cooperation between German and Indian firms in third countries. This was regarded by both sides as an important area for future cooperation.

Minister Bahr visited the Tawa Command Area Project in Madhya Pradesh. This project, which includes the levelling and irrigation of 240,000 hectares of land, will be implemented over the course of the next 10 years and is expected to increase agricultural production of this area by two million tonnes of foodgrains per year.

Minister Bahr indicated that a favourable decision regarding German participation

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in this project was likely to be taken by his Government in the near future.

In Bombay, Minister Bahr took part in the Twentieth Anniversary Celebrations of the Indo-German Chamber of Commerce. In his speech he stressed the need for an economic detente between the developed nations and the Third World.

During his stay in Bombay he visited the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre and paid a visit to the T.V. Studio, Bombay which has received support of German technical assistance. Minister Bahr also called on the Union Minister of Finance, Shri C. Subramaniam.

The discussions were held in the traditional spirit of friendship between India and the Federal Republic of Germany and revealed identity of views on several important international and bilateral economic issues.

GERMANY INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC LATVIA

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FRANCE

Speech by Shrimati Indira Gandhi at Dinner in Honour of French Prime Minister

Following is the text of the speech of the prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi at dinner in honour of Mr. Jacques Chirac, Prime Minister of the Republic of France and Madame Chirac, in New Delhi on January 23, 1976:

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you, Prime Minister, Madame Chirac and the other distinguished members of your delegation on the 26th anniversary of our Republic. I greet you, Prime Minister, as a dynamic leader of a great country whose friendship we value.

This is a formal occasion but I hope you do not mind a brief digression into personal memories. My own acquaintance with France goes back to my 9th year when I attended a summer camp on the shores of Lake Annecy. This awakened in me a life-long interest in

French heroes, real and literary, and other aspects of French life and thought, including the French language which is known for its beauty and precision.

Not only French culture and cuisine but their logic, science and technology have set the pace for modern Europe. In recent years, we have admired the manner in which France, under the leadership of General De Gaulle, lifted itself out of the moods of depression and dependence, and recaptured its identity and sense of purpose. Your President, M. Giscard D'Estaing is bringing youthful vigour and clarity to this policy.

France was in India during the age of colonial conflict. (The Indian word for a European, Feringhee actually indicates a Frenchman). Although, except for a few small possessions, France left India at the end of the eighteenth century, French ideas permeated modern India's consciousness, the ideas of liberty, revolution and republicanism. When eventually we became free we were able to establish with France and other countries, a new political relationship in the post-imperial world.

France maintains independence in its policies. It showed maturity and wisdom in acknowledging the reality of freedom movements in Asia and Africa, and understanding of the problems of the developing world. We also have endeavoured to be true to our ideals. Since geography and history do sway policies, differences of opinion are inevitable but basic areas of agreement remain and we are constantly trying to enlarge them. We especially appreciate the sympathy which France has evinced for our efforts in building our political and economic strength, steering clear of the quicksands of bloc politics, and

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contributing in our own way to international peace and order. For us, non-alignment is neither neutrality nor a negation of responsibility. It is a positive policy of national choice of independence of assessment and action.

The French concept of democracy has in-

fluenced the world, and within France itself, it has been changing and evolving. The strength of a democratic system lies in its flexibility and capacity to adapt itself to the times and the needs of the country, and the genius and aspirations of its people. India's national policies are directed towards the eradication of economic and social inequalities. "The road winds uphill all the way". Over these years, we have struggled step by steep step and in spite of the hazards of calamities inflicted by man and nature, we have reached a level of economic development which has enabled us to survive, to consolidate our unity and to defend our integrity. There is still a long way to go. Perhaps the journey is endless. India is unevenly developed rather than under developed. We may be poor in terms of Gross National Product (though even here the figures do not give an accurate picture), but fortunately we have been able to develop talents and many skills. I wonder if other countries are able to visualise the vastness and diversity of our land with its different levels of development, the complexity of our problems and what an enormous and relentless effort is required to organise and energise material and human resources. Each step forward has to be consolidated before the next. In some sectors of science and technology and even in agriculture we have made remarkable advance. France has made significant contribution to the development of some sophisticated sectors of technology in India and our collaboration is increasing in all fields, particularly in the area of science and technology. We should like it to expand further to our mutual benefit. Your presence in India, Mr. Prime Minister, will help to give final shape to projects of cooperation already on the anvil.

Global peace and security can be maintained only on the basis of equality among nations rejecting old attitudes of exploitation and domination. In the recent chain of international economic crises, countries like India were hit hardest. We are developed enough to need oil, but not rich enough to afford alternative forms of energy. We have welcomed the initiatives taken by France to find a balance between the requirements of various groups of countries in this regard.

There can be no respite from the continuing search for solutions. Scientific discoveries have endowed mankind with the capacity to overcome scarcity. What is needed is the determination to do so. Global inequalities should be redressed through the realisation that the poorest nation has something that the richest needs, and the exchanges should be fair to both sides. We must achieve a harmonious atmosphere and a sense of partnership.

For the first time in his ascent, man is unsure of himself, apprehensive of the vast destructive power he has conjured. In every country there are bold and restless pioneers in education and various branches of learning who are thinking and looking for new paths, but the dominant opinion is still conformist, afraid of the unfamiliar, reluctant to forgo privilege. We have the strange spectacle of independence being subverted in the name of freedom, and means of communication employed not to inform but to secure. We in India are specially conscious of the constant need to resist pressures and to use power for the long-term good of our people, even if our actions are misrepresented.

Prime Minister, we welcome you, Madame Chirac and the members of your delegation. Delhi is hardly representative of the vast majority of Indians. Your visit is too short to see our industry or our agriculture, and you will miss the many faces of India. I hope that what you do glimpse will give you an idea of the nature of our endeavour and with what good humour and confidence we meet the many challenges which confront us.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, I invite you to raise your glasses to the health of our distinguished guest Mr. Chirac, Prime Minister of the Republic of France; to the gracious Madame Chirac; to the great people of France and to friendship between our two countries.

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FRANCE

French Prime Minister's Reply

Replying, the French prime Minister delivered the following speech:

I deeply feel the value and cordiality of the welcome I am receiving here, in this capital city of a country dear to us, in the heart of a continent to which France is genuinely attached, whatever the distance between them.

This welcome alone would be enough to demonstrate that we are received here as real friends. And who could have any doubt about it, since it is abundantly clear to all that for quite some time now our two peoples have established and strengthened mutual bonds of trust and esteem?

Of course, the Republic of India which, for the last ten years, it is your weighty responsibility to govern, is still a young State. Long before its creation, however, these links have been woven between us, foremost in the field of culture.

Deeply rooted in thousands of years of history, being the crucible of many peoples, cultures and religions, mutually enriched during centuries, but having never lost their distinction, the civilisation of India soon spread its light well beyond the boundaries of Asia. In France, it aroused an impassioned interest, although, and perhaps because, its complexity and extraordinary richness often put our so cartesian minds at a loss. Many are the works bearing witness to it from the 17th century to our times. At

the very least, could one fail to quote Bernier, Burnouf, Sylvain Levi or, more recently Louis Renou and all the scholars of the French School for the Far-East in Pondicherry, whose studies brought a decisive contribution to the understanding and knowledge of ancient India? Could one forget the friendship between Romain Rolland and Mahatma Gandhi, the spiritual father of your nation, or the enchanted discovery, then the translation, by Andre Gide, of your great Rabindranath Tagore's writings? Nearer to our days, we recall the ardent quest by Andre Malraux for the meaning of the masterpieces of your art.

Stemming from such traditional bonds, it was but natural for our relationship to take a new dimension once you acquired your independence and asserted your authority in the community of Nations and, most brilliantly, among the Third World. Whatever our dissimilarities, our geographical situation, the levels of our development, our specific concerns and interests, ceaselessly did we develop closer and more trustful relations. Thus were we able to solve for the best of our mutual benefits the only delicate problem that ever rose between us: the incorporation of our old "comptoirs" into the Indian Union.

In this connection, may I say a word on behalf of our compatriots, the Frenchmen of India. I know, Madam, that their faithfulness to France is inseparable from their deep attachment to your country, which remains also theirs thanks to the friendly spirit of our relationship. Whether staying in India or settled in France, I know that they are bent on fostering in our mutual understanding. So they are a valuable asset for our entente and cooperation.

Our relations having thus been cleared of any shadow, Pandit Nehru's trip to Paris and his meeting with General de Gaulle, who was highly appreciative of his eminence as a statesman, henceforth sanctioned a friendship which never failed. That is because, notwithstanding possible shades of appreciation here or there, India and France always proclaimed similar views and worked

towards the same goals, whenever the main things were at stake.

In accordance with its own personality and means of action, each of our two countries wished to base its policy on the same set of values and principles: a deep dedication to the cause of peace, a constantly averred determination to preserve national independence, a continuous concern to link doctrine and pragmatism in the conduct of daily affairs. Be it the settlement of the conflicts which brought dreadful sufferings to South-East Asia, the appeasement of passions in the Middle-East or the equilibrium between great powers, in all such matters our common inspiration lead to a remarkable convergence of our concerns and acts.

Today this is being demonstrated, on a more general level, by our common desire to reject the temptations of confrontation and egoism and to impart, to international relations a spirit of concentration and cooperation, naturally respectful of the indepen-

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dence and identity of nations, but from now on called for by the need of their solidarity.

It is, therefore, with interest and sympathy that we, on our part, follow the progress already achieved by the countries of the sub-continent, now determined to overcome their past differences by means of peaceful negotiation. We sincerely encourage its continuation and express the wish that the restoration of good neighbourhood relations, while respecting the aspiration of each, would achieve a lasting peace conducive to the security, development and flourishing of the whole region.

However, I am pleased to note, never did such a convergence more clearly emerge than from the moment when the deep crises in the world economy forcefully lead us to imagine new bases on which should rest in the future the relations between less favoured and rich countries. From the very beginning, we were convinced that only a strengthening of cooperation could do away with the countless risks of confrontation. For nearly two years

now, France continuously worked towards that end.

You know that it is in that spirit that the President of the French Republic, Mr. Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, proposed in October 1974 to open an international consultation on energy, raw materials and development. His wish was indeed to promote a new world economic order, based on a realistic vision of developments, but also on the universal principles of justice and equity, and in more favourable conditions for solving the problems with which developing countries still are faced.

We are happy to note that such a consultation on a planetary scale is positively under-way. And may I stress here the important and constructive part played in this dialogue by India, as it is recognized by all.

It is, therefore, in this larger perspective now that we have to work out the ways and means of the fruitful cooperation which developed between France and India in a trustful and friendly atmosphere.

Such a cooperation was quite naturally established in the field of culture, but it soon grew to encompass economy, science and technology. At the same time, our trade rather limited for a long time, rapidly increased these last years and reached a level more worthy of what one should expect of it because of the respective importance of our two countries and the quality of their relationship in the political field.

We were agreed today during our first talks that 1976 should be the year of a new start in our economic, industrial, cultural and scientific relations. France is a modern nation-and, as you do, she looks towards the future. The energy of her workers, the quality of her technology, the thoroughness of her industry make now of France an open-minded and imaginative partner.

I am convinced, Madam, that India and France have both the reasons and the means to enlarge their cooperation and to open new vistas for their concerted action. On her

part, France is more than ever desirous to contribute to the gigantic endeavour of economic and social development to which you devoted yourself with all the lofty ideas, the competence, the pertinacity and the will to guard the Indian soul that are worthy of the revered Pandit Nehru. In so doing, you remain faithful to a remark he once made to Andre Malraux and which I never forget: the question is to make the past of India present as nobly as possible for the greatest possible number of Indians.

Madam Prime Minister, I drink this toast to the full success of this difficult but noble task; to H.E. Mr. Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, President of the Indian Union; to you, Madam; to the eminent persons who are here with you; to the happiness of the Indian people; and to the friendship between India and France.

FRANCE USA INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

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FRANCE

Indo-French Declaration on Power Generation

The following press release on Indo-French Declaration on Power Generation was issued in New Delhi on January 24, 1976:

A joint declaration on Indo-French Co-operation in the field of electric power generation and transmission was signed in New Delhi today.

In accordance with the recommendations of the Indo-French Study Group on Economic and Technical Cooperation, the Central

Electricity Authority and Electricite de France have agreed to promote cooperation in the field of Electric Power Generation and Transmission.

The Agreement was signed on behalf of India by Shri K. C. Pant, Union Minister for Energy, and Mr. Raymond Barre, Minister of Foreign Trade of the Republic of France.

The areas particularly envisaged for co-operation between the C.E.A. and E.D.F. are the following:

- Planning, automation and control of Super Thermal Power Stations.
- Development of bulb-type Hydro-Plants.
- Planning and design of Extra High Voltage Transmission Systems.
- Establishment of High Voltage Laboratory for testing of EHV equipment.
- Development of computer techniques and methods of calculation in the field of coordinated planning of large power systems and load despatch centres.
- Training of Indian engineers in the various specialised fields.

There will be exchange of technical information and experts between C.E.A. and EDF, visits of Study Teams of C.E.A. to France, and participation of EDF experts in selected technical studies of the C.E.A.

The agreement prepared by the C.E.A. and E.D.F. for covering the terms and conditions of cooperation will be signed in the course of the next few months during the visit of the Chairman of the C.E.A. to France.

The Government of India and the Government of France have expressed their satisfaction at the cooperation envisaged between the Central Electricity Authority and the Electricite de France.

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FRANCE

Indo-French Memorandum on Technical Cooperation in Communications

The following press release on Indo-French memorandum on technical cooperation in communications was issued in New Delhi on January 26, 1976:

A new era of technical cooperation is envisaged between India and France in the field of telecommunications. The area of cooperation extends to exchange of technical information and experts, techno-economic studies, trials and experiments in the fields of digital electronic switching systems, long distance transmission systems, domestic satellite communications, electro-mechanical crossbar switching systems, new types of coaxial cable and telecommunication network management and operating methods of common interest to India and France.

A Memorandum of Understanding to this effect was signed here today by Mr. Raymond Barre, Minister for Foreign Trade on behalf of the Republic of France and Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma, Minister of Communications on behalf of India.

There have been discussions between the Ministries of India and France over the last one year for closer cooperation between the two countries in the field of Communications. Today marked a significant milestone by signing a Memorandum of Understanding. This is a result of recommendation of the Indo-French Study Group on economic and technical cooperation in March 1975.

France has made notable advances in

Digital Transmission Telecommunication networks. In this process an ordinary telephone speech is converted into a digital code for transmission and the new systems offers many technical and economic advantages.

Both India and France attach great importance to this Memorandum of Understanding. The identity of views of India and France and the common approach to several problems would help considerably in increasing the cooperation in the field of telecommunications.

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Indo-French Joint Communique

Following is the text of the Indo-French joint communique issued in New Delhi on January 26, 1976 at the conclusion of the official visit of the French Prime Minister to India:

At the invitation of the Prime Minister of India, the Prime Minister of France and Madame Chirac paid an official visit to India from January 23 to 26, 1976. The French Prime Minister was accompanied by Mr. Barre, the Minister for Foreign Trade, Mr. Destremau, Secretary of State to the Minister for Foreign Affairs and high officials. The distinguished visitors received a warm and friendly welcome in India in keeping with the ties of friendship between the two countries.

The Prime Minister of France and Madame Chirac were received by the Presi-

dent of India, Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, and Begum Ahmed who also gave a lunch in their hour. They witnessed the Republic Day celebrations as guests of honour.

Shrimati Indira Gandhi and Mr. Jacques Chirac and the Ministers of the two countries, assisted by officials, had wide ranging discussions on bilateral as well as international issues of mutual interest. These discussions were held in an atmosphere of great cordiality, mutual confidence and understanding.

The Prime Ministers confirmed the priority that both India and France attach to national independence and their common desire to contribute to the preservation of peace as well as better cooperation and greater justice in the field of international relations. In this context, they noted with satisfaction the close and mutually beneficial relations between the two countries in the political field as well as in the economic, scientific, technical and cultural fields.

The two sides agreed to raise the level of the Indo-French Committee on Technical and Economic Cooperation to Ministerial level and expressed their desire to make use of this framework to further intensify and expand Indo-French cooperation in economic exchanges, industry and technology to their mutual benefit. They noted in this context the importance of giving concrete shape to the already considered possibilities of Indo-French cooperation in third countries. They expressed satisfaction over the conclusion of memoranda of understanding relating to cooperation in the fields of production and transmission of electricity and of telecommunications. The French side conveyed and the Indian side took note of French interest in extending cooperation in the fields of new sources of energy, railways, petrochemicals and the steel industry.

Both sides expressed satisfaction at the rapid growth of the volume of Indo-French economic exchanges but agreed that it was desirable to further strengthen and diversify them. The two sides also reviewed various concrete areas of economic co-

operation identified during the preparatory talks in December 1975 and noted that some of these have already come to successful conclusion. They expressed their determination to strengthen their efforts to identify fresh areas of cooperation.

The Indian side conveyed its appreciation of the cooperation extended by French in India's economic development and stated that, in view of the serious consequences of recent international economic developments on India's economic situation, qualitative and quantitative improvement in aid would be of great help. The French side affirmed its interest in development cooperation with India and, noting the efforts that India was making largely through its own resources to achieve socioeconomic progress, expressed its readiness to further strengthen cooperation in this respect.

The two Prime Ministers also reviewed the international situation and noted that, as a whole, there was close similarity of views on the matters discussed.

Both sides welcomed the successful conclusion of the European Conference on Security and Cooperation at Helsinki as an important step in the process of detente. They regretted the persistence of external pressures and interference in internal affairs in various areas; at the same time they expressed the view that relaxation of tensions

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would facilitate greater cooperation in international relations.

The two sides expressed satisfaction over the growing cooperation between the European Economic Community and India and expressed their keen desire that India and the European Economic Community deepen and diversify such cooperation.

The two Prime Ministers exchanged views on recent developments in South Asia. The Prime Minister of India reaffirmed her Government's determination to promote harmonious relations and establishment of durable peace in the sub-continent. Both of

them recognised the necessity of establishing among the States of the sub-continent good neighbourly relations and cooperation on the basis of equality, mutual respect and benefit, as well as peaceful resolution of problems bilaterally without outside Interference. They agreed that promotion of peace and cooperation among all the State concerned was vital to the stability and development of the region as well as to international security.

The two Prime Ministers emphasised the importance of maintaining the momentum towards peace in the Middle East and the urgent necessity for a just and lasting settlement of the outstanding problems.

The Prime Ministers expressed their satisfaction over the end of the conflict in the Indo-Chinese Peninsula after a long period of struggle and suffering. They welcomed the prospects for the national reconstruction and economic development of Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam as well as for the harmonious development of the relations between all South East Asian countries by the return of peace in the region.

Both sides reiterated their determination to work for the strengthening of the United Nations, and the development of international political and economic cooperation. They noted with satisfaction the promising start of the Paris Conference on International Economic Cooperation convened at the initiative of President Giscard d'Estaing. They agreed that determined efforts by all parties concerned, in a spirit of mutual understanding and cooperation, would be necessary in order to bring this Conference to a fruitful conclusion which would represent a very important step towards the establishment of a new international economic order and hence to the consolidation of world peace and security. In this context both sides noted in particular the importance of finding urgent and adequate solutions to the special problems of the Most Seriously Affected Countries.

The Prime Minister of France thanked the Prime Minister of India for the warm hospitality accorded to him and Mrs. Chirac

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

FRANCE INDIA USA FINLAND CAMBODIA LAOS VIETNAM CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

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FRANCE

Ministerial Level Indo-French Committee on Technical and Economic Cooperation

The Following press release on the exchange of letters on Indo-French committee on technical and economic cooperation to ministerial level was issued in New Delhi on January 27, 1976:

India and France have agreed to raise the level of the Indo-French Committee on Technical and Economic Cooperation to ministerial level. The Letters of Exchange for setting up this committee were signed here yesterday by Mr. Raymond Barre, French Foreign Trade Minister and the Union Commerce Minister, Prof. D. P. Chattopadhyaya on behalf of their respective Governments.

The Committee would identify ways and means of increasing the scope of economic and technical cooperation between India and France. This would include-analysis of the needs and resources of both the countries including the availability of raw materials, equipment and technology and study of the scope for cooperation between the two countries, particularly in the context of their development programmes, identification and review of fields of manufacture where major production or technological gaps exist or are likely to develop in India and possibilities of technological collaboration with French industrial groups in these fields including new

fields of collaboration involving advanced technology, examination of possibilities for joint manufacturing programmes between industrial groups in both the countries with a

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view to taking maximum advantage of relative production costs in the two countries in the manufacture of various components and finished goods, review and recommendations on technological collaboration possibilities in industrial research and development, and consideration of the possibilities of setting up export-oriented joint collaboration undertakings in India, to promote exports to third country markets or of setting up joint ventures in third countries.

This Committee is expected to review the development, expansion and diversification on mutual economic relations which would include recommendations relating to promotional activities such as exchange of economic missions and delegations and participation in fairs and exhibitions, steps for strengthening beneficial cooperation between the industrial enterprises, sales organisations and banking institutions on both sides, and steps to give the most efficient support to the promotional measures which may be undertaken by the exporters of both the countries, and in particular, to accord facilities to make their respective products known in each other's market.

WORKING GROUPS

The Committee would appoint, if necessary, ad hoc working groups and organise studies on specific problems of mutual interest in the two countries for conducting its functions. The Committee would review the progress achieved in the implementation of the recommendations made by the Committee and accepted by the two Governments.

The members for each meeting of the Committee would be appointed by both parties taking into consideration the agenda of the meeting concerned. The Committee would meet, preferably, once a year or as and when considered necessary, at a date convenient to both the parties, alternatively

in Paris and New Delhi.

The Committee would maintain close contact with the public as well as private sector organisations in both countries.

This arrangement might be terminated by either party by sending a written communication to that effect of the other party, giving six months' notice in advance.

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HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

President's Address to Parliament

Following is the text of the President, Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed's address to Parliament on January 5, 1976:

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you all and particularly to have in our midst the representatives of Sikkim, which became the 22nd State of the Indian Union in May, 1975. It will be the endeavour of Government to ensure speedy development of this neglected hill State.

Last year, while noting the positive trends in the economy arising out of the firm measures taken by Government, I drew attention to the efforts of some groups to disrupt the existing system and institutions and the danger this posed to the stability and progress of the country. I appealed to them to follow the path of discussion to bring about changes and welcomed suggestions for reform. It is most unfortunate that this appeal was not heeded. Groups and elements of widely differing persuasions

joined together to paralyse the country's economic and political life. They clutched at every opportunity to create confusion in the minds of the people and to foment chaos and disorder. Their activities seriously threatened internal security. They were directed towards undermining Government's vigorous efforts to curb economic offences, increase production and ensure the smooth and speedy movement of goods in order to

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stem the rising tide of inflation, stabilise the economy and bring relief to the people. The nation's interests demanded firm and decisive action.

The declaration of Emergency on June 25, 1975, the 20-Point Economic Programme launched on July 1, 1975, and the steps taken to tone up efficiency in all spheres of national life have had a dramatic effect on the health of the nation. Diffidence and apathy have given place to confidence that we can face our problems successfully if we are disciplined and united, and do not allow our energies to be frittered away. Our people have given overwhelming support to the steps taken by the Government and have welcomed the change in the atmosphere in the country. Strengthened by this, decisive action has been taken by Government on a wide front. Inflation has been checked. The over-all price has come down by 10 per cent when compared to the peak level reached in September, 1974, the fall in the price level of food articles being nearly 20 per cent. Stringent action has been taken against economic offences. Shortage of coal, power, intermediate goods like steel and cement and the dislocation and inefficient working of the transport system had severely strained the economy during 1973 and 1974. This year production has increased and performance improved significantly in all these sectors. With the cooperation of workers, industrial peace has been maintained, save in a few isolated cases. Several distortions and imbalances that had developed in the economy have been corrected. As a result of this, the privileges enjoyed by some groups have been reduced. But it should be remembered that no single group can further its interests in isolation. The in-

terests of each group are dependent on the soundness of the economy as a whole.

New vigour has been imparted to the implementation of programmes for the uplift of the poor. Rapid progress is being made in allotment of house sites to the landless, implementation of land reforms, increasing agricultural wages and giving relief from debts.

The problem of poverty cannot be solved in a short time. We can make a dent in it only through sustained hard work and discipline in all walks of life. The new spirit that has been generated over the last few months should therefore be maintained unimpaired.

The 20-Point Economic Programme will continue to be implemented with zeal. Government invites the full cooperation of the People as it is a peoples' programme and cannot be implemented by official agencies alone.

We have a record kharif crop this year. The maximum quantity of grain will be procured so that farmers will not have to sell below the procurement price and in order to have sufficient stocks to meet any unforeseen eventuality.

We aim to extend irrigation to five million more hectares before 1979. Disputes between States have delayed a number of projects. Government will try to get acceptance of the concept of water as a national asset to be utilised to the best advantage of all the people. A National Water Resources Council with adequate powers to prepare master plans for river basins will be constituted. Meanwhile, efforts have been intensified to settle as many disputes as possible by bringing the concerned States together. As a result, agreements have been reached regarding some projects in the Narmada basin, the Rajghat project on the Betwa river and the Kadana project on the Mahi river. The recent agreement amongst five States on the utilisation of a major portion of the waters of the Godavari River is a landmark in the settlement of inter-State water dispute by negotiations. The Godavari basin

covers a tenth of the area of the country and the agreement will enable the construction of projects to irrigate five million hectares of land.

The outlay on the annual plan this year is 25 per cent higher than last year's. This will be further increased next year with emphasis on priority sectors so that the impulses of growth are quickened. Simultaneously, steps will be taken to ensure the modernisation of industries like textiles and sugar, which are engaged in the production of mass consumption goods and have been suffering from obsolescence and sickness.

Industrial licensing policies and procedures have been under review. Controls which are no longer relevant will be removed to increase production in priority areas and widen the entrepreneurial base, consistent with the objective of curbing the concentration of economic power.

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International economic events of the last three years have imposed severe strain on our balance of payments. A big increase in exports is essential to achieve a self-reliant economy. Several measures have recently been initiated to promote exports. Special steps will be taken, with the assistance of State Governments, to increase exports of handlooms and handicrafts. A review of policies and procedures is being made so as to remove constraints and obstructions.

Measures to improve administrative efficiency will continue and will be expanded. Our administrative procedures and attitudes have remained largely unchanged, specially in the field of financial administration which affects the working of all wings of Government. Government has decided upon a comprehensive scheme of reform of financial administration, which will be put through this year. The maintenance of accounts of the Union will be departmentalised and separated from Audit. Rules and procedures for payment of salaries and pensions, maintenance of provident fund accounts, remittance and withdrawal of moneys, and for sanction of expenditure will be simplified and modernised.

ed. Methods of evaluation of performance will have to be changed in order to make the administration at every level result-oriented and accountable.

A major achievement in the field of health is the eradication of small pox. Strict vigil is being kept against the recurrence of this scourage. The campaign against other communicable diseases is being intensified.

We are aiming to reduce the birth rate to 30 per thousand in the next three years. To achieve this, the family planning programme will have to become a mass movement. New schemes of incentives and disincentives are being evolved to increase the acceptance of a small family.

Along with other countries, we observed 1975 as International Women's Year. The problems faced by women in a number of areas have been studied in detail. The Ordinance guaranteeing to women equal remuneration for equal work will come before you this session. A National Plan for Women is being prepared, the implementation of which will help to remove some disabilities from which they suffer.

I congratulate our Space scientists and engineers on the construction of our first Satellite, Aryabhata. The successful working of the Satellite Instructional Television Experiment is a landmark in the practical application of science and technology for the benefit of the rural population. This Experiment will help us to decide on the use of television as a means of mass communication in rural areas.

The importance of developing new sources of energy has been recognised and work is being intensified in a number of areas. Bio-gas plants and the utilisation of solar energy are being given high priority.

I shall now deal with our relations with other countries. We remain firm in our conviction that normal and friendly relations between all the countries of the sub-continent are essential for the progress of their peoples.

Recent events in Bangladesh have caused us anguish and concern. We were shocked and grieved by the brutal assassination of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, the members of his family and his associates. Nevertheless, we have treated developments in Bangladesh entirely as an internal affair of that country. We are therefore distressed by the false propaganda that is being carried on in some quarters. In recent talks between representatives of the two countries, we have reaffirmed our desire for a peaceful border and a stable, strong and independent Bangladesh in which the interest and welfare of all sections of its people are safeguarded. Bangladesh emphasised its desire to continue the policy and ensuring equal rights to all its people, irrespective of caste, creed and religion.

I regret that the progress of implementation of the Simla Agreement has been slow because of disappointing response from Pakistan, which has continued a campaign of misrepresentation of India.

Our traditional bonds of friendship with Bhutan are growing. The programme of economic co-operation has taken a giant stride with the starting of work on the Chukha hydroelectric project.

Relations with our friendly neighbour, Nepal, were further strengthened by the visit to India of their Majesties the King and Queen in 1975. As a result of the discussions held during the visit, there is better appreciation of the mutual advantages of a joint

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approach to the utilisation of waters of the rivers flowing into India from Nepal.

With Sri Lanka we have strengthened the tradition of informal and mutually beneficial exchanges and collaboration on matters of common interest. We have improved our economic, cultural and scientific links with Burma.

We have sought to strengthen our relations with our neighbours: in South-East Asia as well as with Japan and other countries of

East Asia. We rejoiced at the ending of the prolonged hostilities in Indo-China and have welcomed the negotiations leading to the reunification of the two Zones of Vietnam. We believe that a reunited Vietnam and stable and economically strong Cambodia and Laos will constitute forces for peace and stability in South-East Asia. I visited Indonesia in March, 1975, where I found a growing awareness of the possibilities and mutual advantages of increased economic, industrial and technological cooperation between Indonesia and India.

We have close and friendly ties with Afghanistan, based on historical and cultural affinity and on similarity of approach to current problems. We are gratified that programmes of technical and economic co-operation are making good progress.

Our understanding and mutually beneficial exchanges with Iran have grown and become more varied. An important landmark in this process has been the signing of agreements for the development of the Kundremukh Iron Ore Project.

Economic, commercial and cultural contacts with the Arab countries continued to make progress. My visit to the Arab Republic of Egypt and the Sudan gave me deeper insight into the problems of West Asia. Government reaffirms its belief that lasting peace in West Asia will not be achieved until Arab territories seized by force are speedily vacated and the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people are restored.

We greet Mozambique, Angola, Cape Verde, Sao Tome and Principe on their achievement of independence from centuries of Portuguese colonialism. We also welcome the emergence to independence of Comoros, Surinam and Papua New Guinea.

We cannot but condemn armed intervention by South Africa in the internal affairs of Angola. India has steadfastly supported the Organisation of African Unity and will join with Africa in all measures to end apartheid, to liberate Namibia and to end racist minority rule in Zimbabwe and South Africa.

India's relations with the Soviet Union and countries in Eastern Europe are characterised by a spirit of warm friendship, understanding and mutually beneficial co-operation in a widening variety of fields. These countries have consistently supported India on all issues of vital concern. In the last few months, a number of high level visits have been exchanged and I visited Hungary and Yugoslavia.

In Europe, the successful conclusion of the conference on Security and Co-operation marks an important step in the consolidation of peace. This spirit of detente should extend to other parts of the world where conflict and tension persist. Our economic co-operation as well as relations in the fields of trade and science and technology with the E.E.C. and other countries of Western Europe has continued to expand.

We desire a mature and constructive relationship with the United States of America. A serious effort should be made to understand each other with a view to strengthening peace, stability and co-operation.

The next conference of Heads of State and Government of non-aligned countries will be held in Sri Lanka in August this year. We are glad that the validity of non-alignment has come to be recognised more widely. At the same time attempts are being made to weaken and dilute the non-aligned movement. We shall continue to strive to preserve the fundamental principles of non-alignment and the solidarity and effectiveness of non-aligned countries.

The most striking feature of the world economy is dominance by a small number of rich countries. The developing poor countries bear the brunt of the burden. As each year passes, the problems of these countries become more acute. This trend must be reversed urgently and steps taken to establish a new world economic order. The consensus reached at the seventh special session of the United Nations General Assembly marks the beginning of a dialogue. In the Paris Conference on International Economic Co-ope-

ration, we contributed constructively in an

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effort to evolve equitable solutions to the problems of energy, the pricing of raw materials and industrial products and of the economic development of poor countries. We hope that concrete agreements for action will be reached in relevant international forums as early as possible.

Honourable Members, in view of the uncertainties of the international situation, especially on our sub-continent and the neighbourhood, the continuing challenge of form of disruption at home and the need to accelerate our social and economic programmes, the nation should remain vigilant and disciplined. There must be constant effort to improve performance and bring about changes and reforms in every sphere of national life.

Before concluding, I should like to refer to the unprecedented tragedy in Chasnala Colliery, which has plunged the whole nation in deep sorrow. The work on clearing the mine of the flooded water is in progress. Several friendly countries and a number of organisations within the country have come forward to assist this operation. Government will spare no efforts to mitigate the sufferings of the affected families and to improve conditions of safety for workers.

Your present session will be a short one, but the agenda is heavy. In addition to pending business from the last session and the conversion of Ordinances into Acts of Parliament, you have to consider the bill on urban land, which will be introduced during the session. There is not a minute to waste. I am sure you will provide the clear, bold and firm lead which the people expect. I summon you to your labours and wish you all success.

INDIA USA LATVIA BANGLADESH CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC PAKISTAN BHUTAN UNITED KINGDOM NEPAL SRI LANKA BURMA JAPAN CHINA VIETNAM CAMBODIA LAOS AFGHANISTAN IRAN EGYPT SUDAN ANGOLA MOZAMBIQUE SAO TOME E PRINCIPE COMOROS GUINEA PAPUA NEW GUINEA SOUTH AFRICA NAMIBIA ZIMBABWE HUNGARY YUGOSLAVIA FRANCE

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HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

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

Replying to the debate on the President's Address, the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, made the following speech in Rajya Sabha on January 8, 1976:

Mr. Deputy Chairman, may I start with the last point mentioned by the honourable Member opposite, Shri Bhupesh Gupta, Chasnala is very much on the minds not only of those sitting here but of the entire nation? These last days since we first heard of the calamity, our thoughts and our sympathies have been with the families of the miners who are trapped there. We do not yet know whether it is possible to save them, but we dare not give up hope until the very last moment. But we do offer our sincere prayers and send our deep sympathy to the affected families of all those miners. It may be true, as Shri Gupta said, that all the safety measures have not been taken. I do not know. That is why, we have instituted a judicial inquiry which will give its report soon - well it will take some time before it can start, but once it starts, it will give it soon - and whatever remedies they suggest, even if it is too late to help the people in this particular case, will be a pointer for safety in future in all mining projects.

This debate has been understandably largely concerned with the declaration of emergency. I have spoken on this matter at the earlier session of Parliament and I do not have much that is new to say, My colleagues who have spoken from this side have very ably put forward our case. It is not true

that the world has not understood it. If you think that the world consists of just half a dozen countries, then perhaps what you are saying is correct. But the non-aligned world, the socialist world and many other countries have expressed their full understanding of the situation in India, the reasons because of which emergency had to be proclaimed and the fact that we have acted entirely according to our Constitution. I do not want to go into the question of what the press either here or abroad would have said or has said because other Members have drawn attention to what they been saying about India these many months and years, long before the emergency was declared. We know where they stood at the time of Bangladesh. At that time there were no press curbs; nobody was under detention here; nobody could say that there were curbs on democracy. But the press of which today the Members of the Opposition speak apart from some exceptions, mostly the press and many governments

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stood on the other side; they stood on the side of the nations which had made no pretence of democracy. Today also we find no criticism of those countries which do not have parliaments, which do not have elections, which do not have a free press of any kind except the government press. No. All this opposition, all the accusations, the allegations, these are reserved only for India and why? - because they say that they expected something different from India. We are special angels dropped from the sky; we are so good that we cannot even be helped - before we had committed anything or we can be said to have curbed democracy, let us remember that we got precious little help when we were dealing with the refugees from Bangladesh, and some help was even cut off at that very critical time in our national history.

I was interested to hear what Mr. Goray said. He came to see me some time ago. He had also written to me. He was in America at that time and he wrote from there and I asked him a question in my reply to his letter. He has not replied to that question. And I would like to ask that ques-

tion not only of Mr. Goray but also of some of his other colleagues, the learned Mr. Joshi and others. They are very much concerned today about the demise of democracy; they are concerned when somebody says something about other people. But we did not hear their voices when the Gujarat Assembly was being removed in an entirely undemocratic, unconstitutional manner. They did not raise their voices when the same thing was sought to be repeated in Bihar. We did not hear their voices when there was the threat of satyagraha on the floor of the House or when a Member of this honourable House wanted to go and occupy the chair of the Secretary.

It is a motley crowd. Somebody said "why do you lump together all those people?" It is not we who are lumping people together. It is they who have jumped themselves together of their own free choice. Who has forced these parties to come together? Has anybody threatened "If you don't come together, we will murder you", as we have been told "If you don't do this, you will be murdered"? They were not being intimidated. They have entered into these alliances, the Janata Morcha or whatever you like to call it, of their own free will. If Shri Goray is today aligned with the RSS and the Jan Sangh, it is his choice. It is not we who have asked him to go along with those people.

We point out to what is known history. All these things are in print. I am not inventing them. I cannot give the date and the figure, but I can produce that literature - I have it in my house, I have it in my office here - all the speeches the Jan Sangh, the RSS made about Mahatma Gandhi, about my father. Today the examples of Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru are put before me. But they do not care to see and to read what was said about them in their life-times. And are we to believe that they have changed their policy today? Are we to believe that there has been a change of heart in parties that are so deeply rooted in violence, in hatred? Shri Joshi complained about the use of the word 'Fascism'. Maybe he does know what it means, but I do claim to know what it means. I was in Europe when there

was Fascism. And when we had an anti-Fascist conference in Patna, to which Shri Bhupesh Gupta referred, there were many delegates there who had been in Hitler's concentration camps. They were not speaking of something that they had read about in books. There were many people whose families had suffered. They knew what it meant to be under a Fascist regime. So when they spoke about Fascism, it was from personal experience. I wonder what personal experience Shri Joshi has had. You can read a lot of books, but I do not think you can know what it means unless you have seen it happen with your own eyes. It is just like those people here who talk sometimes about freedom, who have had nothing to do with the freedom struggle. They cannot know what it meant to us at that time. It was not

- question of being in prison. It was not
- question of being beaten up by the police or having bayonets stuck into your chest by the British military. That was not the hard part of it. It was the constant humiliation of the Indian nation. This is what they did not realise at that time. All that time they were with the British. Don't forget that. Don't forget that out of the RSS was born the murderer of Mahatma Gandhi and today you welcome that party in Gujarat. We have Shri Ramlal Parikh here, an old associate. He spoke about the spirit of Mahatma Gandhi. But in his State - Shri Manubhai Shah rightly reminded him - some of the members of his party stood on the Jan Sangh ticket and under the Jan Sangh sym-

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bol in Rajkot district, in Gandhiji's district. So you make these fine and learned speeches. I am not a learned person. As my hon'ble friend, Shri Sultan Singh said "I am not a learned person". I am not educated in the sense that the honourable and learned professor here is learned. And quite frankly I do not think I have missed anything. If I have had education, it has been in the villages of India, It has been in the prisons of India, it has been where Fascism was being fought in countries far-off corners from India.

Emergency was declared not because we

wanted to declare emergency. Emergency was declared not because we are afraid of elections, not because we are afraid of abuse or false allegations or threats or intimidation. Had it been so, had we been afraid, we would have declared emergency a long time ago. Please look at the newspapers, the national newspapers and see what they have been saying for the last two years, what kind of falsehood, what kind of misinterpretation, was found in the press, And it passed under the name of freedom of the press. People who never went to villages were writing about what we should do for rural welfare. People have been blaming me all the time for ignoring the village. I had an American correspondent just about a fortnight ago. He said: "Oh! I have gone round the city, here and they say you are very anti-city. You are only concerned about the rural people". I said: "Only the other day, your papers and our papers were blaming me for ignoring the rural people. If I am dealing with them, at least you should be pleased to that extent."

Emergency had to be declared because of acts of sabotage, because there was a very deliberate, conscious, declared effort to paralyse the Central Government. These words are not my words. They have been used by the leaders of the movement. As somebody quoted, the words that the fight should be on the streets, were not my words. Nor was that our intention. It was the motley crowd which had got together, which raised this slogan that the fight would be on the streets. We can fight in this House with words and we can also fight with numbers on the street and when I say 'fight' we do not mean throwing stones which Jan Sangh and other members of the Front were doing at every Congress meeting, addressed by Jagjivan Ramji, myself and other Congress leaders during the Gujarat election. What is the use of their telling me: You prove it. I saw it with my eyes. There were lakhs of people and you would send small boys of this size shouting abusive, vulgar slogans. Who taught them these slogans? Is it the way to create a nation? Is it the way to teach them democratic and constitutional and national values? Little boys of 9 and 10 years of age went about waving black flags and shouting

vulgarity and obscenity. I heard them with my own ears. I do not need anybody to come and report to me. I saw how in a huge meeting just 30 or 25 people would get up or only 10 or 15 would rise. In Ahmadabad there were just 10 people who got up. But they threw stones and shoes. They must have collected them before hand because they were not throwing their own shoes. This was how fair and free elections were being held. You heard Shri Manubhai Shah tell how in the Surukwa village - I do not know whether I am pronouncing it correctly - of Borsa taluk of Khera district, the Presiding Officer was caught red-handed by our polling agent. He himself admitted that he had already cast 24 votes in favour of Jan Sangh, he had 24 more in his hand. He is now behind the bars. These are facts. Just by saying that everything was calm and peaceful in the country and everything was going democratically, you do not change facts. The fact remains that every single visitor from abroad, whether from a capitalist country or a socialist country or from the Asian countries, has said to me: "Mrs. Gandhi, do you think this is democracy? Do you think if you continue like this, this country can survive?" Every single one of them has asked me this question. I have mentioned either in this House or in the last House, that once an Ambassador had called on me to state: "I come at the request of the Head of my nation. What are you doing to India? We cannot understand your inaction". I had to hear such remarks. Why? Because I believed in tolerance. Because I thought that whatever hatred there was and frustration there was in the hearts of the opposition, they would not cross a certain limit for they would realise that beyond a limit there would be chaos, instability and danger to this country, its unity, its integrity and to its very freedom.

Democracy is a value which we deeply cherish. And it is we who have brought democracy. I have no hesitation in saying that parties like Jan Sangh have had nothing to do with it and if they had, India would not have been a democratic country. Some

have received his speech - compared me to Hitler and to Mussolini, two very different people by the way. But perhaps he does not know. Well, I do not know whether he was trying to pay a compliment because now they are all together with the Jan Sangh and we know that the Jan Sangh and the RSS have been great and open admirers of Hitler and Mussolini. Openly they said so. I have myself read their speeches and I have also pointed out to the Jan Sangh leaders and they have maintained that that is the kind of government that India needs. So, maybe they thought that they were paying me a compliment. But I can do without such compliments or any complaints from such questions.

What does totalitarianism mean? Would we be sitting here and listening to you if this was a totalitarian Government? Would you be free at all if this was a totalitarian Government? I spoke earlier of the Press. All over Europe, India is being blamed because some people are detained, because there are some curbs on the Press. But, have they had anything to say about the murders in Bangladesh? No. If you kill your own opponents, it is all right. But, if you detain them, then you are a dictator. Maybe that is what you would have preferred because, then, the question would be finished and nobody could raise it any more.

I request you: Get hold of old European papers and see how many of them, excepting for brief news reports, have commented on those murders as they have done and as they continue to do day after day about India's emergency. Therefore, as my honourable friend here has pointed out, it is time that the Opposition took a look at these with whom they are marching in step. Are these the people who have stood for India's strength? Are these the people who have stood for India's unity? Are these the people who have stood for India's progress? Why are they praising the Opposition today? Why are they so concerned about you today? They are not concerned about the people who have been killed or the people who have been democratically elected in other countries. They are not bothered about those people

being killed. For them it was a good thing and they welcome it. But you are prepared to march step in step with them. Well, you choose your company; it is your affair. But don't talk to us about democracy because it has nothing whatsoever to do with democracy. If we have placed curbs today, it is because democracy was in danger and it is because a handful of people, representing a minority of the Indian people, were trying to stop the functioning of the will of the majority of the people. And, this was not something unique to this country. Any time if anybody wants to do something new, any time the people want to change the status quo, powerful forces come up; some are obvious and others are not so obvious. But the forces and their strength are tremendous. It is no use saying that you are a few in number. You ask the man whose house was burnt down in Gujarat how long it took and how much money and how much effort and how many labourers were needed to build that house. But how many people were needed to burn it down to the ground? One or two people were enough. What is the use of saying that we are so many and you are only few and what can a few people do? They did it and they have burnt down the house. We know that countries have been destroyed by handful of people. It is not a mass movement that is needed to destroy a country. If you are so sure as you today say, "Go to the elections and see", why didn't you yourselves wait for the elections? Why did you want to destroy the government just a few months before the elections?

So, I am afraid, are many many questions await answers. Even if I were to deal with them all, my whole speech would contain only questions to you all. You have not been able to answer any of those questions in all your speeches.

Emergency obviously means some curbs on democracy. Nobody has said that it doesn't. But it has been said that these curbs were necessary because of the behaviour of a very small number of people in our country and because they were not reluctant to take support for other elements. Many of you may believe in non-violence. I am not

saying that you all believe in violence and I am not saying that you all believe in wrong methods. But, because you did not have the public support, you were willing to give in to those who did believe in violence. As today, although the Jan Sangh does not have a majority in the Gujarat Government, the Gujarat Government is virtually in the hands of the Jan Sangh. It does not matter who the Chief Minister or the other ministers are.

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This is obvious from their actions and from what is being allowed to be done there.

For a country, democracy is important. But democracy is not an end. Democracy is a tool, is a means, of achieving something. And what are we striving for in our country? We are striving to take a country of 600 million people from one age to another. We are striving not only to bring a better physical and material life to them, but also to bring something more to them - a new life where they can have the fullest development of their personality.

But this cannot happen without some curbs. You cannot say that a few people will have every luxury, whether that luxury is material luxury in the form of land or of many houses or property or black money or a luxury of doing exactly as they like even if this harms the interests of the many. This is a luxury which cannot be allowed if we want to change this country and bring about a transformation of society. And thus, Emergency had to come. A sense of discipline has grown. But there are two islands where every effort is being made to destroy that discipline, where every encouragement is being given, who want to seek aid from outside to speak against India, who try and think of their interests before the national interests. I have said in this House before, and I have no hesitation in repeating that I do not mind which party forms the Government, provided that party is going to stand for the unity and integrity of India, But what do we find with the Opposition? Are they willing to hear the voice of our people, or do they listen to some voice outside? What do we find? Many of our intellectuals are much enamoured of the

written word or speech that comes from other countries, even though that picture of India and, how it should grow, is entirely removed from the realities of the situation here. Until we can strengthen the nation enough, we cannot meet this onslaught. I admit, Sir, that it was my fault. I fully admit that it was my weakness that I allowed such a situation to arise. I admit that the sort of tolerance I displayed was a crime against India at that time. And I have to make up for that crime now, and make this country strong.... (Interruptions) ... and make this democracy strong... (interruptions) ... People who threaten to get elected Assemblies dissolved have no right to talk of democracy, and....

Nobody dismissed the Government there. I do not know whether you were there....

The Chief Minister of Kerala said that he could not handle the law and order situation. Any how if that was a wrong decision in one very small part of India, can you declare it to be the right thing for the entire country? Therefore, you make up your mind about the right or wrong....

We have heard of instability. We have heard about it. I will talk about it, because I happen to know about it.

When there has been instability in one or more states, we have not interfered. We have tolerated the situation. We have had opposition governments and coalition governments in many States. We have not toppled those Governments or made any effort to topple them.

But when something is sought to be done at the Centre, it is not the same thing. If the Centre is weakened, then what holds the country together. What keeps aggression away, how are industry and agriculture dealt with? What holds the different part of the country together? If the Centre is not there, there cannot be a whole country as we see India today. There cannot be any democracy if the Centre is weak. Therefore, when you say that people do not know the meaning of fascism, I would very humbly say that a lot of people do not know what democracy means

and they are loudest in speaking.

The hon. Member from D.M.K. has made a suggestion about having a Round Table. Now was it not the very same opposition which proclaimed that it would not recognize me as Prime Minister? It was not prepared to talk with me. It was not prepared to meet me as Prime Minister. Therefore, whether the table is round or square, I do not know how any talks can be held unless the opposition changes its attitude.

The Opposition front said it. We have listened to you all very patiently. Now you just sit down. If a person who occupies the high position of Deputy Prime Minister can say that he will offer Dharna in the House, can you have talks?

Reference has already been made to the tenor of a particular letter which I received. It was not only that. Some of you have come and met us. When we used to meet in Room No. 9, what was the atmosphere? The atmosphere was not one of talking. it was

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one of attack. If we called the meeting before the draft outline of the Plan was ready, we were told: "Why have you called us? What is there to discuss when the Government has not made up its mind." AR right, then we draw up the draft outline and call them. We were asked: Why have you called us? The draft outline is ready. What can we do now? We have been through many such episodes. I have always been the first to approach the Opposition and say: Let us talk on such and such issue. But they have found excuses. The latest excuse was when they said that we had approached the parties separately. We should have gone through one particular person. This was not in this House. It was in the other House. But whatever it was, some excuse or the other was found so that there could not be any meaningful discussion. Earlier on, we did have discussions. We did talk more frankly to leaders of the opposition than we were prepared to do in this House or in public. We were prepared to take them into confidence. It is they who destroyed that atmosphere. It is they who created a situation in which little

by little we agree apart because we found that they were misinterpreting us. They were saying things outside and they could not keep our confidence. So, we have stretched the hand of friendship to the Opposition for 25 years. But they have not grasped it.

While I am on the D.M.K., I would like to say something else. Something was said about the press. Now, in a paper called 'Tamil Murasu', a daily from Madurai, dated October 27, 1975, there is a tirade against Northerners in general and Hindi in particular in language that is bound to incite people and urge them to violence. It is not said that you must be violent. But the language used is such that young people listening might get excited and want to do something. Similarly, in another paper called - I do not know whether I am pronouncing it right - 'Kandeepam' of the 20th November, they have written against India with regard to the Chinese intrusion into our territory.

So, this is how some of these people are functioning. Shri Mariswamy was criticising the Censor in Madras as being unfair to the D.M.K. papers. Now I learn that my colleague, Shri Om Mehta, was in Madras recently and he was told that one of the newspapers - and later, I think, the cutting was sent to me - which was supporting another party but as now supporting us has been seized by the Tamil Nadu Government more than seven times. And every time it is seized, there is a loss of many thousands of rupees to the publisher. The publisher and the editor have approached us and represented their case and they have said that the seizure was on some very minor ground and only because the D.M.K. did not like the trend of some of their reports. So, all these...

Shri Mariswamy, I am not yielding. You see this is the trouble. While the Opposition shouted abuse and did all types of things, we could not say a word. But if we say anything, and I am not using any abusive word, I am not saying anything against them, they are so thin-skinned, they cannot hear it. What is this if not a guilty conscience?... Shri Mariswamy, I do not yield.

Now, I want to say a word about my hon'ble friend, Shri Ramlal Parikh. It was obvious from his speech - I think he was trying to be very sincere - and he himself admitted that he had no knowledge of this House. Therefore, he did not know what sort of things were happening here before the Emergency was declared - the abuse, the shouting, the threats, the intimidation was not occasional. It was a constant feature, a daily feature whether in a debate or the Question Hours or on some other occasion. He spoke of reason and rationalism. But I am afraid that we say little of it in the last two years in this House or the other House. He spoke also about rumour-mongering. I have said before and I should like to repeat it. It is a major part of the opposition strategy to spread rumours. They have been doing it earlier, long before there was any emergency. They have done it through the Press. They have done it through whispering campaigns, all kinds of nonsense about me, about my family, about the Congress and about other individuals. And this is how, they created that atmosphere of hate, of calumny, of falsehood which led to the assassination of our colleague, Shri Lalit Narain Mishra. And even after that tragedy, although they expressed their sorrow, nothing was done to change that atmosphere so that such an incident would not happen again. On the contrary, some were heard to say, "Well, it should happen to more people so that the Congress learns a lesson." Shri Ramlal Parikh thought that the Janata Front is an alternative to the Congress. I do not know

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whether this was his way of being funny - I can only see it as a joke - because to say that a motley crowd which does not agree on any policy, either on foreign policy or economic policy or social policy, can give an alternative Government, then where will the country go? It is all right if it is a small place or a small problem when you don't have to do anything positive or take any real decisions or face up to other countries. But once the moment comes when you have to take a stand, what stand will they take? They will take the Jan Sangh stand. And

as I said the Jan Sangh is no believer in democracy. He spoke of 'no disturbances'. Has he denied that ten Christian houses were burnt down after the Assembly elections because when they were asked, "Whom did you vote?", they said that they voted for the Congress? Is this their idea of safeguarding minority rights? It's not enough to have a Minority Commission or a Committee. You have to have that feeling in your hearts. And I am afraid the Jan Sangh and the R.S.S. certainly do not have it. You speak of democracy. I have taken long time but I am with your permission, Mr. Deputy Chairman, I must spend some time on this issue.

Those of you who are in the Congress, do you remember anything about the history of the Congress; how is it that years ago people kept on leaving the Congress in State after State; how was the Bangla Congress formed in Bengal and how were other groups formed and why did they leave the Congress? They left because within the Congress there was no room for them. Not because they openly criticised or went against the party. No, nothing as much as that. They were forced to leave because there was a suspicion that these people were not with the local boss of that time. That is how, in State after State, there was a division. The split that took place in Bangalore was not the first time that the Congress was split. This had happened many times and for the same reason that the party boss could not bear people who were even a little bit different or who did not echo the party boss. This is why the Congress kept on splitting. Those are the people who are teaching us now how to behave in our own party and how to deal with our party members. Some of our members have gone out of their way to align themselves with the thinking of the opposition parties, with the thinking of the so-called Janata Morcha. It does not need much study to see what has been happening that when they think that somebody is with me the attack is on that person. But when the same person is against me he becomes perfectly good and honourable and independent-minded.

Not only Chimanbhai; I am talking of people who are with us. They also quoted

Professor Laski who was not my professor so much as one of my guardians when I was a student in England and, mentioned doubt. It is all right to encourage doubt as an intellectual pastime but when a country or house is on fire, is that the moment to sit and doubt about it or is it the moment to take some water and put off the fire. At a time when our country was facing the biggest crisis of its life, and not only in our country. It was a moment of crisis for the whole world. It was a moment when the entire world was in the grip of the biggest financial crisis that the world has known, when there was inflation in every country. The consequences were very severe for a poor country like India specially coming after a war, the whole traumatic experience of Bangladesh, its refugees, the prisoners of war and war itself followed by two years of severe drought. Was that the moment to sit and doubt and think about it as to what to do or was it the moment to save the lives of the people? None of these matters seemed to concern you. it may be a pleasant pastime to sit and think and talk and discuss these things, with newspaper people or among yourselves. But we have the responsibility. When there was drought we could not sit and think what to do. There was only one thought how do we prevent people from dying of starvation? How do we reach grain to them? And, we did reach it to them. When there was war, there was only one thought how to win that war and we did win that war. At every stage when there was a crisis we have had only one thought and that was how to face that crisis and we have faced it with boldness. Maybe, we have made mistakes but I do not think anybody could not prevent mistakes when they were faced with a crisis of such vast proportions.

Some hon'ble member has said here that Jayaprakashji was released because we were worried about his health. Well. it is true we did wish him good health and we did wish him to get the medical treatment which he considers the best, But, it is wholly wrong and baseless to say that his illness began

of his long medical history and of the treatment he had to undergo in Vellore and in the All India Institute of Medical Sciences. I think this was answered in a question either in this House or in the other House. The best medical attention was given to him and to whoever else is in need of it. It is quite untrue to say that we want anybody to be illtreated or harassed.

But it is true that some complaints have been made and whenever a complaint has come to me, I have had it investigated. I have personally written to the Chief Ministers, to Delhi Administration, to everybody concerned, to see that any such harassment is removed. But most of the complaints were found to be untrue. Unfortunately we do have insensitive and unimaginative people and so sometimes things happen which, if we could have prevented, we would have prevented. And when we learn about them we try to take whatever remedial action is possible. But many of those things are not happening merely because of the emergency. If there are some policemen who are misbehaving in some remote places, well, it also happened before the emergency also. I am not saying it is a good thing. It is something that has to be changed and we are trying to change it, but it is not true to say that this is a sudden development because of the emergency. It may be that some people in the bureaucracy, in the police or otherwise are trying to settle old personal scores. Some may even be trying to give a bad name to the Government. That is why I have specially asked the Chief Ministers to exercise vigilance and to look into these matters themselves and not leave them to any junior official or even a senior official. But if the public has any knowledge of any such happening, they should bring it to our notice and it will certainly be looked into.

There was a great deal of talk about concessions to monopolists. What is the situation? No favours have been shown. Whatever we have done is in order to stimulate production. The anti-inflation measures were taken somewhat like antibiotics, designed to cure economic illness, but by themselves they do not lead to higher production. Other

steps have to be taken. I do not deny that over all these years since Independence, many people who should not have become richer have become richer. In the beginning, I suppose, we had no other way out because in order to manufacture articles in our own country, we had to depend largely on those who had the know-how, those who had the equipment and those who had most of the resources. But I know that this has created an imbalance. Now we are trying to redress the imbalance. But our system being what it is, we can only do it in a manner which will not cause complete disruption because that also hits the workers indirectly. If a factory shuts down, it creates unemployment and it creates other types of problems. So, all the time while we want to ensure that the commanding heights of the economy come into the State sector, we do have a mixed economy and I personally think that if it works well that is the best system for India and, if it is not working well, then the fault is ours as well as of the others, and we must try to remove whatever difficulties there are.

We know that sometimes, just as when we are tolerant towards the Opposition they took undue advantage of it, the same thing happens with the industrialists also. When we think we are helping them out in the national interest to increase production, there have been cases when they have taken advantage of us. We must try to prevent such things happening. But I should like to assure this House that my fullest sympathy is with the workers. They are a class. They are a class which is important to our economic progress. But they are not a class apart from the rest of India. They are a part of this country and what happens to other people will also happen to them.

Higher payments were not backed up by greater production and we found that this was generating more inflation and at one stage of inflation it hit the workers as much as it hit other people. A mere eight per cent bonus does not help them to meet the increase in the prices of other articles which they need. In principle, I personally feel it is unjustifiable to expect bonus when economy is losing. There is no other country,

and I include the socialist countries where this is done. I think the week we declared eight per cent bonus I happened to go to Ranchi, where a foreign delegation from a socialist country was on a visit. They asked me, "How can you do this? Will you be able to survive with this?" You must look after production first and then only can you think of benefits. So, I know that our workers are not paid as much as in some of the other countries but

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it is a process towards which we can work. Giving higher bonus is not going to help us to reach that position quicker. Some of our leftist friends are painting a fanciful picture of the situation and I am afraid they are trying to instigate our workers. I would like to congratulate the workers on the tremendous patriotism which they have shown. People who have visited factories tell me that the workers are full of confidence and are cooperating with all their strength and enthusiasm in increasing industrial production.

Some people express concern that agricultural prices are falling. But it is one of our national objective that we should bring down all prices, and food prices as well as industrial prices have fallen. Only fuel prices have gone up and you know, that is for reasons which are entirely beyond our control. Government has reduced fertiliser prices by subsidizing fertiliser and in providing credit to help our farmers. We also have several programmes to help marginal and small farmers. Many millowners have not been behaving and the whole matter of textiles is not in a happy situation. The Ministry and all the Ministries concerned are taking a close look at it. This must be given topmost governmental priority.

Now just a word about the Constitution. Have hon. Members on both sides of the House forgotten that just a little while before the emergency what was one of the demands of the Opposition? It was to change the Constitution. It was their slogan. I know that this was said here, either in this House or in the other House or in both Houses, that it was essential to change the Constitution, to change the educational system and the electoral system. So, it is asto-

nishing to hear that those who such a short while ago were demanding the overhaul of our entire political system have now become such staunch champions of the status quo. There can be no status quo. Changes are constantly taking place in the world, in our country and our society and we have to keep pace with them. Changes are needed in order that the people's hopes are to be realised, and if changes are needed they will be made. Our concern is more for the people's rights than for what the Opposition says or for what other countries say. Personal rights are sacred but not more sacred than the nation's right to exist and to prosper.

Today we are functioning within the framework of the Constitution. If any changes are made they will be made after due deliberations and the widest possible consultation, not to lessen democracy but to make it more purposeful, more meaningful for all sections of the people. Just a little while before one of my colleagues sitting behind me, showed me a British periodical. The article has nothing to do with our situation but it just shows how change is resisted everywhere. This particular article happens to be about the rights of women. This editorial states that "people today who view the removal of the legal bias operating against women" - this is not here, this is in Britain - as an unwarranted interference with individual liberty, are the lineal descendants of those who in the last century saw the State's acceptance of the right of all children to be educated as the greatest infringement on the freedom of parental choice. The battle was eventually won by the collective weight of public opinion. Such is the battle which every change has to face, and will continue to face.

It is obvious that the opposition movement in India was not merely getting publicity, but was actually built up by our press; and it is because we denied the opposition the benefit of this, their special type of publicity, that the emergency has succeeded. In a battle the antagonists' lines of supply have to be cut off, and this is what censorship has done. It is true that some censors have acted with a complete lack of imagi-

nation, I regret to say. But the reason, is not difficult to understand. It is because we have no experience in this sort of thing. Many countries which claim, to have a free press have many subtle methods of ensuring that the press does not get too much out of line, out of hand. We being very new and not being too subtle in such matters, have not been able to manage it so well. But I am sure that honourable Members will agree with me that the type of character assassination and the spreading of quite baseless and total lies is not part of the freedom of the press, Nobody raised any voice when this whole campaign was being waged - neither the bigger newspapers themselves, nor members of the Opposition. And unless the opposition is willing to take responsibility for democracy, things cannot proceed smoothly. The Government has a responsibility to see that the Opposition is enabled to function, but the Opposition has an equal responsibility to see that governmental and national work

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is not obstructed and that trends are not set in motion which can destroy the nation's unity and strength.

I do not want to say anything about foreign critics. As I have said to them, China today is the world's greatest democracy. If they want to have it that way, let them! A special correspondent who visited India very recently announced later that our food production had fallen tremendously in this year, when it is one of the biggest ever! So I think we need not bother too much about foreign criticism. Perhaps some of you have heard the story that appeared - I heard it in Chandigarh - in a foreign newspaper that a particular country admitted that its intelligence service functioned mostly through the press and correspondents. Thus we see what is happening in the world, and how we must be alive to the situation.

I need not take more of your time, but just 5 minutes to tell You something about what is happening in Delhi. The Delhi Development Authority has told me that they have developed 20,000 plots for low and middle income groups - 8,000 have already

been allotted and the rest are being allotted; they think that by March all will be allotted providing accommodation for 40,000 families or about two lakhs of people. Twenty-five per cent of these have been reserved for the scheduled castes and tribes. In addition, many other houses are also being built. They have said that the Delhi Development Authority itself will construct about one lakh houses under its public housing programme for allotment to poor people, low income and middle income people. It will provide accommodation to one lakh families or about 5 lakh individuals. Some people have been removed, but they have all been provided with new places to live in and with alternative employment. Sometimes, there is a little dislocation, but I think this was necessary because now they are getting, or will get - most of them have got; others will get - all the basic civil amenities including pucca roads, drains, street lights, public latrines, pure water supply, parks, playgrounds, schools, dispensaries, etc. - and these will be permanently theirs. In most of the new resettlement colonies, libraries and adult literacy centres and community TV centres have also been set up. All squatter families which have been shifted from their old and disorganised slums where the conditions of living were extremely unhealthy, are being resettled in these new colonies. There are lists of where they have gone, and soon. This is not really 'Operation Demolition' but 'Operation Resettlement' through which the following advantages have accrued to these people.

These families have now become regular allottees of the DDA, instead of being squatters. They now live in a much better environment. Various development projects which were held up because of non-availability of land due to haphazard squatting are now being executed, and a number of new overbridges, roads, schools, shopping centres, housing estates and residential colonies are being fast constructed and developed. Similarly, the congestion in the heart of the city has now also been cleared. of course, when people have to move, it does cause some hardship. But if you are going to give them a better future, then that temporary hardship has to be borne. And there is no doubt

that as a result, especially the Jama Masjid area and so on have become much cleaner and much better looking. The people who were squatting on the steps of Jama Masjid or on the public land around are now resettled in the new market in Urdu Bazar and Mayapuri. Loha Mandi which was in Motia Khan, has been relocated in a newly developed Naraina Warehousing area and so on. It is a long list. But the point is that everyone of them has been given a place and has been given employment. If you know of any case where they still have hardship we will certainly look into that.

I have taken a lot of time of the House, Sir, I want only to say that we are here not to further our interests. While every political party is interested in elections, we are not concerned merely with winning or losing elections. It is my information from almost every State that if we hold elections now, we would undoubtedly win. But that is not the point. The point is not whether we win or not; the point is whether in disturbing the emergency just now we will have greater unity and strengthen the country or whether all the old disruptive forces will be let loose and create the sort of atmosphere in which the students were not learning, the teachers were not teaching, the workers were not working and the factories were not producing. In that way a poor country will only

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become poorer and before long, the whole fabric of society would fall apart. Perhaps, this is what some people opposite and some people outside might desire. But we are here for a different purpose; we are here to further the national interest, to carry the country and the people to higher achievements and greater strength.

USA INDIA BANGLADESH CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC UNITED KINGDOM RUSSIA CHINA

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HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

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

Replying to the debate on the President's Address, the Prime, Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, made the following speech in Lok Sabha on January 9, 1976:

Mr. Speaker, Sir, as usual there has been a long debate on the President's Address. But, for the first time, I felt that the speeches tried to argue rather than abuse. Even so many Members were not able to get away from their old narrowness of thinking and some arguments, if I may say so, were rather self-destructive.

Obviously, the President's speech cannot be all-embracing and cover all the points which are of interest to us or to the nation. He spoke specifically of the Twenty-Point Programme and that subject also found mention in most of the speeches in the discussion. An hon. Member opposite, Shri Sezhiyan, referring to the twenty-point economic programme asked rather derisively, 'what happened to the Fifth Five Year Plan?' Now, the twenty-point economic programme is not in lieu of the Fifth Five Year Plan nor does it in any way conflict with the basic objectives and goals of the Fifth Five Year Plan.

What is the philosophy of the programme? My hon'ble friend, Shri V. K. R. V. Rao, put it in perspective. The programme has to be looked at as a whole. First, it deals with immediate tasks and long-neglected ones. It has introduced new priorities in identifying programmes of special concern to those at the very bottom of the ladder and to impart a new thrust and vigour to their implementation. Urban people - students and house-wives - have not been forgotten. Then, there are long-term programmes such as those for irrigation and power. It also

contemplates a multi-pronged drive against economic evils such as black money and smuggling which erode the resource base of our Plan. If implemented in right earnest and with a due sense of urgency and mission on the part of all the agencies concerned, the programme will make a quick and perceptible impact on the lives of our people. It will rouse public enthusiasm and secure a greater sense of commitment of the people to the goals of our Plan. Thus, it will lay the foundations for a speedier advance in the years to come.

The important thing to remember is that at a moment of raging inflation, we have taken up a major developmental programme which does not increase inflation but contains it. I do not think that this can be called a small achievement. It is an ideal expressing itself in real and practical terms. Needs and justice have been sought to be met.

The hon'ble Members also referred to the delay in the finalisation of the Fifth Plan. It is a canard to say that we have given up the Plan. The basic strategy and objectives of the Fifth Plan remain valid as I have said on previous occasions in this House. They are economic self-reliance, the development of domestic resources of energy and the removal of constraints of production such as shortages of power and transport. In fact, these objectives of the Plan have now acquired heightened significance in the light of developments on the international economic scene in the last two years. Unfortunately, the hon. Member opposite and his party came to power by exciting the people on a narrow provincial basis. But, we in this House, cannot ignore the wider aspect. Economic upheavals have thrown the economies of most developed countries into disarray. Countries which have until recently maintained a rate of growth of 10 to 15 per cent per annum have had to lower their sights are now faced either with a negative or a negligible rate of growth. Countries which used to pride themselves on their record of price stability have become victims of double digit inflation. Was it possible for us to completely insulate our economy against the blizzard blowing across the international economic scene? If

there is delay in the finalisation of the Fifth Five Year Plan, it is because, we would like the international economic situation to stabilise a little so as to enable us to plan with a greater degree of certainty and assurance. It is wrong to think that the Annual Plans are ad-hoc exercises. Annual plans are formulated within the framework of the Five Year Plan and seek to further the objectives of the Plan. We have tamed the inflationary forces that threatened to wreck our economy. Prices today are some 7 per cent lower than this time last year. This is an achievement of which we can be legitimately proud.

Our success in the anti-inflationary campaign has given us a new sense of confidence and has improved the outlook for the Plan. In 1975-76, we provided for an increase of nearly 25 per cent in plan outlays. We are aiming at a further substantial increase in the outlays for the next year. The House should remember that the world situation today is very different from what it was when we began planning.

State plans which are largely concerned with irrigation, power, agriculture and social services are somewhat less vulnerable to the destabilisation pressures generated by turmoil in international economics. Even so, what is the record of the Tamil Nadu Government in the implementation of its State Plan. Now, Central assistance, whether it is high or low, is being released in accordance with certain principles. Some States in the south such as Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka and in the north States like Punjab and Haryana and even a relatively backward State like Madhya Pradesh, have managed to fulfil the Plan outlays which in per capita terms are far higher than that of the Tamil Nadu Government. I should like to remind the hon. member and his Party that during the days of the Congress Government under the leadership of Shri Kamaraj, Tamil Nadu used to be near the top in terms of per capita plan outlays. Today it is somewhere near the bottom. This is the plight to which this State has been reduced during the last 6 years. In

the long run, the poor performance of the State in certain crucial sectors will adversely affect the prospects of the talented people of the State. It may fit in with the political strategy of the Party to make out an impressive catalogue of their minor achievements for temporary political gains. But I am deeply worried about the damage caused to the growth potential of an important State in our country or indeed of the Indian sub-continent, for in their public pronouncements, the DMK Government seems unable to forget their separatist philosophy.

I would not have referred to the poor record of the Tamil Nadu Government on the economic front but for their attempts to mislead the public into believing that the State itself is doing everything it can to further the economic progress of its people, while the Centre is standing in the way. If the State claims to have implemented the twenty-point programme already, it is welcome to nurse this delusion. But for me, the specifics in the twenty-point programme and the spirit animating it are so important that no one who has the welfare of the people at heart can rest content with what has been already attempted or achieved.

There must be a continuous search for programmes benefiting the poor and the weak and a constant endeavour to improve on the quality of implementation of such programmes. I would, therefore, ask the hon. member and his Party not to lay that flattering function to their soul, as Shakespeare said, that they have already done everything that needs to be done to implement the programme and therefore can relax into complacency. It is not those clothed in brief authority but the common people of the State who will suffer the consequences of this grand delusion.

I should like to say a few words about economic achievements under the twenty-point programme in these last six months. Consumer prices for the agricultural labourer are now 8.3 per cent lower; 27 lakh tonnes of kharif cereals have been procured against 14 lakh tonnes last year; 53 lakh bogus cards have been eliminated; public sector produc-

tion in these six months is 31.5 per cent higher than last year. Industrial production gains are as follows: steel is 15.9 per cent, power generation 12 per cent, coal 12 per cent, fertiliser 43 per cent, cement 11.8 per cent, crude oil 10 per cent, 60 lakhs house sites have been distributed. The programme for the removal of bonded labour is well known as also the establishment of rural banks. Ultimately there will be fifty banks, each with 100 branches. Irrigation is being expanded and the Godavary accord is a wel-

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come new and significant step. Handlooms have been given a loan of nearly Rs. 5 crores. Urban property evaluation programmes and the confiscation of smugglers' properties are other items. Workers' participation has already been effected in about 75 per cent of our public undertakings and we hope to expedite the programme in the remaining months. In income-tax, 7.3 lakhs of taxpayers are now off the tax range. In the apprenticeship scheme, 1.17 lakhs of seats have already been filled up and work is progressing.

One hon. Member opposite asked: why are people not being tried if they are guilty of treason? We have - I can at least speak for myself - never used this word or questioned their patriotism. The danger is not of individual acts but of the collective challenge which was being exploited by elements within and outside the country. Their political challenge has been politically met and the unconstitutional agitation has been constitutionally repulsed. The Opposition cannot any longer hope to divide the Congress or to play one against the other, nor will the sowing of rumours help them.

It would be ridiculous for any person to claim infallibility. I have never done so. I have always considered myself a humble servant of the country. What I have said is that my assessment of trends in India and the world have so far proved correct as against the assessments made by most opposition leaders who usually echo the assessment of those outside our country. This is not because of any personal quality but because I have learnt from our great leaders to

be close to the voice of the people,

When I first mentioned foreign agencies, I was ridiculed within the country and without. How do we, or any developing country for that matter, prove or dispute the doings of agencies who have had long years of experience in a variety of countries, using all kinds of methods, and different sections of their own and the local population, besides, religious groups, journalists, academicians and so on? This is not an ordinary, everyday crime that can come under normal law. To take it lightly does not speak highly of anyone's patriotic instincts. Unfortunately the Member who spoke of this matter has become known for his cleverness in creating mischief and misunderstanding. So long as those antics were confined to this House one could look upon them with some amusement but now he has attempted to do the same in state politics with undesirable results.

I listened with great respect to Kumari Maniben. No one says or thinks that the emergency is a perfect solution or that everything is for the best. There are many imperfections. I am conscious of our shortcomings. I know also that we have people among us who may not be fully in tune with our programmes. Yet we are moving ahead. We have not compromised on any policy matter. She mentioned abuses by the bureaucracy; we are also aware of that. But I should like to point out that those abuses have not suddenly begun since the proclamation of the emergency; they have existed before also. It is our task to discover the faults and to rectify them whenever they are pointed out to us or we get any information. I know also that the difficulties in implementation are not going to be removed merely by our wishing so or declaring the emergency. They will remain because powerful classes and powerful forces at all levels are against the implementation of our policy. We do realise this. All we can say is that these forces must be combated with all the strength at our command and this is what we are trying to do. We may have setbacks, but we have moved forward and we intend to continue to do so. If there are any complaints, if anybody knows of cases, I shall be glad to

be told of them and I shall certainly follow them up. Kumari Maniben also spoke of people drinking. Now, you know that we are trying to launch a movement against alcoholic drink. But what about that paragon of virtue in this respect - the State of Gujarat? During the Assembly election I heard of liquor being distributed in a tanker. Only the other day we all read of deaths in Surat due to the imbibing of illicit liquor.

Kumari Maniben and her party may not believe in violence and I do not dispute her saying so. But why do they join with those who do? Why do they allow this violence? As hon. Members on our side have mentioned, there were attacks at every Congress meeting held before the Assembly elections. In my meetings while the attendance was in lakhs, 10, 15 or 25 people would throw stones, or shoes. They would shout abusive and even obscene slogans. I did not once hear any of

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their leaders objecting or instructing that that should not be done. One of our candidates was sought to be burnt alive and could be rescued only in the nick of time with serious burn injuries. In the recent elections there, there have been three murders of which we definitely know and many cases of violence. I do not want to read from the large number of letters and telegrams which I have received and which have been referred to the Government.

Kumari Maniben spoke of two prisoners. We all know that Shrimati Gayatri Devi and Shrimati Scindia are not political prisoners. They were arrested for something quite different. In fact, the case against Shrimati Gayatri Devi would have been brought, but there is often a delay in such matters and she was arrested because of information that she might leave the country. I know how strongly Parliament feels when something like this happens and we would be blamed for not preventing it.

Hon'ble Member, Shri Patel spoke of fair elections. I do not want to go into details. Some of our Members have pointed to what has happened in the Gujarat elections. I shall

only mention two cases. One is about the Government official who had put 24 papers in the ballot box for the Janata Front. He admitted doing so when he was caught red-handed and actually had other such marked papers in his hand ready to be put into the ballot box, I believe he is now behind bars. Similarly there was the news which nobody has contradicted that some thousands of Harijans were not allowed to vote. They were surrounded by workers of a particular group. This happened in the recent elections. But before that, after the Assembly election, I think I have referred earlier to this, a colony of Christians was razed to the ground because on being questioned by some students as to for whom they had voted, they replied 'Congress'. Their houses were burnt to the ground. I do not know whether the Government has come to their help now. But for quite some time the Government had not done so. Now, does Shri Patel consider it democratic or constitutional to dissolve a duly elected Assembly by public violence, by street agitations or a threat to fast unto death? We gave into Morarji only to save his life, knowing that it was a wrong thing to do. Not a wrong thing to save his life, but wrong to dissolve the Assembly because of such pressure and threat. Maniben was perfectly right when she quoted what I had stated about MISA. I did say so, but I would submit that the circumstances which developed later were exceptional and extraordinary. And, when something entirely extraordinary and exceptional takes place, you have to have exceptional measures to deal with it. Who is the best doctor? Is it a panel of doctors, a hotchpotch of people with different views on treatment? One doctor may make a wrong diagnosis, but having a number of doctors, perhaps with different view-points - one Ayurvedic, one Unani, one Allopathic, one Homoeopathic, one expert in Tibetan medicine or some other science - are they capable of giving better treatment to the country? Because, this is what it was - a group of heterogeneous elements in which the Jan Sangh was dominating and calling the tune. I don't think that what we have heard in their speeches, what we have witnessed of their actions, can be the right path for this country to retain either its unity to give fairplay

to its minorities or to bring about the sort of equality which is absolutely essential not only from the human point of view, but from the point of view of the country's future strength and effectiveness in dealing with problems, pressures, threats and dangers.

Shri Tridib Chaudhury is a senior and respected member of this House, but I think he would have been more convincing when he spoke against democracy and people taking advantage of certain situations had he raised his voice all these years, when so much hatred and falsehood were being spread. A virulent campaign was mounted with tremendous pressure. What shouting there was! Again and again we are asked, what could a few people of the opposition do when Congress has a massive majority? But they had made it difficult for any member on this side to function, to reply even in a soft voice. Later, I must admit our members also took to shouting and it was not possible for me to stop them. Their standard reply was: when the opposition cannot be controlled, how can you tell only us to be quiet? I had no answer to that. So, this pressure was mounting. As I pointed out the other day, it takes a long time to construct, whether it is a building, whether it is a dam or a project, it takes a long time, it takes a great deal of money and resources and involves many people. But to destroy, what is needed? One person can throw a bomb. One person can set fire. So, this argument about relative members is

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irrelevant and unconvincing. All over the world, where the forces of reaction have been able to establish themselves, they have not been in the majority. It is a few who have been able, through noise, and support from outside, by creating a particular atmosphere to suppress the voice of the people. They have been able through rumour-mongering and whisper campaigns to create an atmosphere where the ordinary person is thoroughly confused and does not know what is happening. While he attempts to sort out his thoughts and to find the truth of the situation those other take advantage and establish themselves. This has happened time and again in different countries and different parts of

the world. Did Shri Tridib Chaudhury pause to wonder whether there was any truth in the wild allegations which were being bandied about and hurled across at us day in, day out?

I see in front of me the hon. member, Shri Viswanathan. A short while before I came into the House I heard that after his speech in the House yesterday, some members of a political party - perhaps you can guess which one it is; assaulted him in the lobby. (Interruptions. I am not yielding.

I am not entering into any argument. (Interruptions).

I said: I was told, I was not a witness to the incident and, therefore, I do not wish to argue about it. The word used was 'assaulted'. (Interruptions). Any Member who wishes to do so, can go to the lion. Speaker and speak to him later on. Threats are given quite publicly. Cuttings of what is said and written against many people including myself have been sent to me from Tamil Nadu. I am used to this and we have not complained. But when the falsehoods and threats created an atmosphere which finally led to murder most foul, even then most of the Opposition were content merely to say that this should not have been done. They did nothing to change the atmosphere of hatred which always breeds violence.

We are now talking what is happening in this Parliament.

Shri Indrajit Gupta commented that there was no point in speaking if it would not be fully reported. I do not know whether the speech has been fully reported or not because I do not read these things in the newspapers. In Parliament do we speak for the benefit of hon'ble Members or do we speak for the public outside?

It is an odd way of looking at it. We speak here to put our point of view before Parliament.

Points were also made about monopolists and monopoly. It is true that we are thinking of changes in the industrial licensing

policy, some have been made and these are precisely in order to encourage small and medium entrepreneurs and to prevent a few people from taking advantage even of the controls for their own businesses. Some controls are necessary. We do not think that everybody should be left free to do exactly as he likes in industry, in grabbing economic power. But we must guard against controls becoming self-defeating. Controls in themselves are not synonymous with socialism. We should not confuse the means for the ends. If we find that a particular policy is not yielding the results that we had hoped from it, we must modify it. And when hon. Members opposite spoke about our association with the monopolists I wondered if they considered the Jan Sangh and the Swatantra Party more radical just as China and Chile today are considered more democratic by some?

Then comes the question of bonus. This is a controversial question. It is true, that workers in India may not get the sort of wages that are paid in other countries. But I do not know whether the wages of all industrial workers here are very much lower than in every country in the world. When a concern is losing how can it possibly get on its feet, if it is forced to pay a particular amount in bonus? My attention was drawn to this aspect the week after our decision on the 8 per cent bonus. I happened to go to one of our big public sector undertakings, where I met a delegation from one of the socialist countries; and the first thing they told me that they were astonished at this decision of ours. They could not see how we could hope to build up our industry, how we could put our public sector on a sound basis, if we continued with this Policy. It is not only a question of industry. It is also a question of the workers themselves. An increase in payment leads to greater inflation and an increase in the prices of other goods. They are not merely industrial workers; they are also a part of this country; they have to meet

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the needs of their families - then that increase in bonus does not help them at all. That is why we took the decision. I was a

party to the earlier decision. I was not blaming anybody. If I find any decision is wrong, then it is our duty - even if we displease people - to set that wrong right. But we sincerely hope that as our industrial base strengthens and as our economy is on a sounder basis, it will be possible for us to do more for our workers.

Similarly, I share the concern of all hon. Members of both sides of the House at the lay-offs and the retrenchment and so on which have been taking place. The Minister, my colleague, yesterday announced that a legislation would be brought soon. I am told that the apex body which was set up, has been able to solve some questions. (Interruptions).

Then we must look at it again and see that the employers are not helped in this manner and that the workers do not suffer. There are no two opinions in this matter.

I should like to take this opportunity of expressing my congratulations to industrial workers. They have shown great discipline and enthusiasm. The figures show improved working in almost all sectors of industry. Recently when I was in Visakhapatnam I found that quantum of work done by the dock workers in the last few months had increased considerably. So, I would like to express my gratitude to them, and also to the armed forces which have shown courage and determination in war and disciplined work in peace. They are to be congratulated on their steadfastness.

Much has been said about the press. I do not want to dilate on that matter. I have spoken on many occasions. I am not against the press, Indian or foreign. What I am against is falsehood and hypocrisy. What has been the record of some newspapers? If I can take the House back, long years ago when I was a girl, it was more important for a pressman to secure a scoop and to get it printed in his paper than to save the life of the Lindbergh baby. We find this attitude increasing not only with regard to Indian affairs, but affairs anywhere, that more and more people want to go for something that is sensational, something that will hit the

headlines, rather than constructive, solid work. It does not perhaps matter in an advanced and affluent society, but it does matter in a country which is trying to build itself up in the face of tremendous odds and difficulties. It does matter if you are spreading what I was told by a British Lord who visited us, "alarm and despondency", against which there was a law in England during or immediately after the last World War. It is a serious matter for any country which confronted with special difficulties, as our country undoubtedly was. We all know the attitude taken by the foreign press towards events in India, towards drought, the refugee situation, the Bangla Desh war or any other internal or international problem.

Speaking of the emergency some hon'ble Member alleged that we have opened the flood-gates which could be used by despotic persons. Was it the same thing said about our atomic experiment? Does anybody seriously believe that those who do not believe in democracy, those who do believe in the use of atomic power for military purposes, were waiting for India or the Congress to do anything? Would they and have they not, in their countries, taken whatever steps they wanted, to take regardless of foreign opinion? We have tried to take certain steps, which may not be ideal, in order to prevent something worse happening to the country, in order to prevent democracy being swept off entirely. Certain curbs have been put, nobody denies that. Nobody says that it is good to do so. At the same time, as many Members mentioned, there has to be a feeling of responsibility, some thought of duties along with rights. Unfortunately, we were going further and further away from such a concept, and this has to be reinstated.

The Foreign Minister spoke at length on the international situation. I need not go over the same ground. As our strength increases, there is an effort to decry India. This is no time for us to slacken our vigilance. We have believed and we do believe in co-existence. What does that mean? It means that we agree to get along with countries whose systems or methods we may not entirely approve of.

There are countries with whose policies we do not agree. But no country can be pushed off this world on to another planet. Unfortunately there is a new theory (I am not quite sure how to pronounce it) the

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'Triage Doctrine' which absolves affluent countries from the bother of helping very poor countries, which are to be left to fend for themselves. Where will they go? Can they be moved from their geographical position on earth? If poverty increases or disease spreads, can other countries be immune? These are far deeper questions I am not going into them here.

I should like to emphasize our desire and genuine and persistent effort for friendship and cooperation with all countries, near and far. We may not always agree with America, but we know that it is a dynamic nation; it has attracted talent from all over the world including India; the people are dynamic and are constantly giving birth to new and stimulating ideas on education, the arts, science and technology. I should like to give them my congratulations on their bicentennial.

I forgot to mention one point. I think it was hon. Member Shri Manoharan, who referred to Hindi. This question has been debated here many times. I repeat my assurance that there is no desire or attempt to force Hindi on those who do not want it. But we do feel that it could be worth while for all Indians to have at least a working or an understanding knowledge of any one Indian language so that we do not have to converse with one another in English. You and I happen to speak English. Perhaps those on the other side have greater knowledge of it than we have. But, as a whole, those who know English are such a minute minority in the country that it cuts us off from the vast majority of our masses. Therefore, if all over India there is an understanding - it need not be a perfect understanding of Hindi - which does not obstruct the development of Bengali, Assamese, Tamil, Telugu or Kannad or any other Indian language, it should be welcomed. We are aware that none of these languages is a

dialect; they are all ancient languages with their own history and beautiful old literature. We are doing everything possible to encourage these and help them to grow. But no one language need impinge or tread on the toes of others and certainly we do not want Hindi to do so.

Sometimes a group of people are over enthusiastic on both sides. The Hindi enthusiast try to spread the use of Hindi and some hon. friends outside are over enthusiastic in decrying Hindi, saying that only their language should be encouraged.

Yesterday I replied to Shri Patel when he spoke about some draft of Constitutional changes being circulated. A number of people, known and unknown, legal luminaries as well as others, have sent me notes, suggestions, letters, telegrams, all kinds of things, and one or more of these may be in circulation, I do not know. No such document has been circulated by me or by the Government or Congress Party so far as I know. But I have said that whatever suggestions come should be considered in depth. We do not believe in change for the sake of change. On the other hand if change is necessary, we should not hesitate to bring it about. But if there is a change, it should be in the direction of justice and fair play to those vast number who are being denied their due.

This change should not be for the sake of any party or personal power. We must be concerned with human life and welfare which are as important as human liberty.-

Some hon'ble members have spoken about elections. Elections are certainly not being given up. But elections are not the be-all and the end-all of democracy, or of life. We do look beyond. The good of the country, its unity and capacity to defend itself against aggression or oppression, its ability to produce more and distribute production more fairly, all these are aspects which cannot be neglected and we cannot allow a situation to develop where these aspects are jeopardised merely for the sake of an election or of proving to the world how democratic we are.

There was also mention of a round table dialogue. I spoke of this yesterday. My attitude has never been one of rigidity. In one of the papers, I saw a headline suggesting that "I rule out dialogue" I am not in the habit of categorically ruling out any proposition except when it concerns injustice or matters which go against the interest of our people or the strength of our country. On those matters I must say, I am and always will remain firm. But on questions of dialogue or talking with the Opposition my attitude has not been inflexible. On the contrary, I have always tried to find ways of conciliation. I am afraid, this effort of mine has led us into trouble. When we have gone out of our way to be tolerant and have made friendly gestures, the Opposition has taken it for a show of weakness and they have chosen that moment to threaten and exert

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greater pressure to exact some more concession out of us. Can you shake hands with one hand? It needs two hands. We have always shown our willingness. It is for the Opposition to give up the path of obstruction and violence and to create conditions for a dialogue.

What is the objection? For the poor people of the country, the goal is to have more; for our workers, it is to have better conditions; for our farmers, to have strength to face the vagaries of weather; for our city people, better amenities, better transport and so on. What of us who are supposed to represent all sections of the people? Can the end be any one or several of these things? Is our task not of a far greater magnitude, of vaster proportions? I spoke earlier of duties. This is the time when we must consider what are our duties and obligations. not only to Parliament but to the country as a whole. Is it not our duty to see that peaceful conditions exist? While it is the duty of the Government and the ruling party to allow freedom of expression and association and to allow the legitimate functioning of the Opposition, it is equally the duty of the Opposition to allow the legitimate functioning of the Government. But this functioning of the Government and of some Assemblies

was being hampered long before these Ordinances came into force. Along with rights we have to think equally about our obligations, our responsibilities and our duties.

Democracy cannot be one-sided. It can work only if all sections subscribe to its conditions and are willing to curb their liberty to the extent that it does not tread on the liberty of others. Only then can democracy survive and function. It is our responsibility to restore hope and confidence. This is what we have tried to do and this is what I meant, when I earlier spoke about the spread of alarm and despondency. I was concerned at the danger to the country and not at threats to a Party or one or more individuals. There was a deliberate effort to spread despair amongst the people, to spread a feeling of hopelessness by proclaiming that nothing has been done, nothing is being done and nothing can be done. This affected our young people, our farmers and others. Therefore, each group thought that it should try to get what it could for itself. If you believe that the country has no future, how can you work for a future? You will then say 'let us grab what we can while we may'. It is only when we have hope and confidence for a bright future that we can say 'let me sacrifice now because the future is on the horizon'.

Bharat Mata is bent by the heavy burdens of colonialism, of imperialism of feudalism. She is suffering visibly not only from the ills of poverty, deprivation and disease but also from mental complexes and attitudes bred by superstition and out-dated habits, by chauvinistic thinking, by narrowness - of religion, caste, creed, language or province - by customs which weigh heavily on the poor. It is our duty today to enable Bharat Mata to become young again, to hold herself erect and her head high - and in this, we would certainly like the help and cooperation of all those Members of the Opposition who believe in the tasks we have set ourselves and who feel that a new way of cooperation can be found.

USA LATVIA INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC CHINA CHILE

Date : Jan 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

President's Republic Day Message

Following is the text of the President, Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed's message to the Nation, broadcast by All India Radio on the eve of the 27th Republic Day :

On the eve of our 27th Republic Day, I am happy to greet all of you my countrymen at home and abroad and offer my best wishes.

The past year has been a year of travail as well as achievement. The Government overcame a grave challenge to the country's stability. The promulgation of the emergency, as provided for by the Constitution, was a painful necessity and the results that have been achieved and the way in which various socioeconomic measures have been implemented during recent months amply indicate the wisdom as well as the timeliness of the step.

The most significant gains have been in the economic front and in the vital sphere

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of national discipline at all levels. For first time in many years, the country has enjoyed a prolonged spell of freedom from strikes, gheraos, bandhs and other similar action which not only affect industrial production but also create a climate of unrest and uncertainty far from conducive to national progress. No less noticeable has been the atmosphere of peace and orderliness prevailing in the universities and colleges. I fervently hope that this new spirit of discipline and dedication to duty will remain as a per-

manent feature accepted voluntarily by all the people concerned.

Thanks to the series of measures taken by the Government, the general level of prices in our country has come down perceptibly during the past year. This is no small achievement. The vigorous action taken against smuggling, tax evasion and black money has also produced significant results. The abolition of bonded labour and the attack on the perennial problem of rural indebtedness have also revived hopes in the weaker sections who constitute the large majority of our people. I am glad measures are being taken to implement land reforms as an important part of the new economic programme. Vigorous steps are needed for the enforcement of land ceiling laws and for the distribution of surplus lands to the landless. The compilation of upto-date land records is essential and I hope State Governments would give top priority to this work.

Containment of inflation has been helped by the striking increase in the past year in food production and the output of other crops like cotton. We must, however, admit that this increase in production has been helped by favourable weather. There is great scope for improvement in our agricultural practices and pattern of organisation. I am happy to note that the State Governments are evincing a new sense of responsibility towards national development as indicated by their readiness to settle amicably and quickly the long-standing disputes relating to river waters. I am sure these agreements will speed up the implementation of various river valley projects and increase the utilisation of the country's vital water resources.

On the industrial front, the country is now well poised for achieving much higher target of growth in production and exports. The public sector, which has to play a dominant role in our economy, has improved its performance significantly. Utilisation of installed capacity has gone up in every major public sector unit. Power, shortage of which was causing great concern in the earlier part of the year has also registered remarkable

improvement. The railway have done extremely well. The nationalised coal industry has also increased its output as well as productivity. In this connection, I cannot but refer to the grievous tragedy at Chasnala. The Government is not only providing all possible relief to the victims of the disaster but is determined to see that all possible safety measures are taken in our mines to prevent the recurrence of such a tragedy.

Although much has been done in recent years to relieve the difficulties of the weaker sections of the population, much yet remains to be done to transform the lives of the people in the countryside. This is a task in which not only the Government but the nation as a whole and every section of the people have to cooperate. Only so can we hope to lift the curse of poverty from the face of the nation. Voluntary cooperation at every level can contribute a great deal to supplement what the authorities are doing. I strongly feel the cooperative movement in India must be revitalised from the village level upwards. Here is an area in which there is tremendous scope for our youth to render service by providing informed and dedicated leadership to the cooperatives at the same time developing the talents and utilising the services of the weaker sections of the population. The impression that the cooperatives benefit the well-to-do alone should be disproved. The cooperative movement should be a movement of the masses, for the masses function as the main instrument of social change. When these cooperatives reinforced by the regional rural banks, start giving credit and other services to small and marginal farmers, agricultural labourers and rural artisans, a basis will have been laid for a new surge of production and, may I say, a new civilization.

During my visits abroad, it was brought home to me that the countries of Asia and Africa expect India to play a leading role in the supply of technical know-how and equipment. In the cooperation between the developing nations themselves, the financial resources of some can be matched with the raw material resources of others through the medium of countries like India, which have

the requisite scientific and technical manpower. There is a general awareness now that the high sophistication in technology of the industrial nations is not suitable for conditions in the developing countries. This has placed on India an onerous but a very welcome responsibility. In this connection, I cannot help deprecating the continuing craze in our country for foreign collaboration. The generation of technology within the country receives less encouragement than its transplantation from abroad. I hope that overcoming this weakness, we shall devote greater attention to developing technologies suited to our resources endowments.

Let me conclude with an appeal to all our people to learn to practise what Acharya Vinoba Bhave calls Atmanushasan, self-imposed discipline. Once all parties accept this need for self-discipline and the obligations which are essential for the smooth working of our democratic system, the country, I am sure, will enter a new era of all-round progress.

INDIA USA PERU

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INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Prime Minister's Address to 25th Pugwash Conference at Madras

Addressing the 25th Pugwash Conference on Science and World Affairs, the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, made the following speech at Madras on January 14, 1976:

Today I extend a warm welcome to the Pugwash movement. Named after a tiny

Canadian village, it envelops the whole world in its concern. Its original aim was to bring scientists together "not as members of different nations and creeds but as members of species man" who, through his own deeds, has now become a threatened species.

India has, I have pointed out, had close association with the origins of this movement. My father supported Bertrand Russell's initiative and offered to host the first conference in New Delhi. The Suez crisis intervened and the Pugwash family could come only in 1964 to Udaipur. I remember with pleasure the opportunity of meeting many outstanding scientists and I am glad to see that some of them are with us again.

There is an old Indian metaphor about the world being a frog resting in the shadow of the Cobra's hood. Such is the plight of peace in our age. The desire to find ways of strengthening the defences of peace has brought together eminent persons from many lands and various branches of learning. The countries of Asia and Africa, which became free in the last two or three decades and which have still to overcome the economic stagnation of centuries, are in special needs of an international climate of peace and co-operation for the success of their endeavours.

There have been certain positive developments in international affairs in recent years. Notable among these are the final vindication of the forces of national independence in South East Asia, the detente in Europe, attended by various arms limitation agreements. We welcome the Helsinki Declaration on European Security, as more than a glimmer of hope. There seems to be growing confidence in industrialised nations that a war involving them directly can be averted not only in the immediate future, but a long-term and stable basis. The Pugwash movement could legitimately claim some credit for these developments.

But the policies of many nations are still dominated by deterrence and the compulsions of a balance of terror. Methods of annihilation become more varied and more subtle. Hundreds of nuclear weapons have been

added to the stockpiles of nuclear weapon

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Powers since the Non-Proliferation Treaty was signed. Regional arms races are encouraged by transferring huge amounts of non-nuclear arms to various developing countries. Such action is justified as a contribution to stabilisation. This is particularly disquieting when we recall that practically all wars since 1945 have been fought on the soil of developing countries. Behind the cover of detente, many powers continue attempts to extend their influence in developing countries and to prevent others from doing likewise. It is argued that detente itself depends on policies of confrontation. One even hears talk of a second cold war.

We of India and the developing world sincerely hope for an effective reduction in arms and diversion of resources and technological capabilities to the great task of improving the human environment. Living conditions have to be ameliorated for the two-thirds (or is it three fourths:) of mankind, which lives in developing countries, and even for those who live in industrialised countries but face the environmental consequences of the unscientific proliferation of technology. Affluent societies are moving towards ever-increasing consumption, without concern for its implications for the human spirit. No great psychological insight is necessary to know that excess dulls the capacity for enjoyment, and dries up the springs of emotion.

You have rightly perceived that man's future depends not only on being saved from annihilation but, on his having the wherewithal of survival. So one must look beyond the problems and rivalries of super powers. Development is an integral function of peace. Our own policy and outlook as a nation are formulated on this understanding. We have a basically optimistic view of the promotion and utilisation of science and technology, which Jawaharlal Nehru saw as natural allies of a developing country. Interdependence is desirable, and inevitable but can there be co-operation on the basis of permanent dependence? Hence our determination to build our own scientific and technological capabi-

lities and to harness them to the peaceful progress of our society. Technology is a primary resource of mankind. Some resent the developing countries working on certain technologies on the ground of misuse.

India's experiments with the peaceful uses of nuclear energy have evoked criticism and we are being pressurised to discontinue them. Can we accept this position? Are we less capable of responsibility than those others who have used such technologies to attain and to augment their power and dominance?

Self-reliance has been an important component of India's development strategy. It is astounding to be told that it is inappropriate for a developing country to be self-reliant in basic technologies which are essential for its development, although legitimate for an industrial nation to do so in areas in which it is deficient.

In the highly industrialised as well as developing countries, the real question is: how should science be used, for what kind of development should the world have, and with what objective? In recent years there has been considerable intellectual discussion on this issue and we also have been reappraising our assumptions and aims. Details of the redefinition may vary from country to country and from person to person but there does seem to be growing agreement that the provision of minimum needs for the entire population in a definite period of time is the objective towards which all societies should work. We view growth as a means to a well designed and deliberately pursued goal rather than as an end in itself. And minimum requirements cannot be limited to the physical or material; psychological and cultural needs constitute an integral part.

In our scheme of development we have consciously tried to prevent draining our countryside for the accumulation of industrial capital. This and our refusal to regiment society might have slowed our rate of growth, but our, non-doctrinaire approach has also given us greater resilience, enabling us to apply correctives in time. Our emphasis

is not merely on growth points, we are equally concerned about improving the lives of those at the very bottom of the ladder.

Critics who dwell excessively on the disparities currently visible in Indian society - and comment with irony on the co-existence of Jet Aircraft and bullock-carts - forget that more than a century ago, such disparities were common features of industrialised societies which today boast about welfare for all. In Britain I am told that even in 1966 parts of Scotland had neither electricity nor water supply. We need time for our techno-

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logical capability to provide effective solutions to poverty. Our endeavour is to shorten the time-span as much as possible, without resort to violence or the sacrifice of our basic and cherished values.

But can countries, particularly developing ones, succeed without a concomitant change in the nature of international relationships? There is some groping toward a new international economic order, especially after the fuel crisis. But major interest groups in the industrialised world seem reluctant to accept the implications of such change. Can it be evolved when powerful nations refuse to reduce their military budgets and their patterns of consumption? Can the small rich segment of the world's population claim four-fifths of the world's resources?

Of course I must admit that this happened within countries also and without happening in our own country. Some groups already feel threatened and advance preposterous solutions like the triage theory. Every nation has an allotted place on this planet. How will some countries be disposed of or segregated? Ultimately, neither pollution nor disease can be confined by national boundaries. That is why we reiterate that peace and progress are indivisible. Why are some countries poor? Is it not because of colonialism and present policies of grab as grab can? I hope that Pugwash, with its scientific outlook, reinforced by sympathetic humanism, will take unequivocal positions on such propositions.

Surely, the problems of the industrialised and the developing countries cannot be viewed in isolation from one another. Especially as interference is a fact of life which none of us can ignore. Can detente be genuine without embracing the developing world, through a process of interdependence is a fact of life which none of us can ignore. Can detente be genuine with interdependence which creates mutuality of relationships and reciprocity? The stability of the international order, on which so much emphasis is placed by rich nations, must also mean justice, non-use of force, the equitable participation of nations in international affairs and the safeguarding of their sovereignty. The human being should have opportunity to thrive without being overwhelmed by the power of institutions.

These are not new ideas, they have been discussed time and again. But the impact has been negligible on decision-makers, particularly of the rich nations. Isn't it time to discard complexes and notions that those who have more science and a higher GNP are automatically endowed with greater wisdom, and that the poor lack perception? Arnold Toynbee said that Western technology has annihilated distance but it has also "armed the peoples of the world with weapons of devastating power at a time when they have been brought to point-blank range of each other without yet having learnt to know and love each other". He suggested that the Indian way could provide an answer. We in India have not always followed our own ideals but we are closer about them.... We are anxious to assimilate modern science and technology. Yet we are determined to evolve our own pattern of living and not to imitate other cultures. We believe there are different roads to a destination. At the mundane level we want to achieve industrial progress without pollution. At the higher level, we should like to give our people the benefits of science without the loss of their spiritual moorings.

Pugwash was amongst first to highlight the fact that the nuclear arms race raises basic issues of the social responsibility of scientists. Sophisticated savagery and re-

fined barbarism such as an electronic battlefield, weather modification, the use of ecocidal agents, etc. have shown the question of responsibility, is not confined merely to nuclear weapons. But is the scientists also not responsible for the manner in which some programmes of international scientific cooperation for development have evolved? In our country there is concern that, on occasions, international scientific cooperation could result in developing countries being treated as guinea-pigs for the testing of new devices, techniques, and chemicals. There is also the danger that apparently disinterested scientific projects, undertaken on the basis of international collaboration, are actually directed at other objectives which may be prejudicial to the security and well-being of the developing countries concerned. These are problems for the Pugwash movement to study. Perhaps Pugwash could promote some guidelines or a code of behaviour for scientists in international collaborative projects.

Countries which won their political independence only a generation ago are naturally alert about preserving their full indepen-

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dence. It would be unrealistic to expect a country of India's size to play a subservient role and ill-advised to try to bring about more pliable leadership. Whether threats are external or internal (there is often a relationship between the two), we are bound to take adequate precautions. I am mentioning this to give you the background of some recent events in our country.

It has been said of Julian Huxley, that to him "Nothing human is alien". This is the vision of human solidarity with which Pugwash has widened the scope of its activity from nuclear disarmament and security to problems of development. Peace is not merely the absence of war, but active cooperation to work for survival and progress, to keep alive hope and provide opportunity for the unfolding of the human personality.

I wish the Pugwash movement success in its useful task of educating world public opinion on the threats to peace and the posi-

tive steps which have to be taken to build a new economic and social order, based on equality and justice in the world.

I should like to thank all those concerned for giving me this opportunity of being with you. Our economic situation has improved. I think we are stronger in many-ways than we were many years ago. But I do not know how much reliance should be paid to statistics. Perhaps this is sacrilege to scientists. As a lay pet-son, I find that time and again our statistics are proved wrong. I also feel that mere energy and GNP or even the income of the people is not an indication of the lives they lead, because living in the open, living in our own country, needs quite a different type of consumption, or rather lack of consumption, than perhaps people living in colder climates and in more sophisticated societies can realise. This is the problem before India. We do not want to raise our consumption except of course for those who lack their basic needs. They must be given their basic requirements of education, of development, but beyond that I think we have to find a level and say "Thus far and no further". I do not know whether this will be possible, surrounded as we are by the acquisitive societies and ideals. This is what we want to aim for and we think that this is the only way which can ultimately give more lasting satisfaction and also help to remove the type of racing towards more goods and more everything that is perhaps responsible also for the nuclear race as well as all the other undesirable races in the world.

Once more I thank you and give you all my good wishes.

INDIA USA PERU FINLAND CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC GUINEA

Date : Jan 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

Kuwaiti Loan of \$ 50 Million for Kalinadi Project

The following press release on Kuwaiti loan of \$ 50 million for Kalinadi project was issued in New Delhi on January 27, 1976:

In an agreement signed in Kuwait today by Shri M. G. Kaul, Economic Secretary, Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development has agreed to grant a loan of \$ 50 million for the Kalinadi Hydro Electric project in Karnataka State.

Mr. Humoud Y. Al-Nisf, Minister of Public Works, Government of Kuwait, signed the agreement on behalf of the Fund.

The Rs. 200-crore Kalinadi project will have an installed capacity of 910 MW and will generate upto 4000-million KWH by harnessing river Kali and its tributaries.

The conditions of the loan are soft and it would bear interest of 4 per cent, repay-

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ment being effected over a period of 25 years inclusive of five year moratorium.

Shri M. G. Kaul, at the signing ceremony, expressed his appreciation to the Kuwait Fund and said that in his view this loan agreement would greatly further a meaningful and abiding economic relationship between India and Kuwait built as this was on the close existing ties of friendship between the two countries.

Shri Kaul added that he had been most impressed by the speed and competence with which Mr. Al Hammad, Director General of the Kuwait Fund had considered India's proposal and was deeply touched by the sympathetic understanding which had been shown by the Fund towards India's needs and problems.

Current prices of oil, according to Shri

Kaul, had forced India, like many other developing nations, to face the inexorable realities underlying the non-renewability of fossil fuels. India was, therefore, building up its energy balance so as to synchronise it with its factor endowments and economic potential. Production of coal had already greatly increased, and the harnessing of water resources for generating energy had now also come to acquire the highest priority. In this programme the early completion of Kalinadi and similar projects would play a major role. Kuwaiti assistance from the Kuwait Development Fund for this project was, therefore, most useful and timely.

KUWAIT INDIA USA

Date : Jan 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

NEPAL

Speech by the Foreign Minister at Dinner in His Honour at Kathmandu

Following is the text of the speech made by Shri Y. B. Chavan, Minister for External Affairs of India, at dinner given in his honour by Shri Krishna Raj Aryal, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Nepal, on January 19, 1976 at Kathmandu:

I should like to take this opportunity to convey to the Hon'ble Foreign Minister and Mrs. Aryal, on behalf of my wife, myself, and members of my delegation, our warm appreciation of their kind invitation for us to visit this beautiful country. In the few hours we have been here, we have found the warmth of your reception, your kindness and hospitality overwhelming and, indeed most enjoyable.

Ladies and gentlemen, this is my first visit to your charming capital. I have been deep-

ly impressed not only by its natural beauty but also by the warmth of friendship, courtesy and culture of its people. Allow me, Your Excellency, to say how fully and sincerely I reciprocate the kind sentiments to which you have given expression about the deep and abiding friendship between our two countries.

These mighty Himalayas have inspired our two peoples since time immemorial. The wisdom and vision of our sages and their perception of the fundamental truths of life guide our conduct to this day. We are not only close neighbours in the usual clichéd sense of that expression: ties of blood and culture, tradition and history, going back to the hoary past, bind our two people in bonds of brotherhood - bonds which will endure beyond human memory and recorded history.

In recent times, at the level of state relations too, our two Governments have been forging fresh links, as between two sovereign, independent and equal nations, on the basis of mutual trust and respect, and for mutually beneficial cooperation in the interest of the well-being and advancement of our peoples.

On the 26th January this year, our country will complete twenty-six years as a

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Republic. Freedom to us has always connoted liberation from colonial rule. But even more importantly it signifies a relentless struggle for social justice and balanced economic growth of all sections of our people without which a nation must remain internally weak and vulnerable. It is our national endeavour to mobilise our human and material resources for the building up of a socialist society based on equality of opportunity, fairplay and justice to all.

Our belief in the equality of human beings, leads us, naturally, to the conviction that nations big and small ought to conduct their relations as equals. It is a matter of considerable surprise and pain to us that some big powers should still go about, in the last quarter of the 20th century, in the belief that it is their destiny to dominate the

world and reshape it in the mould of their own interests and ambitions.

Countries should regard one another as equals, irrespective of size, the level of their economic development, or the extent of their military power. Ours is a small world and its resources ought to be pooled, not for the prosperity of the privileged few but for the uplift of humanity as a whole. We, in India, are committed to a vision of the world, at peace with itself, in which no small nation should feel threatened, and all should work together in harmony and cooperation for the common good of mankind.

In today's world international relationships, particularly among neighbours, can best be nurtured through mutual cooperation on the basis of reciprocity and mutuality of interests.

The welfare of the people of India is closely linked with the well-being and prosperity of the people of Nepal. Economic development and the eradication of poverty, ignorance and disease are the common goals of both our countries. The scale of the development effort needed to improve the lot of our people rules out complete self-sufficiency as the aim of our planning. Interdependence among nations is unavoidable and might profitably be accepted as such and built upon as a positive asset. We regard mutual co-operation between Nepal and India as the key to the prosperity of our two people and a basis for a stable and durable friendship.

Although we are ourselves a developing country, with our resources always falling short of the needs, it is in this spirit that we have always been willing to contribute our mite to Nepal's economic development. May I assure, Your Excellency, that within our resources we shall always be willing to extend our fullest cooperation to Nepal's development in the future also.

In a relationship as extensive, as deep and complex, as exists between India and Nepal, both sides must always be vigilant and make every endeavour to remove any misunderstandings and mistrust that may arise

for whatever reason. We must always be ready to expand the areas of mutual understanding and cooperation. I have no hesitation in saying that there are forces whose constant effort it is to sow suspicion and distrust between us. We shall, with our sincerity and vigilance, foil their designs.

In this context we wholeheartedly welcome the recent suggestion made by Prime Minister Giri for a frank and open dialogue between our two countries. A dialogue is actually in progress and Your Excellency's own visit to our country in August 1975 had made a substantial and valuable contribution to that process. We in India shall look forward to the Prime Minister's visit in the very near future.

Today, we have had very useful and cordial talks with the Rt. Hon'ble The Prime Minister, with H.E. Mr. Khadga Bahadur Singh, Minister for Food, Agriculture and irrigation, and with Your Excellency, I am looking forward to the privilege of an audience with His Majesty tomorrow and further discussions with you and your distinguished colleagues in the remaining days of my visit. It is my earnest hope, Your Excellency, that these exchanges of view will broaden the areas of sympathy, understanding and mutually beneficial cooperation between our two Governments and strengthen the existing bonds of friendship.

Your Excellency, Ladies and Gentlemen, may I ask to you join me in a toast to the health of His Majesty the King of Nepal and to our charming host the distinguished Foreign Minister and Mrs. Aryal.

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NEPAL INDIA USA LATVIA

Date : Jan 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

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

The Minister of External Affairs, Shri Y. B. Chavan, made the following statement in Parliament On January 27, 1976 on his recent visit to Nepal:

I visited Nepal from January 19 to 22, 1976, at the invitation of His Excellency Mr. Aryal, the Foreign Minister of Nepal. During the visit, I had an audience with His Majesty the King of Nepal. I had discussions with the Prime Minister, Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation and other Ministers of His Majesty's Government. I had extensive discussions with the Foreign Minister.

The discussions covered many matters of mutual interest in the bilateral and international fields. The discussions were frank and were held in a friendly atmosphere, so characteristic of the close relations between India and Nepal. As the Hon'ble Members are aware, our relations with Nepal have been fashioned by geography, history and culture. Yes, it is necessary to be vigilant so that no misunderstandings are allowed to be created or built up between us. This can be ensured by a continuous process of a free and frank dialogue at all levels so that there is a clear appreciation of each other's viewpoints, interests and concerns. My discussions with the Foreign Minister of Nepal and his colleagues were guided by the realisation of our inter-dependence and the constant need to review our relationship in the light of contemporary realities. It is a basic tenet of our foreign policy to build enduring relationship of friendly cooperation with our neighbours on the basis of equality, reciprocity and mutual benefit.

At present, we have an on-going programme of economic cooperation with Nepal in various fields. During my visit, we discussed the ways and means of expanding the area of cooperation in order to further strengthen our relationship. Among other

matters of bilateral interest, we discussed the question of jointly harnessing the vast potential of river waters for the benefit of both the countries in the field of flood control, irrigation and generation of power. There is much that can be done in this regard. On our side, we reaffirmed our keen desire to proceed expeditiously with the projects such as Devighat and other projects, previously agreed upon and ready for execution. As a result of the talks, we have evolved a joint approach which clearly spells out the priorities to be attached to various projects, the manner and the time frame of their implementation. In particular, I would like to mention that both sides agreed to continue the work on the Karnali Project as under the existing arrangement and to undertake, at the earliest possible, the joint investigation of the Pancheshwar Dam Project and the Rapti Flood Control Project. We also discussed many other matters of concern to either side in a spirit of friendship and understanding.

As members of the Non-Aligned Movement and in view of the Non-Aligned Summit to be held in Colombo this year, we discussed the role of non-aligned nations in the changing world environment and the need for strengthening the movement and safeguarding it against division and dilution of its principles.

As the Hon'ble Members are aware, we have been striving to build a structure of durable peace and cooperation in our region. In that context, the stability, peace and progress of our neighbours is very vital for our own stability, peace and progress. Therefore, we are happy to have had the privilege of extending our economic cooperation to Nepal in the past and we will continue to do so to the best of our ability. During my visit, I had an opportunity to get some glimpses of the fine efforts for development of Nepal which are being made under the leadership of His Majesty King Birendra. I am very hopeful that as a result of the discussions, we will be able to take positive steps forward for strengthening our friendly relations and mutually beneficial cooperation between the Government and people of India and Nepal.

Date : Jan 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

NETHERLANDS

Indo-Dutch Joint Communiqué

Following is the text of the joint communiqué issued in New Delhi on January 7, 1976 at the end of Netherlands' Minister for Development Cooperation, Mr. J. P. Pronk's official visit to India:

At the invitation of the Government of India the Netherlands' Minister for Development Cooperation, Mr. J. P. Pronk, paid an official visit to India from January 2 to 8, 1976.

He called on the President of India, Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, the Prime Minister of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, the Ministers for External Affairs, Agriculture and Irrigation, Finance, Industry and Civil Supplies, Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission, Minister for Commerce and Deputy Minister of Finance.

The Netherlands' Minister paid tribute to the memory of Mahatma Gandhi and laid a wreath at Rajghat.

The discussions enabled Mr. Pronk to acquaint himself at first hand with the economic problems of India and with the development efforts being made by the Indian Government, specially regarding small scale industries and in the agricultural field related to the small farmers and weaker sections of the Indian community.

In addition Mr. Pronk had the occasion to visit several projects in Haryana and Tamil Nadu.

Views were exchanged on the Seventh Special Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations, the International Economic Conference and the proposed International New Economic Order as well as on matters relating to Netherlands' development assistance to India. The Indian Government expressed its appreciation for the assistance extended in the past and welcomed the indicated assistance of Dfl 170 million (Rs. 56.6 crores) for 1976.

Mr. Pronk announced an additional grant of Dfl 10 million (Rs. 3.3 crores for technical assistance which was appreciated by the Indian Government. This grant will be used for financing of specific projects to be mutually selected in areas of sophisticated technology, agricultural research and for implementation of social welfare programmes of priority.

Minister Pronk appreciated the generous hospitality and cordial reception accorded to him and his party during their stay in India.

INDIA THE NETHERLANDS LATVIA USA

Date : Jan 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

PAKISTAN

Indo-Pak Trade Contracts

The following press release on Indo-Pak trade contracts was issued in New Delhi on January 15, 1976:

Progress of trade between India and Pakistan was reviewed at Islamabad between January 11 and 14, 1976 during the visit of a seven-member Indian trade delegation to Pakistan led by Shri Vinod Parekh, Chairman of State Trading Corporation. During their stay, export contracts of pig iron and bidi leaves from India were signed and the two delegations expressed the hope that there would be further similar contracts for purchases from India leading to an expansion

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in the two-way trade. The Indian delegation has returned here this morning.

Both sides agreed that it was necessary to take further steps to facilitate and speed up the exchange of trade information between the two countries. Towards this end, it had been decided that tenders and trade enquiries floated by Government and public sector agencies would be communicated expeditiously to the agencies concerned in the other country. The two delegations had also agreed that public sector agencies in one country might deal directly with their counterparts in the other.

The two delegations identified specific commodity groups in which commercial transactions could take place to the mutual advantage of India and Pakistan. These commodities were coke and coal, automobile components including tyres and tubes, tractors and tractor components, railway materials, iron and steel items, ferro alloys and chemicals.

It was also agreed that specialised trade teams from appropriate public sector agencies in both the countries would visit each other as frequently as necessary.

The Indian trade delegation held detailed discussions with Trading Corporation of Pakistan, Pakistan Automobile Corporation, Pakistan Tractor Corporation, Water and Power Development Authority, Railway Board, Pakistan Tyre Corporation, Federal Light and Heavy Engineering Corporation and other engineering units. They also called

on the Pakistan Commerce Secretary at Islamabad.

The leader of the Indian delegation extended an invitation to the Chairman, Trading Corporation of Pakistan to visit India at an early date.

PAK TEAM

It may be recalled that a Pakistani delegation led by Mr. Izharul Haque, Chairman of the Trading Corporation of Pakistan, visited India towards the end of April last year to probe the prospects of increasing trade between the two countries. The Pakistani delegation visited various commercial and industrial establishments in and around Delhi, Bangalore, Madras and Bombay to acquaint themselves with the range specifications, prices, and delivery schedules of products which could be of import interest to Pakistan. They also expressed interest in commodities like iron and steel products, engineering goods including railway track material, coke and coal and bidi leaves.

Trade between India and Pakistan was resumed on December 7, 1974 in accordance with the protocol signed here between the two countries earlier. A formal Trade Agreement was concluded in Islamabad in January, 1975 envisaging a Most-Favoured-Nation treatment in accordance with the provisions and decisions of General Agreement on Trade and Tariff to each other. It was also agreed that the trade between the two countries would be conducted on Government-to-Government basis or through Government controlled trading corporations.

The initial trade Protocol listed several items for mutual exchange including cotton, engineering goods, jute manufactures, iron ore, railway equipment, rice and tea. The list was later enlarged to include coal, coke and bidi leaves.

PAKISTAN INDIA USA RUSSIA

Date : Jan 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

TANZANIA

Indo-Tanzanian Accord oil Economic Cooperation

The following press release oil Indo-Tanzanian accord on economic cooperation was issued in New Delhi on January 3, 1976: Agreed Minutes at the conclusion of the two-day session of the First Meeting of the Indo-Tanzanian Joint Commission were signed here today by the Minister of External Affairs, Shri Y. B. Chavan, and His Excellency Mr. Amir Jamal, Minister of Finance and Planning, Tanzania.

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The Agreed Minutes Provide for increased cooperation between the two countries in a wide variety of fields such as industries, agriculture, science and technology, railways, civil aviation, small-scale industries, civil engineering, irrigation etc.

The Indian delegation to the Joint Commission Meeting was led by Shri Y. B. Chavan, Minister of External Affairs and included Shri T. A. Pai, Minister of Industry and Civil Supplies Prof. D. P. Chattopadhyaya, Minister of Commerce, Shri B. K. Sanyal, Secretary, Economic Division, Ministry of External Affairs and senior officials of the Ministries of Finance, Commerce, Industries, Planning. Petroleum and Agriculture.

The Tanzanian delegation was led by H.E. Mr. Amir Jamal, Minister of Finance and Planning and included H.E. Mr. A. Rulegura, Minister of Commerce and H.E. Dr. P. E. Temu National Planning Controller and senior officials of the Ministries of Finance, Manpower Development, Agriculture, Industries, Planning and Water, Energy and

Minerals.

During their stay in India, the Tanzanian delegation called on the President, the Prime Minister, Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission and Minister of Commerce and Minister of Planning. During their stay in Bombay on December 31, 1975 and January 1, 1976, they visited places of industrial and commercial interest.

HIGHLIGHTS OF UNDERSTANDING

The highlights of the understanding reached during the deliberations in the Joint Commission are:

The two countries have emphasised the importance of co-operation by developing countries as provided in the Resolutions adopted at the Lima Conference of the Non-Aligned Nations.

The two countries will collaborate in the expansion of a salt project in Tanzania, setting up of a water pumps manufacturing plant for agricultural use and establishment of prototype training-cum-production centres for development of small-scale industries in the field of agro-industries, textiles, mineral based industries, educational supplies and metal based industries.

A review of Indo-Tanzania trade was made and the two sides reached an understanding on a common approach to the problem of marketing and processing of raw cashewnuts and cooperation in setting up of the Tea Commodity Community and a Cardamom Community.

Economic and technical cooperation in deputation and training of railway experts, pilots and ground engineers, construction engineers, agricultural scientists and experts in cement industry and small scale industries will be expanded. India will train commercial pilots and ground engineers as well as afford training facilities for Tanzanian personnel in in-plant and institutional training in small-scale industries, railways, in scientific institutions. Indian experts will be made

available in the field of railways construction engineering, and agricultural research.

NOTEWORTHY INCREASE

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Joint Commission would be held in Dar-es-Salaam next year on dates to be mutually agreed upon.

It may be noted that economic cooperation between India and Tanzania has shown noteworthy increase in the last 2 to 3 years. 600 Indian experts are already working in Tanzania in diverse fields such as engineering, medicine, technology, accountancy, teaching, architecture, etc. A bicycle plant with Indian technical collaboration from India with production capacity of 150,000 bicycles per year would be commissioned soon. India has already cooperated with Tanzania in setting up Gobar Gas Plants, lime, village oil and pottery industries. The ONGC has concluded an agreement with Tanzanian Petroleum Development Corporation for exploration of gas in the Songo-Songo island. A Farms Implements Factory is also proposed to be set up with Indian collaboration. An Industrial Documentation Centre in Dar-es-Salaam has also been agreed to be set up to evaluate projects. The National Industrial Development Corporation, a public sector organisation, has provided consultancy services in connection with the construction of the new Tanzanian Capital Development Project at Dodoma.

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TANZANIA INDIA USA LATVIA PERU RUSSIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Jan 01, 1976

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TANZANIA

The President, Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, made the following speech at the banquet in honour of Mwalimu Julius K. Nyerere, President of the United Republic of Tanzania, in New Delhi on January 17 1976:

It is my great privilege to welcome you Mr. President, and your eminent colleagues on behalf of the Government and people of India. The friendly ties between India and Tanzania are happily getting stronger every day. The people of India have long recognised that in your life you have encompassed the struggle for freedom for your people and achievement in modernisation of your nation after independence. You recall to us the life history of the Father of our Nation, Mahatma Gandhi. He forged his anti-colonial weapon of civil disobedience on the soil of your great continent and saw the fulfilment of his dream of freedom for India. The world sees you as the "AFRICAN PROPHET", the "undisillusioned idealist", indeed as "Saint Julius". You remind us too of our own first Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru, on whom fell the mantle of giving independence the guiding directives and social and economic objectives for our country.

Excellency, your visit comes at a time when your people have reaffirmed their unbounded confidence in you by electing you as their President for the fourth time. This is a unique honour and we join the people of Tanzania in offering you our felicitations. The efforts of your Government to increase agricultural production in Tanzania and set up Ujamaa villages to modernise the traditional African Society in an African way have won the admiration of thinking people all over the world. The Tanzanian people truly rejoice in the fruits of UHURU, freedom. They are blazing a trail in the path of Socialism and Development. They have better food, fuller employment, better housing and medical care, and greater confidence born through the process of Socialist Education.

We, the people of the newly independent and developing countries, as you have so aptly observed, have our land, our resources and our people as our main riches. Money we may not have. But as you have declared in your famous Arusha Declaration, propounding the philosophy of Socialism and Self-reliance for Tanzania. "It is stupid to rely on money as the major instrument of development when we know only too well that our country is poor. It is equally even more stupid for us to imagine that we shall rid ourselves of our poverty through foreign financial assistance rather than our own financial resources". Your emphasis on self-reliance, cooperation and freedom from exploitation of the poor by the rich within a nation and in the community of nations finds its echoes in the hearts of millions of common people not only in India but throughout the developing world.

In today's world when, in spite of the U.N. Charter, a few countries have at their command 80 per cent of the world trade, nearly 95 per cent of private investment in world industry and technology; when they consume 70 per cent of global resources while two-thirds of the human race in the developing world lives in conditions of under-nourishment and poverty, the importance of relying on our own human and material resources and our native exertions is truer today than a decade ago. There has long been an awareness that the growing gap between the affluent and the majority of the human race spells dangers to an inter-dependent world. The rhetoric of professions is less and less matched with commitment to action. Heaped on the old maldistribution of financial resources and technology have fallen, on some of us, the new penalties from the World Energy Crisis. The Paris Conference on International Economic Cooperation has showed some perception of the world economic crisis but we are a long way from achieving a just international social order. Let the old and the new rich recognise that peace, detente and prosperity for their nations will never be secure if the challenge of a fairer dispensation for world commerce and development is not met.

Your visit has been heralded by the first

meeting of the Indo-Tanzanian Joint Commission on Economic and Technical Cooperation in which our ministers and officials participated not to argue principles but to search for more and more fields of cooperation. The meeting of the Commission has

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successfully identified new projects and schemes in which India and Tanzania will be cooperating in future. Both of us recognise the compulsion for non-aligned countries to work together for their common economic security. Tanzania and India can perhaps demonstrate that two countries, belonging to different continents but struggling with similar problems of development can forge new areas of cooperation which combine progress with mutual respect and dignity. We can no longer be content with mere progressions of cooperation between the countries of the developing world. Time has come to bend our will and resources to translate our professions into achievements.

Mr. President, the achievements of Tanzania under your leadership have already won world acclaim. You had the distinction of receiving today the Nehru Award for International Understanding. We recognise that the validity of your national development strategy and its commitment to social justice has meaning well beyond your own borders. It is a contribution to peace and fellowship with dignity among nations. As you have yourself declared, peace and human justice are interlinked. International endeavour for peace must involve the endeavour for international justice.

There seems to be a much greater need for international understanding today because, in spite of the recent process of detente, avoidable conflicts are being created threatening the emancipation of the colonial peoples, and the development of the newly independent nations which have a great stake in world peace. The old approach of military pacts and attempts at the domination of small and medium countries by more powerful ones have recently manifested themselves in new forms in different parts of the world.

While we have welcomed the dissolution of the Portuguese empire and the emergence of all Portuguese colonies, including Angola, to freedom, we, like you, are deeply concerned at the strife and bloodshed in the wake of Angolan independence. India has full faith in Africa's capacity and determination to resolve its problems.

We condemn South Africa's intervention and reject all notions that any African nation lacks the will and capacity to pursue its own independent policies. The lack of progress towards majority rule in Zimbabwe, the continued illegal occupation of Namibia by the racist regime of South Africa and its sinister design to cut up southern Africa into so-called African homelands - seem to be a part of a scheme to preserve the indignity of minority rule and political and economic exploitation of Southern Africa. The challenge of liberation remains unfulfilled. Tanzania has been in the lead to establish multi-racial harmony at home and to assist, with all its resources, the liberation movements against racist minority regimes. India too remains as committed as ever to Africa's ceaseless struggle for full emancipation and dignity.

Both our countries have pledged ourselves to keeping the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace and have denounced the establishment of the military base at Diego Garcia. Such bases can pose a threat to the tranquility of the region encompassing the Indian Ocean. I am sure that in the coming Non-Aligned Conference in Colombo and in other international forums, the voices of Tanzania and India will join in demanding peace in the Indian Ocean, as also the establishment of a just world economic order.

In honouring Your Excellency, we honour a man who has few equals in the world. An eminent statesman, you remain uncorrupted by power, unsullied by the burdens of office. You remain what you always were, a soldier in the age-old struggle for liberation, not only of your own people but of all humanity.

May I request you, Excellencies, Ladies

and Gentlemen, to join me in a toast to the good health and happiness of President Julius Nyerere and of his distinguished colleagues to the progress and prosperity of the friendly people of Tanzania and to the ever-growing friendship and cooperation between Tanzania and India.

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TANZANIA USA INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC FRANCE ANGOLA SOUTH AFRICA
ZIMBABWE NAMIBIA SRI LANKA

Date : Jan 01, 1976

Volume No

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TANZANIA

President Nyerere's Reply

Replying, President Nyerere delivered the following speech:

Thank you, Mr. President, for the kindness with which you and your colleagues, acting on behalf of the Indian People and Government, received me yesterday, and have treated me since. I am very happy to be back in this country, five eventful years after my short stay here in January 1971. I have been looking forward to my visit and to hearing about - and perhaps seeing something of - developments in India during this period. Perhaps even more valuable to me has been the way in which this visit has made possible an exchange of views between our two countries on the many recent international events which are of mutual concern. I will not enlarge upon our discussions; suffice to say that I found them very useful.

There is, however, one thing which has been going on well since 1971, and which I do wish to mention. This has increased very

greatly since my visit - although I should make it clear, Mr. President, that I am not claiming the credit for this very desirable development! There are now in Tanzania some 600 Indian experts working for Tanzania under the direction of the Government of my country - and making a great contribution to our economic development. These experts are doing all kinds of jobs; they include engineers, architects, economists, accountants, teachers, and technicians at different levels and in various kinds of activity. On behalf of the Tanzanian Government I would like to pay tribute to these men and women for their hard work and the help which they are giving to our development efforts. I would also like to express our appreciation of the way in which the Indian Government has helped to make it possible for these men and women to come to Tanzania well-qualified for the job which wants doing, and also with the right attitude - that is, a desire to help us help ourselves.

But the sending of experts and the training of Tanzanians in India is only the beginning of the economic cooperation which now exists between our two countries. I do not propose to list all the joint and co-operative projects. But I would like to express my personal pleasure in the results we are beginning to see from the help which India is giving us in the promotion of small industries - especially in our rural areas. There is still a great deal to be done in this field, and - as you know, Mr. President - we have asked for more help in the establishment of prototype training-cum-production centres. For we recognise the importance of small-scale industries to an economy like ours, and India has just great experience in this field.

Importing techniques and expertise from India does not only have the effect of raising our own levels of small-scale industrial productivity. It also lays the groundwork for a quiet revolution in economic attitudes towards international trade. For it means that people will become accustomed to the idea of India as a possible source for necessary imports, instead of always going straight to the developed countries for the things

which we cannot supply for our-selves. I hope this is beginning to happen outside our Government to Government agreement; certainly we politicians have been saying for long enough that trade between Third World countries can and must be increased for our mutual benefit! And it is true that trade between India and Tanzania is increasing; since 1971 Tanzania's imports from this country have gone up by over 40% in money terms. This does not necessarily mean very much; for in real terms trade between India and Tanzania is still very low.

In 1974, about six per cent of Tanzania's exports came to India; only about 1.5% of our - unfortunately very much larger - imports bill is made up of goods from India. On India's trade statistics, Tanzania probably does not even appear as a separate item!

Both of our countries, Mr.. President, have been forced to restrict our imports to essential goods, and there are many of these which we cannot supply to each other. For example, neither of us is an oil-exporter! But I am sure that we can do better than at present, and I hope that in another five years the value of trade between us will be very much greater - whatever happens to the percentages!

For increased trade between Third World countries is essential to our progress. It

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is a vital part of the Third World effort for development and for economic justice in the world; among other advantages, it helps us to reduce our dependence on the rich countries. We are at different levels of under-development; this means that we can learn from each other more easily than we can learn from those who have highly industrialised economies. Of course, our differences also mean that our interests will not always coincide when we are dealing amongst ourselves and not bargaining jointly with the wealthy nations. But I do not think we need to worry about the interests we do not have in common; they will take care of themselves! Instead we must put our emphasis on those economic developments in which we have a

common interest, or where we can help each other. And the truth is that if we are really determined upon cooperation we can do, a great deal together. Even when our exports compete in external markets we can sometimes benefit by some joint activities; India and Tanzania each try to sell cashew kernels to the developed world - but we would both like to expand the cashew nut consumption in the rich countries!

Putting stress on the things we have in common is important in the political field also. And certainly there is no shortage of common policies and interests between India and Tanzania. Our countries have the same basic attitudes on non-alignment, on the exclusion of Big-Power bases from the Indian Ocean, on anti-colonialism, and on the whole question of racialism in Southern Africa. In all these, and many other matters, the representatives of our two countries work in co-operation and harmony in the international organisations of the world, and in our respective bilateral relations with other states. India and Tanzania are more than friendly states; we are friends. I believe that our friendship is now so deeply embedded in 14 years of common struggle for human justice and the sovereign rights of small powers that nothing except a complete reversal of policies by one of us could charge it. And, Mr. President, I see no sign that either India or Tanzania is proposing to change the basic principles on which its foreign policy has been conducted since our respective independence celebrations!

But this does bring me to just one more thing that I would like to say this evening. Tanzania and India are neighbours - geographically divided only by water. India's population is about 37 times that of Tanzania; although part of the Third World, India is much more highly developed than my own country - stronger industrially and militarily. Yet on those rare occasions when our two countries have adopted different policies, it never occurs to us in Tanzania to ask ourselves whether India will react badly to our stand. We have learned to be confident that each of our nations will try to explain its position to the other, and that if our Govern-

ments still do not agree, will jointly pass on to some other subject where we do agree and can work together. Your size, and your comparative power, have never been used to indicate even the possibility of intimidation; we have been given no reason to believe that our inequality in size and power enters the mind of the Indian Government. Mr. President, not every neighbour of a much larger country can say those things; I would therefore like to pay a tribute to India for its consistent good neighbourliness in relation to Tanzania.

Mr. President; I would now like to ask everyone present to join me in a toast to President Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, the Government and the people of India; and to ever increasing friendship and cooperation between India and Tanzania.

TANZANIA INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Jan 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

TANZANIA

Indo-Tanzanian Joint Communiqué

Following is the text of the joint communiqué issued in New Delhi on January 21, 1976 at the end of President Julius Nyerere's State visit to India:

At the invitation of the President of India, Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, the President of the United Republic of Tanzania, His Excellency Mwalimu Julius K. Nyerere, paid a State visit to India from January 15 to January 21, 1976. The President was accompanied by Hon'bles Ibrahim Kaduma, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Rajabu Semvua, Member of Central Committee of T.A.N.U.,

and Dr. W. K. Chagula, Minister for Water, Energy and Minerals, Saidi Washoto, Member
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of the Zanzibar Revolutionary Council and other officials.

The President of the United Republic of Tanzania was accorded a very warm and cordial welcome by the Government and people of India, reflecting the very close and friendly relations existing between the two countries. He received the Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding for his great contribution to the cause of freedom, peace, human dignity and equality. The Government and people of India sincerely appreciated his enlightened and learned address on the occasion of his accepting the award which will always have an honoured place in the history of Indo-Tanzanian relations.

During his stay in Delhi the President of Tanzania held talks with the President, Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, and the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi. He also received the Vice-President, Shri B. D. Jatti and the Minister of External Affairs, Shri Y. B. Chavan.

During their stay in India, the President of Tanzania and his party also visited Bombay and Bangalore.

The discussions included a review of developments of recent important international events and bilateral relations between India and Tanzania since President Nyerere's last visit to India in January 1971. These discussions confirmed the close identity of views reflecting the deep understanding which has existed between the leaders of the two countries.

During the talks the Tanzanian President was accompanied by Hon'ble Ibrahim Kaduma, Minister for Foreign Affairs; Hon'ble W. K. Chagula, Minister for Water, Energy and Minerals, Hon'ble Rajubu Semvua, Member of Central Committee of TANU; Hon'ble Saidi Washoto, Member of Afro Shirazi Party of Zanzibar; High Commissioner of Tanzania to India and others

senior officials. The Prime Minister of India was assisted by Sarvashri Y. B. Chavan, Minister of External Affairs, P. V. N. S. Rao, Minister of External Affairs, P. D. P. Chattopadhyaya, Minister of Commerce, Prof Nurul Hasan, Minister of Education and Social Welfare; A. C. George, Minister of State-Industry; P. N. Dhar, Secretary to the Prime Minister, B. K. Sanyal, Secretary (ED), J. S. Mehta, Additional Secretary, M.E.A., N. Narasimhan, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Finance, S. S. Nath, Joint Secretary, M.E.A., High Commissioner of India to Tanzania and other senior officials,

The President of Tanzania and the Prime Minister of India expressed their faith in the United Nations Charter and in the principles of sovereign equality and non-interference in the internal affairs of other states. They emphasized the increasing importance and validity of the policy of non-alignment and its role in promoting understanding among nations and security in view of the recent manifestations of the old approach and attempts at intervention and domination of the newly independent countries in certain parts of the world. They recognised the need and scope for injecting greater dynamism in the cooperation amongst the non-aligned countries and were confident that the proposed meeting of Heads of Government of the Non-aligned countries to be held in Colombo this year would give impetus to such cooperation.

While reaffirming their commitment to progressive disarmament and the universal ban on all nuclear weapon tests, the two sides stressed that nuclear energy, when used for peaceful purposes can make a great contribution to the well-being and economic development of all peoples. They agreed that the benefits and knowledge of nuclear technology should be available to all countries.

Both leaders felt that the non-aligned and developing countries should forge closer economic cooperation among themselves. identify each other's problems and seek to solve them through mutual cooperation. They also emphasized the importance of economic relations as already endorsed at Lima Conference of Foreign Ministers of Non-Aligned

States and called for the speedy implementation of the Resolutions of the United Nations Special Session aimed at creating a new world economic order.

The two sides underlined the significance of the recently concluded Conference on International Economic Cooperation in Paris. It was hoped that an atmosphere of pragmatic Cooperation and spirit of accommodation will prevail during the ensuing deliberations of the Commissions set up by the Conference. The two sides urged the affluent countries to come forward with concrete and

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speedy steps to ameliorate the deteriorating economic situation of the Most Seriously Affected Countries. In this connection, the need to continue maintaining solidarity among the 'Group of 77' was stressed by both the countries.

The two leaders expressed their happiness at the independence of Mozambique, Angola, Cape Verde, Sao Tome and Principe from centuries of Portuguese colonial rule. They also welcomed the emergence to independence of Comoros, Surinam and Papua New Guinea. The Prime Minister of India reiterated India's steadfast support to the organisation of African Unity and its determination to join with Africa in all measures to end the shameful policy of apartheid, to liberate Namibia and to end racist minority rule in Zimbabwe and South Africa.

They looked forward to peace, harmony and prosperity of Angola, while safeguarding its sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity. The two leaders expressed their great concern at the strife in Angola and condemned the aggression being committed by the racist regime of South Africa in conjunction with other covert forces.

The two leaders reiterated their support to the declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace, free from foreign military bases and great power rivalry and tension. They called on the great powers and major maritime users to fully cooperate with the littoral and hinterland states in achieving

this objective. The two leaders expressed concern at the continued expansion of military facilities in Diego-Garcia. They agreed that their countries would maintain close contact with each other on developments in the Indian Ocean.

Reviewing the situation in West Asia, both sides reiterated their support to the Arab cause and emphasized the importance of arriving at a just and peaceful settlement. They stressed that there could be no such settlement of the problem in West Asia unless Israel withdraws from all the Arab territories it has occupied by force and the legitimate national rights of the people of Palestine are restored.

The Prime Minister of India outlined recent developments and initiatives taken for the normalisation of relations among the countries of the sub-continent. The Prime Minister also reiterated India's desire to create a climate of understanding and cooperation in the sub-continent.

The President of Tanzania appreciated the initiatives taken by the Government of India for the furtherance of the establishment of durable peace and economic cooperation among all the countries in the region.

The two leaders reviewed the development of cultural, trade and economic relations between the two countries. They noted with satisfaction the successful conclusion of the First Meeting of the Indo-Tanzanian Joint Commission and the progress made in promoting economic cooperation between the two countries. They emphasized the need for further steps to enlarge cooperation in this field and to demonstrate, in actual performance, the potential for multi-stranded success of beneficial and dignified economic relations between developing countries.

The President of Tanzania expressed his deep appreciation for the warm and cordial welcome extended to him and to the members of his party by the Government and people of India. The President of Tanzania extended an invitation to the President of India, Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed to visit Tanzania and

the invitation was cordially accepted.

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TANZANIA INDIA USA SRI LANKA PERU FRANCE MOZAMBIQUE ANGOLA CAPE VERDE SAO
TOME E PRINCIPE COMOROS GUINEA NAMIBIA SOUTH AFRICA ZIMBABWE ISRAEL MALI

Date : Jan 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Indo-Soviet Protocol on Cooperation in Agriculture

The following press release on Indo-soviet protocol on cooperation in agriculture was issued in New Delhi on January 12, 1976:

A two-year Protocol on Scientific and Technical Cooperation in Agriculture and Animal Sciences was signed here today between the Government of India and the Government of USSR.

The Protocol envisages cooperation between the Scientific Institutions of both the countries, exchange visits by scientists and specialists, holding of joint symposia and exchange of seed samples and plant materials. Joint meetings of the representatives of both the countries for drawing up plan of scientific and technical cooperation for 1978 and 1979 in Moscow sometime in 1978 have also been proposed.

Dr. M. S. Swaminathan, Secretary to the Government of India and Director-General, Indian Council of Agricultural Research, signed on behalf of the Government of India and Dr. B. A. Runov, Dy. Minister for Agriculture of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, signed on behalf of the Soviet Government.

The present Protocol is in continuation of the agreement signed by both the governments in June 1971, on scientific and technical cooperation. The Protocol signed today will be in operation during 1976 and 1977.

The representatives of both the Governments reviewed the past agreements and noted that inter-governmental collaboration provided sound basis for fruitful cooperation in the field of agriculture, between USSR and India. Most of the items covered under the Protocol for the years 1974 and 1975 had been implemented effectively.

Besides Dr. Runov, who is the leader, the Soviet Delegation included, Dr. M. V. Kuzmenko, Vice-President of the Lenin All-Union Academy of Agricultural Sciences, Dr. S. Turemuratov, Minister of Agriculture of the Karakalpakskaya, ASSR, Dr. V. M. Korosteiev, Director, Administration or Cooperation with Foreign Countries, USSR Ministry of Agriculture, and Dr. M. V. Mukhamejanov, Agricultural Councillor of the Soviet Embassy in India.

The Indian side headed by Dr. M. S. Swaminathan, included Dr. B. K. Soni, Dr. D. R. Bhumbla, Dr. Sukhdev Singh, Deputy Director-Generals, Indian Council of Agricultural Research, Dr. G. S. Kalkat, and Dr. M. N. Menon, Agricultural and Animal Husbandry Commissioners with the Government of India respectively and Shri K. P. Singh, Secretary, ICAR.

In the field of Crop Sciences. Vavilov All-Union Research Institute of Plant Industry, Leningrad and the Bureau of Plant Introduction, IARI, New Delhi would undertake study and utilization of world plant resources for breeding farm crops, including important ornamental plants, forage crops and grasses, under different climatic conditions.

The Central Rice Research Institute, Cuttack and All-Union Research Institute of Rice, Krasnodar would cooperate in the development of varieties of Rice having high yields and superior quality by using breeding material from both the countries.

The genetical and breeding work of Cotton would be undertaken by the All-Union Cotton Research Institute and Research Institute of Cotton Breeding and Seed Breeding, Tashkent and All-India Coordinated Project on Cotton Improvement, Coimbatore (Tamilnadu).

Other crops included for cooperative work are Grapes, Sunflower, Tobacco and vegetables.

In the field of Animal Sciences, the Central Sheep and Wool Research Institute, Avikanagar (Jaipur) and the All-Union Research Institute of Sheep and Goat Breeding, Stavropol would undertake the study of high-yielding livestock under hot climate conditions for fine fleece sheep breeding with em-

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phasis on freezing and transport of Ram semen and breeding of Karakul sheep.

The Ukrainian Institute of Animal Husbandry of steppe areas, Askanjanova and the Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Izatnagar (UP) would study the Zebu and buffalo improvement.

The research on production and technology on Milk and Milk products would be jointly undertaken by the All-Union Research Institute of Animal Husbandry, Moscow and the National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal (Haryana), under the Protocol.

The Soviet Union would depute scientists to India to study various aspects of crop and livestock improvement.

The Government of India would similarly depute its scientists to study the management and technology of the Crops and Animals, covered under the Protocol.

It is also envisaged to hold symposia. one in 1976 and other in 1977. The symposium on "Selection of High-yielding Dwarf varieties resistance to main races of rusts and smut" would be held in India in 1976, which would be attended by the Soviet Scientists.

A symposium on 'Cross-breeding of Zebu and other cattle' would be held in the USSR in 1977, which would be attended by the Indian Scientists.

Both the Governments have agreed to exchange seed samples, plant materials on Rice, Wheat, Triticale, Maize, Barley, Sorghum, Vegetable and Oil bearing crops, Tobacco, Forage crops and grasses, Grapes, Plums and other fruits.

INDIA USA RUSSIA UNITED KINGDOM CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC PERU UZBEKISTAN

Date : Jan 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

UNITED KINGDOM

Indo-British Agreement for Joint Economic Committee

The following press release on Indo-British joint economic committee was issued in New Delhi on January 6, 1976:

The Letters of Exchange for setting up an Indo-British Joint Committee on Economic Cooperation and Trade were signed, here today, by the Rt. Hon'ble Mr. Peter Shore, Secretary of State for Trade and Prof. D. P. Chattopadhyaya, Union Commerce Minister on behalf of their respective Governments. It was agreed that the new Committee would have following terms of reference:

"The Committee will

- (a) review the development of economic relations between the two countries;
- (b) identify, ways and means of increasing the scope of economic co-operation between India and the United Kingdom, and make suitable recommendations in respect thereof

to the Governments of the two countries;

- (c) recommend measures and promotional activities, such as the exchange of economic missions and delegations and participation in fairs and exhibitions, in order to stimulate the economic relations between the two countries consistently with their international obligations;
- (d) identify and review fields of manufacture where major production or technological gaps exist or are likely to develop in India and possibilities of technological collaboration with British industrial groups in these fields including new fields of collaboration involving advanced technology;
- (c) examine possibilities for joint manufacturing programmes between in-

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dustrial groups in both countries with a view to taking maximum advantage of relative production costs in the two countries in the manufacture of various components and finished goods;

- (f) review and recommend technological collaboration possibilities in industrial research and development;
- (g) with a view to closer economic co-operation between the two countries, consider the possibilities of setting up export-oriented joint collaboration undertakings in India, to promote exports to third country markets, or of setting up joint ventures in third countries;
- (h) examine issues relating to UK investments in India;
- (i) appoint, if necessary for conducting its work ad hoc working groups and organise studies on specific problems of mutual interest to the two

countries;

- (j) review the progress achieved in the implementation of the recommendations made by the Committee and accepted by the two Governments.

2. The members for each meeting of the Committee shall be appointed by both parties, taking into consideration the agenda of the meeting concerned.

3. The Committee shall appoint two sub-Committees the first concerned with issues of bilateral economic relations and the second with industrial cooperation, technological collaboration and investment. Both Committees may discuss export promotion in both directions. Membership of the first sub-committee shall be limited to Government officials. In the case of the second sub-Committee it shall be open to either side to invite representatives of the public and private sector to participate in its deliberations. The task of the two sub-committees will be to make recommendations to the main committee.

4. The Committee shall have an advisory capacity and shall make suggestions to the two Governments with a view to attaining the objectives described in paragraph (1) above.

5. The Committee shall meet, preferably once a year or as and when considered necessary, at a date convenient to both parties, alternatively in London and New Delhi.

6. The Committee shall maintain close contact with the private as well as public sector organisations of both countries. The representatives of interested organisations, associations or enterprises could be, whenever necessary, invited to participate in an advisory capacity in the specific deliberations of the Committee.

7. This arrangement can be terminated by either party by sending a written communication to that effect to the other party giving six months' notice in advance".

Volume No

1995

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Indo-US Joint Communiqué on Science and Technology

Following is the text of the joint communiqué issued in New Delhi on January 29, 1976 at the conclusion of the meeting of the Indo-US Sub-Commission on Science and Technology:

The Indo-US Sub-Commission on Science and Technology met on 27th, 28th and 29th January 1976 in New Delhi. The US Delegation of ten members from various scientific agencies was led by Dr. Oswald H. Ganley, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State, and the Delegation from India was led by Dr. B. D. Nag Chaudhuri, Vice-Chancellor, Jawaharlal Nehru University.

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The Sub-Commission discussed programmes of mutual interest to be developed under the agreed priority areas for scientific cooperation. The Sub-Commission hoped to foster a stable and mature relationship between the scientific communities of the two countries leading to meaningful growth in scientific cooperation. Working Groups in the areas of Agriculture, Energy; Health; Electronics, Materials and Metrology; Environment; and Scientific Information Exchange discussed and formulated broad programmes for recommended action by both Governments.

The areas being considered for joint work include amongst others water and soil conservation, solar energy for rural uses,

quick growing trees for fuel and raw materials, photosynthetic efficiency, post-harvest technology to reduce food losses, and solar electricity.

A new technique of house-wiring using flat conductor cables developed and being tested in United States will be studied for its potential use in India. In the area of Environment, programmes were identified in cleaning and washing of coal and the gas emission from coal combustion. The environmental programmes will include amongst others waste water treatment, solid waste treatment and of water purification. In the area of health, joint programmes will include amongst others nutrition, metabolic and degenerative diseases, health services delivery and occupational safety. Programmes leading to evaluation of reliability of electronic components and characterisation of electronic materials will be developed.

Agencies in India and United States will encourage the exchange of information through seminars, training programmes and development of methodologies in scientific information systems. The Sub-Commission recommended that appropriate actions be taken by both Governments to provide for the exchange of scientists in the various priority areas.

The Sub-Commission, as vehicle of both the Governments, offers a principal inter-governmental forum for review and coordination of the programmes as well as fostering greater understanding and effectiveness in science and technology cooperation between United States and India.

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USA INDIA

Date : Jan 01, 1976

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Date : Feb 01, 1976

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ALGERIA

Indo-Algerian Trade Agreement

The following press release on indo-Algerian trade agreement was issued in New Delhi on February 10, 1976:

For the first time, a Trade Agreement between India and Algeria has been signed here today. The Commerce Minister of Algeria, Mr. Layachi Yaker and the Union Commerce Minister, Prof. D. P. Chattopadhyaya signed the Agreement on behalf of their respective governments. The Agree-

ment, which is subject to its final ratification in accordance with the constitutional procedures of each country, will be valid for a period of one year and will thereafter be renewed automatically for further similar periods unless either country notifies its intention to terminate it.

According to the Agreement, exports from India to Algeria will include tea, coffee, spices, henna leaves, tobacco, rice, sugar, industrial goods, machinery and equipment, jute manufactures, chemicals, drugs and pharmaceuticals, plywood, cinematographic films, iron and steel items, cement and miscellaneous items. Imports to India from Algeria will include olive oil, paper and paper goods, mastic, drugs and pharmaceuticals, metal engineering products, mining products, crude oil, petroleum products, rock phosphate, mercury, fertilizers, cinematographic films, books and miscellaneous items. Both the countries will accord Most-Favoured-Nation treatment to each other in the field of commerce. The goods which have not been mentioned in the Agreement could also be exchanged in accordance with the export and import rules in force in the respective country. Payments pertaining to trade between the two countries will be affected in freely convertible currency.

The Agreement says that each country will extend to the other all possible facilities in the matter of commercial exchanges and to businessmen and representatives of enterprises in order to promote commercial relations.

JOINT COMMITTEE

A Joint Committee consisting of representatives of the two countries will meet on the request of either country for ensuring development of trade between the two countries and for reviewing the implementation of the Agreement.

For encouraging the development of trade between the two countries, each country will extend necessary facilities for organising and participating in trade fairs and

exhibitions. Both countries will also exchange all useful information pertaining to commercial exchange and statistics of import and export.

FOUNDATION FOR MORE TRADE

Prof. Chattopadhyaya, thanking the Algerian delegation for their visit, said that the present Agreement laid the foundation for a fruitful future of trade between India and Algeria.

The Algerian Minister of Commerce, Mr. Yaker said that the Agreement was absolutely necessary to put two friendly countries together on economic relations. He hoped that the trade between the two countries, which could not flourish because of the closing of Suez Canal, would now increase substantially. He said that delegations from both countries have to be exchanged for further strengthening of trade relations and was happy that the Union Commerce Minister had accepted his invitation to visit Algeria this year.

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ALGERIA INDIA USA RUSSIA

Date : Feb 01, 1976

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ANGOLA

Shri Chavan's Statement in Parliament on Recognition of MPLA Government

The Minister of External Affairs, Shri Y. B. Chavan, made the following statement in Parliament on India's recognition, of the MPLA Government in Angola on February 6, 1976:

As the House is aware, the Government

has always given full support to the struggle against colonialism and racism in Africa. We have been in full sympathy with the Organisation of African Unity which has demonstrated the unity and determination of the continent in the struggle for emancipation. The House will recall that the OAU had recognised all the three liberation movements in Angola - the MPLA (Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola), the FNLA (National Front for the Liberation of Angola), and the UNITA (National Unity for Total Independence of Angola). With the rising tide of liberation movements and after the change of regime in Portugal, the OAU and African statesmen sought to bring about reconciliation among these three liberation movements. When Portugal decided to end its domination over the country, the Government of India immediately recognised the Independence of Angola and welcomed the determination of the people of Angola to preserve the territorial integrity of their country. The Government of India also condemned categorically the unlawful violation of Angolan territorial integrity by the racist regime in South Africa.

As the House is aware, an extraordinary meeting of the OAU at the Summit level was held in January 1976 to discuss the problem of Angola. Even after several days of intensive discussions, the member States of the OAU remained evenly divided between countries which supported the recognition of the Government of MPLA and others who wanted a cease-fire and reconciliation among the recognised Liberation Movements. Since then three more African countries - Ethiopia, Sierra Leone and Togo - have accorded recognition to the Government of MPLA based in Luanda, representing a clear majority of the 46 member States of the OAU. The MPLA Government alone seems committed to preserve Angola's integrity and independence and fight the South African armed intrusion.

In the totality of these circumstances, the Government of India have decided to accord recognition to the MPLA Government led by its distinguished President and freedom fighter Dr. Agostinho Neto. The Prime Minister has today sent a message of greetings and felicitations to President Neto

pledging our continuing cooperation in the common tasks of our consolidating the long standing friendship between the Governments and people of Africa and India and in the continuing struggle for a just and peaceful world order. We have great admiration for the heroic liberation struggle waged by the people of Angola against Portuguese colonialism and rejoice in the independence of Angola. We are confident that in keeping with its declared policy, the MPLA Government will join to strengthen the fraternity of Non-Aligned nations and help to build a world based on equality and cooperation among nations.

I am sure the House will join me in the hope that bloodshed and strife in Angola will soon come to an end so that the Government and people of Angola can address themselves unhindered to the task of national reconstruction at home, fighting racism and minority regimes in Africa and contributing to resolve the many international problems confronting the community of nations.

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ANGOLA INDIA USA PORTUGAL SOUTH AFRICA SIERRA LEONE

Date : Feb 01, 1976

Volume No

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BANGLADESH

Indo-Bangladesh Joint Press Statement

The following Indo-Bangladesh joint press statement was issued in New Delhi on February 13, 1976:

At the invitation of the Bangladesh Government an Indian delegation under the leadership of Shri Ashwini Kumar, Director

General of Border Security Force visited Dacca and held a meeting with the Bangladesh delegation led by Major General Quazi Golam Dastgir, Director General Bangladesh Rifles, from February 11 to 13, 1976, to discuss border incidents and other related matters.

The D.G., BDR pointed out to the DG, BSF the series of raids on BOPS and PSS, arson and loot recently committed by miscreants in the border areas of Mymensingh District coming from sanctuaries across the border. He drew particular attention to the raids on Baromari BOP and the kidnapping of the O/C Kalmakanda along with his family. The DG, BSF emphatically denied that any miscreants were operating from inside Indian territory or that sanctuary was being allowed to any miscreant from Bangladesh. He, however, assured that vigorous efforts would be made to maintain peace on the border.

It was agreed that a joint enquiry team consisting of the DIG, BSF, Shillong and the Director BDR would enquire into all these recent incidents immediately. The enquiry would commence within 15 days and the report would be submitted to the Directors General within 15 days of commencement. The team would visit areas on either side of the border relevant to the enquiry.

It was further agreed that in keeping with the spirit of the guidelines for dealing with border incidents agreed upon at the Home Secretaries' Conference held in Calcutta in April 1975, regular meetings at periodic intervals would be held between Sector Commanders and Wing Commanders. Urgent steps will also be taken for ratification of the guidelines by India. Bangladesh has already conveyed its ratification to the Government of India.

The Indian delegation referred to cases of crossing of Garos into India. The DG, BDR stated that some Garos might have gone to India lured by miscreants but any bonafide citizen of Bangladesh was free to return. Both sides agreed to do their utmost to ensure that conditions are such on either side

of the border that no unauthorised movement takes place across the borders. Utmost vigilance will be exercised by the BSF and BDR in this respect.

The DG, BSF also pointed out that crossing over of bullets etc. into Indian territory had disturbed the adjoining Indian areas and the local population had moved away from the borders. The DG, BDR explained that these bullets might have crossed over when the BDR were in hot pursuit of the miscreants.

The Conference was held in a spirit of understanding and cooperation. The importance of a peaceful border in the interest of good neighbourly relations between the two countries was fully recognised.

BANGLADESH INDIA USA

Date : Feb 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

BANGLADESH

Official Statement on Utilisation of Ganga Waters at Farakka

The official spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs made the following Statement on utilisation of the Ganga waters at Farakka on February 18, 1976 in New Delhi:

As the lean season - mid-March to mid-May - approaches, when the water discharge in the Ganga drops, the Government of India have offered to discuss the question of utilisation of the waters at Farakka. The official response of the Government of Bangladesh is awaited.

It is to be hoped that this question will now be resolved at the next meeting and a

firm and final solution found in a spirit of

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understanding and friendship, safeguarding the legitimate rights and interests of both the countries. A significant step forward had been taken with the conclusion in April 1975 of a short-term arrangement providing for the operation of the Feeder Canal of the Farakka Barrage during the lean season last year, pending further discussions regarding the allocation of the lean season flows of the Ganga in terms of the Joint Declaration of the Prime Ministers of India and Bangladesh of May 16, 1974.

It is unfortunate that the atmosphere for the talks is sought to be vitiated by a false and misleading campaign in the Bangladesh press about the effects of the operation of the Farakka Barrage. All kinds of baseless allegations have been made against India to arouse popular passions and to create an unnecessary scare.

The Government of India have drawn the attention of the Government of Bangladesh to this wilful and flagrant violation of the understanding between the two countries to discourage hostile propaganda. They have pointed out that between close neighbours and friends like India and Bangladesh, differences are better resolved through direct talks rather than through acrimonious exchanges and public controversies.

The Government of India have also expressed their astonishment at the extraordinary and wholly unjustified demand that any withdrawal during any part of the year at Farakka, or even further upstream, should be subject to prior approval of the Government of Bangladesh. It is also claimed that withdrawal of the waters from the Ganga upstream in India is already "affecting river conditions and causing adverse consequences" in Bangladesh. The adverse consequences and the change in river conditions have not been described, let alone substantiated by any factual data.

According to the best information and expert assessment available with the Govern-

ment of India, any fluctuation in the water level of the Ganga in Bangladesh or in India, for whatever reason, ought not to have any adverse consequences for either country because of the abundance of water throughout the year, except for the lean season of mid-March to mid-May. As the well-known geographer, Professor B.L.C. Johnson of the Australian National University, Canberra, notes in his recent work "Bangladesh"-

"Bangladesh has a super-abundance of water if one sets the amount that can be used by crops against the quantity that flows into the country from outside and falls on its surface as rain. Rather more than four times as much water flows into as falls on Bangladesh ... Less than half of the country (including the hill areas) can be regarded as flood-free; one-third floods annually and of this probably a third is inundated to a depth of a metre (3 feet) or more".

No adverse effects of withdrawals of the waters at Farakka, during the lean season last year, on irrigation, navigation and salinity in Bangladesh were observed by the Indian members of the joint team of experts that had been set up by the two Governments under the Agreement of April 18, 1975. This is not surprising since it has always been known that much of the water that flows into Bangladesh runs wastefully to sea. Not only wastefully, but often destructively, because of extensive flooding.

The Government of India have expressed their readiness to enter into discussions on the question of the withdrawal of the waters at Farakka during the lean months of mid-March to mid-May. So far as the remaining part of the year is concerned, the water flows are plentiful. In fact, during the monsoon and its aftermath, the problem is one of large scale flooding in both the countries. Hence, there has never been any question of discussions in regard to the quantum of water which India could withdraw from the Ganga during the remaining part of the year. The Government of Bangladesh never raised this question during the discussions between the two Prime Ministers and not even during the

technical level discussion which culminated in the agreement between the Ministers of the two Governments on April 18, 1975.

The fact that no agreement for allocation of the waters of the Ganga during the non-lean months was considered necessary or called for is evident from the fact that the two Prime Ministers stated in the Joint Indo-Bangladesh Declaration of May 16, 1974:

"They recognised that during the periods of minimum flow in the Ganga, there

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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 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 Government of India themselves appreciate Bangladesh's need for water during the lean months to meet its reasonable requirements for irrigation, fishing and other productive uses. India would never wish to do anything which might harm the legitimate interests of Bangladesh.

The Farakka Barrage which has been built at a cost of Rs. 156 crores and which is the only means of saving the Port of Calcutta from extinction, cannot obviously be abandoned.

India is by far the major riparian country for the Ganga waters in terms of the catchment area (98%) ultimate irrigation potential (94.5%), population of the Ganga basin (94%) as compared to Bangladesh. The waters of the Ganga are of vital importance in sustaining the agricultural, industrial and commercial economy of very large areas of India.

In a word, the problem of any shortage

of water in the Ganga could only arise during the lean months.. It would be in the interest of both India and Bangladesh to settle, in a spirit of mutual understanding and constructive cooperation, the problem of the Ganga. waters which is one of shortage during the lean season and of floods during the remainder of the year. The ideal long-term solution of the problem of shortage in the Ganga during the lean months and floods in the region as a whole is to work in wholehearted cooperation in evolving a project or projects which would harness the abundant water resources available in the region for the benefit of people of the two countries. This objective has been fully endorsed in the Joint declaration of the Prime Ministers of India and Bangladesh of May 1974.

It is no secret from anyone that the Farakka Barrage Feeder Canal has been operating at near or optimum capacity (40,000 cusecs) since June 1975. These withdrawals during a period of abundance of water in the Ganga benefited not only the Port of Calcutta but also Bangladesh itself by diverting some waters which otherwise would have caused flooding. The hue and cry presently being raised in the Bangladesh press after a lapse of nine months, points to objectives other than those related to the use of Ganga waters at Farakka during the lean months.

The Government of India have seen press reports of a statement made by an official spokesman of the Bangladesh Government that holding discussions or meetings would be meaningless. As far as the Government of India are concerned, the only way of settling problems is through discussions and meetings. Rejection of India's offer to hold talks, without preconditions, is therefore to be regretted. The responsibility for any failure to reach agreement must in the circumstances rest with the side which refuses to enter into discussion.

BANGLADESH INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC AUSTRALIA LATVIA

Date : Feb 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

West German and UNDP Assistance to India

The following press release on West German and UNDP assistance to India was issued in New Delhi on February 12, 1976:

India will receive assistance worth IM 5 million (Rs. 16,550,000) from the Federal Republic of Germany and US \$ 735,000 (Rs. 6,468,000) from the United Nations Development Programme for the establishment of a demonstration plant for the production of synthetic fibres at the Silk and Art Silk Mills Research Association in Bombay. The

57 assistance will be in the form of equipment, experts and fellowships for Indian technicians to receive training abroad. The Government of India will look after all local services and facilities to implement the project according to schedule.

The agreement which provides for the coordinated facing of inputs was signed here today by Shri A. S. Gonsalves, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Finance on behalf of the Government of India, Dr. W. Uhrenbacher, Councillor, on behalf of the Federal Republic of Germany, and Mr. Roger Polgar, Resident Representative, on behalf of the UNDP.

According to the agreement a demonstration plant will be established for the production of synthetic fibres at the Silk and Art Silk Mills Research Association (SASMIRA), in Bombay for the development of the production and use of nylon and polyester fibres for textiles as well as the simultaneous production of the staple fibres and filament. Although the plant will not produce on commercial scale, the fibres produced

will be used for end-product development.

The project will establish technical and advisory services in synthetic fibres for the textile industry including the undertaking of systematic programmes of experimental work and training. It will also collect and disseminate technical information and ensure non-partisan consultancy services and impartial communications between the fibre producers, textile mills, trade and consumers to facilitate coordinated development of the industry.

The United Nations Industrial Development Organisation will be the executing agency on behalf of the UNDP while the commitment of the Federal Republic of Germany will be looked after by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit GmbH (GTZ). Coordinated implementation will be ensured by a joint committee between UNIDO and GTZ. For the Government of India SASMIRA will implement the project. All parties involved will review the execution of the project from time to time.

The agreement signed today is the extension of the earlier UNDP assistance to the SASMIRA to prepare the ground for the development of the project in a systematic manner through expertise and equipment necessary for the purpose. The UNDP has also agreed to provide within the IPF in the Country Programme, such supplementary financial assistance as may be required by the Government to conclude or consolidate the technical assistance activities.

GERMANY INDIA USA

Date : Feb 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

FRANCE

The following press release on Rs. 69.36 crores French credit for India was issued in New Delhi on February 21, 1976:

The French Government, following the negotiations held in Paris on February 18 and 19 has placed at the disposal of the Government of India Financial Credits of Francs 340 million (Rs. 60.36 crores) for purchase of French goods and services for the year 1976-77.

The financial facilities provided as usual represent a mix of French Treasury Loans and Bank credits. The credit will be utilised to the extent of Francs 150 million (Rs. 30.60 crores) for Industrial projects, Francs 140 million (Rs. 28.56 crores) for purchase of light equipment and other commodities, and Francs 50 million (Rs. 10.20 crores) for purchase of goods and services needed by the Indian Department of Atomic Energy and Space.

France as in the previous years is the first members of the India Consortium to continue and conclude a Development Assistance Agreement for the year 1976-77.

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FRANCE INDIA USA

Date : Feb 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

HUNGARY

Speech by Shri Y. B. Chavan at Dinner in Honour of Hungarian Foreign Minister

Following is the text of the speech of the Minister of External Affairs, Shri Y. B. Chavan, at dinner in honour of His Excellency Mr. Frigyes Puja, Foreign Minister of the Hungarian People's Republic, in New Delhi on February 5, 1976:

I am delighted to extend a cordial welcome to you, Excellency, on your first-ever visit to India. Your visit is particularly significant inasmuch as this is the first visit to India of the Foreign Minister of the Hungarian People's Republic. Exchange of visits, which has been a noteworthy feature of Indo-Hungarian relations, has significantly contributed to further strengthening of the bonds of friendship and cooperation between our two countries. I am confident that your visit will further consolidate our friendship and enlarge the areas of bilateral understanding and cooperation. I vividly recall our meeting in New York in September 1975. Since then I have been looking forward to the pleasure of renewing our personal contacts and exchanging views on important aspects of bilateral relations as well as major international issues of mutual interest to both our countries.

It is a matter of great satisfaction to us that there has been a steady expansion of friendly and mutually beneficial ties between India and Hungary over the last quarter of a century. Our President's visit to Hungary in September last year opened up new prospects for the further growth and diversification of our cooperation. The warm and spontaneous welcome accorded to him by the Government and the people of Hungary symbolised the depth of friendship so happily existing between our two countries.

Hungary and India share a common approach to various world problems. We have cooperated well in the UN and other international forums in the common struggle against colonialism, racialism, apartheid and other forms of discrimination. Our trade and economic relations are growing and we look forward with confident expectation to the next session of the Indo-Hungarian Joint Commission in April.

In the three decades since the defeat of the forces of fascism in Europe, Hungary has emerged as a modern industrialised country. We in India have great admiration for the progress made by the people of Hungary in all spheres of life which has enabled them to significantly increase their standard of living.

The Helsinki Conference has been an event of great significance not only for Europe but for the rest of the world as well. Hungary, along with the other Socialist countries, has made a notable contribution in bringing the European Conference on Security and Cooperation to a fruitful conclusion. We welcome the relaxation of tensions in Europe and the possibilities that have opened up for consolidating peace and enlarging the area of cooperation among European countries. It is our earnest hope that the process of detente will be stabilised in Europe and furthermore will extend to and benefit all parts of the world.

In our part of the world, India has consistently striven to preserve peace and stability and promote harmonious relations with all neighbouring countries in an atmosphere of mutual trust and respect on the basis of equality. We have appreciated the consistent support extended by the leaders, the Government and the people of Hungary to all our initiatives for moving towards the establishment of durable peace in the Indian sub-continent bilaterally and peacefully without any outside interference. India desires friendly relations with all neighbours because we feel that stability and cooperation in our part of the world is a vital factor for social and economic progress of the peoples of the region and for peace in the world.

India had made tremendous strides since her independence 28 years ago in various fields with a view to improving the standard of living and promoting the welfare of its people. While a lot has been achieved, much remains to be done to eradicate poverty, to achieve self-reliance and to exploit our enormous resources to the maximum benefit of the common man. We have successfully met

the grave challenge posed to our stability and progress by reactionary forces and are now confidently marching forward towards our goal with accelerated momentum and with a sense of increased dedication and discipline. The Government and the people of India have greatly valued the full understanding and support shown by the Government and the people of Hungary for the measures taken by us under the leadership of our Prime Minister to firmly adhere to the progressive direction in our policy and to vigorously implement the 20-point socioeconomic programme which has far-reaching implications for the welfare of the broad masses of Indian people.

Excellency, we were hoping that in the course of your visit to our country, you would be able to visit places outside New Delhi and get a glimpse of how the people of India are engaged in their constructive efforts to shape a better and brighter future for themselves. I find, however, that due to your pre-occupations, the short visit which you have planned has become even shorter. I do hope that when you visit us next, we shall have the pleasure of welcoming you for a longer period and of taking you to other parts of India too.

Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, may I now request you to join me in a toast to the health of His Excellency Mr. Frigyes Puja, Foreign Minister of the Hungarian People's Republic; to the continued prosperity and well-being of the friendly people of Hungary; and to the further growth of cooperation, understanding and friendship between India and Hungary.

HUNGARY INDIA USA FINLAND

Date : Feb 01, 1976

Volume No

Following are excerpts of Commerce Minister Professor D. P. Chattopadhyaya's speech in the Group of 77 meeting at Manila on February 3, 1976:

The international community has faced a grave economic situation in the last two years. Economies of the poor developing countries have suffered a serious setback and there are as yet no signs of significant relief. The sharp rise in prices of their essential imports like food, fertiliser, machinery, equipment and fuel has created a situation in which they are hardly able to meet even the existing needs of their economies. The terms of trade which have always been adverse to them have suffered drastic deterioration.

Speaking of our own experience, we find that despite the most efficient management of our national economy and phenomenal success in controlling and reversing the inflationary process, we are faced with the prospect of a huge negative balance of trade. The problems that we, the developing countries, face are such that only a bold initiative at the international level will lead to significant improvement in the external aspects of our economies.

Issues that we pondered over years ago are still unresolved and some of them are assuming the dimensions of crisis. We have however witnessed in recent years an admirable display of solidarity and determination on the part of developing countries in that some of them have been able to reverse the process, extract the benefits and improve their position in their relationship with the more affluent countries in the world. There are also indications of a growing consciousness on the part of the international community of inter-dependence and collective responsibility. The situation that faces us today, therefore, is both a challenge and an oppor-

tunity.

As we survey the scene today, we find that a small number of countries have at their

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command 80 per cent of the world trade, nearly 95 per cent of private investment, and overwhelming share of world industry, technology and the ability to command and consume 70 per cent of the global resources. But, over two-thirds of the human race continues to live in conditions of under-development, unemployment, illiteracy, disease and malnutrition. The crisis situation that developed in the wake of the dramatic events of 1973 and subsequent years has created unprecedented strain on the economies of the poorer countries and unless external conditions are improved through conscious policies at the national and international levels, the situation may soon turn into an intractable crisis.

AWARENESS

While there is general awareness in the international community of the urgent need to take positive, forward-looking and bold measures to arrest deterioration and ameliorate the condition of the developing world, the response so far from the more affluent part of the world has been far from adequate. The Generalised Scheme of Preferences, introduced after years of arduous negotiations, is still hedged in with numerous conditions and constraints. Even the meagre benefits we have thus secured under the GSP are now being eroded. At the multilateral trade negotiations, the progress achieved has been disappointing. A series of measures demanded of the developed countries by developing countries at the 6th and 7th (Special) Sessions of the UN, at the World Food Conference in Rome, and at the Lima Conference of UNIDO are far from being implemented. The external purchasing power of the developing countries has declined at an annual rate of 14 billion dollars from 1970 to 1975, which is more than the annual ODA transfers from OECD countries to developing countries. While official development assis-

tance has virtually stagnated in nominal terms and steadily declined are now of the order of 145 billion dollars with repayments amounting to over 56 billion dollars.

The declarations of intent made by developed countries at the Seventh (Special) Session of the UN General Assembly to search jointly for solutions of the problems which plague us have now to be tested in a series of negotiations within and outside the UNCTAD. We have every hope that these efforts would be successful as this is the only rational and reasonable course for a peaceful transition to the new international economic order. While negotiating solutions and devising appropriate measures, it is necessary for us to avoid the mistakes committed in the past.

BASIC IMPERATIVE

The developing world must get its due share in the field of world manufactures and trade. Expansion and diversification of exports from developing countries will underpin the process of sustained growth in a much more effective way than a mere extension of the traditional mechanism of "AID", with all its ties and onerous repayment liabilities. It is necessary to effect quantitative and qualitative improvements in the flow of external resources and to take concrete measures to alleviate the strains caused by mounting debt burden. It is even more important to ensure that the world production structures and trade flows are reordered on a rational and equitable basis so as to redress the injustices of the past and enable the developing countries to participate in the process of development in a more self-reliant manner. This is the basic imperative of the new international economic order.

In the field of commodities whose exports account for over 80 per cent of the export income of the developing countries, the solutions will have to be negotiated within the framework of the integrated programme for commodities. We look upon this programme as a potent instrument for restructuring the world commodity markets. We also believe

that the phase of studies and discussions is now over, and negotiations should start in right earnest and according to a definite time-table.

Whether it is stabilising, improving and expanding the export earnings from commodities, semi-manufactures and manufactures, transfer of real resources for development and international monetary reforms or achievement of technological self-reliance over as wide an area as possible - our capacity to negotiate favourable solutions with our more affluent partners in the world will directly depend upon the degree of harmonisation that we are able to achieve in our positions and solidarity that we will be able to demonstrate in terms of concrete programme of action. It will be idle to expect significant response from the developed

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world if we get bogged down in short-term considerations of narrow gains for some and lose the true perspective of long-term requirements of mutual benefits for all on an enduring basis.

HARMONISATION

And harmonisation of the interests of the developing world is no longer an abstraction of an academic mind. Increasing co-operation amongst ourselves is not only a historical necessity, but also a contemporary imperative. We have within our reach a sum total of global resources, human and material, which can permit us to lay the foundation of a life worthy of human dignity. Amongst ourselves, we have the financial, industrial, technological and natural resources at our disposal which can go a long way in meeting each other's needs and requirements, deficits and deficiencies. Instead of preferring short-term profitability in the lucrative markets of developed countries, and yielding to the traditional pull exercised by those countries in the field of trade and technology, we ought to give highest priority to pooling our own resources and drawing on each other's experiences so that we are in a better position to demand of the developed

countries concrete initiatives to transform the unjust structures of the present time into a more equitable international economic order.

It is often said that the third world consists of many different worlds. That ours are parallel economies and the scope for mutual economic co-operation is limited. That our interests in the field of trade are divergent and even mutually conflicting. This, if I may say so, is a somewhat superficial and partial view. The divergence of interests is more apparent than real. Diversities in the stages of development and requirements and strategies of growth can and do promote conditions of complementarity. What is required is a systematic identification of opportunities for co-operation and a determined search of co-operative solutions on the basis of principles of non-discrimination, mutual help and accommodation.

Some of us have achieved some success in improving their terms of trade and access to markets in developed countries. We have always welcomed these achievements and we continue to support such initiatives. We look upon these developments as elements in the global effort to bring about structural changes in the world economic relations. This, however, is not to say that each one of these measures can or should be globalised. There are certain measures which are and should continue to be of a specific application. A massive investment programme conceived by some developed countries in the context of certain developing countries is a case in point. It may not be possible to visualise replication of such initiatives without reference to the totality of circumstances, in the recipient countries. There are other measures, however, such as preferences in trade, which are, in their very nature, capable of being globalised. Even here, globalisation of preferences need not necessarily erode the gains secured by some. The range of products and commodities of interests to different countries in the developing world is so wide that it would be wrong to postulate a priori conflict of interest.

My purpose in referring to these issues

here is mainly to dispel the impression that there is any irreconcilable divergence of interest within the developing world. Indeed, no obstacle will be too big, and no harmonisation too difficult to arrive at, if only we have the will and determination to pursue the objective of collective self-reliance. Mutual cooperation among the countries of the developing world is desirable in itself. It is also a necessary condition today for realisation of international co-operation. Let us strive together in the true spirit of solidarity and demonstrate in our decisions and actions at this meeting here and later in the weeks and months to follow between now and Nairobi that we are determined to transform the forbidding challenge of today into a promising opportunity for tomorrow.

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INDIA PHILIPPINES USA ITALY PERU RUSSIA KENYA

Date : Feb 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Prime Minister's Address to Indian Committee for International Women Year

Addressing the Indian Committee for the International Women Year, the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi delivered the following speech in New Delhi on February 16, 1976:

It is a pleasure for me to be here amongst you all on this final session of our National Committee. Although International Women Year is at an end, the United Nations has declared a Women's Decade. I do not know whether they think that there will be no more women at the end of the decade or that the problems of women will have disappeared

by then! Well we have existed since the beginning of time, we shall continue to exist till mankind exists.

So our problems are two-fold as Mrs. Brown pointed out that they are part of the problems of mankind. We cannot separate ourselves from the difficulties of the nation, the difficulties of the world. The women of India played a very important crucial part in our struggle for Independence and since then they have been trying to play their part in the struggle for equality and development. Mrs. Brown has rightly pointed out that no matter what problems you faced up, you have to concern yourself with the peace in the world-with peace and the harmony. We cannot have the conditions in which we ourselves can solve our problems and progress economically or socially. We have achieved our transformation and that is our political freedom but we still feel that our resolution is incomplete one, we still have to fight for economic and social transformation and in that the women have to play a significant part.

Unless the home changes, the attitudes towards superstition, towards obscurantism, towards inequality - these attitudes have to change in every single home. They cannot just be changed by law. Law can help and we are trying to bring in necessary legislation but fundamentally we have to change the hearts and minds of women.

The women of India have never lacked in courage. They have been the sustaining spirit of the nation in all times of difficulties, whether it was war time or drought or any other crisis. They have sustained the spirit and courage of their menfolk and today we expect them to think deeply about the problems which are afflicting the world, to realise that these problems concern all of us no matter where we live or whatever our own particular difficulties may be.

Alongside this larger view point, we have to see that those women of India who have been pushed into background, whose talents are locked inside them for lack of opportunity to blossom or to develop and to be used for the good of

the nation, are given these opportunities. We have to go to our village women because they are larger in number, because their problems are greater than our problems. We have to make this attempt to reach out to them, not just once or twice but as a matter of habit, and use each one of the organisations which are represented here and perhaps some which have got left out. All the women of India who feel this social responsibility should make it a point to become a kind of crusader to enlist the help of every single woman who is literate to make others literate, who is conscious of the problems of growing population to reach out not only to women but to men also and teach them about family planning and how essential it is to healthier women, to healthier children and happier homes. But along with this are the broader problems of harmony and peace.

When earlier I spoke of peace I was referring to peace as opposed to war but in India we have had other types of problems. These are the communal problems when people of one religion fight against the other or the people of one language fight against those of another language or there are disputes between one State and another State or there are some people who think that they are higher than others or better than others. These are attitudes of mind which are destructive, which bring disharmony and which are obstacles to any type of progress, the programme of woman emancipation and ultimate men's emancipation. So this is the battle which we have to take up to see that we have that type of harmony and unity. Nobody expects everybody to be the same or to think alike. But certain basic ideals have to be followed if we are to survive and I think it is the women of India who can bring about

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a new attitude in their homes, in their families and also to fight customs which are no longer relevant and which are a burden on the family and on the society.

You have already taken up the question of dowry. It is not as simple as it sounds because it is not easy to find out when a dowry has been given or taken. You cannot

say that nobody will receive presents. I think that would be going too far. And therefore there is a danger of harshness and harassment and we have to guard against that. But we have to find a middle way where a burden is not placed on the parents of the girl. This is what has to be done and I am sure that if the future mothers-in-law make up their mind, then nobody can give or take a dowry. The mother-in-law, as you know, is a greatly maligned person and I don't know how other mothers-in-law feel but I can say that I feel more like a mother to my daughters-in-law than the mother-in-law.

So we have lived with a tradition. It has changed considerably. But it was; not so very many years ago when nobody wanted a daughter, when so many women we knew wished that they were not girls but boys. I can say this was true of my own mother. She felt that the women have to suffer so many difficulties that it was much better to be born a boy. Fortunately for me, my own parents and grand parents did not give me any such views and therefore I found it very difficult even to understand this attitude of my mother because I felt that it was not a handicap to be a girl. I could do exactly as I liked and I did so as I thought was right. But in many many Indian homes the situation has not changed very much and we have a basic attitude which we have to challenge all the time. It is not enough to challenge them in meetings such as this or by passing resolutions. It is a day-to-day struggle in all the homes, whether they are village homes or whether they are urban homes, and I am sure that we have the capability if we have the will and the determination.

So I can only hope that if this year has generated anything, it has generated this determination to fight all those attitudes of mind, all those customs which have been derogatory to women because I have no doubt - and as Gandhiji and other leaders said - that when we push down any person, we lose that much in our strength. No person can go up, can rise by putting down anybody. We do not gain in strength that way. You gain in strength rather if you put up other people and help them to rise higher and that

is why where women have been suppressed, it is not just women who were suppressed, it is the men, it is the whole of society. So that is why I said at the beginning of the year also that by working for our problems and finding solutions to them, we are not fighting for women. We are fighting for men and women and I hope that the sooner the men realise it, the better for us all.

So I am happy to greet all of you who have come from distant provinces and specially our guests from abroad. Mrs. Brown and others I see in the audience are very welcome here because basically the problems of women are the same. In some countries, they have more opportunities, but still there are men who resent those opportunities, maybe, in their hearts even if they do not say so. It is when we have changed the attitudes all over the world that it will be natural for men and women to feel that we are just two parts of mankind and together we can make it a better world, a more harmonious world, a more beautiful world and a world which is capable of using its knowledge and its power for good, foil construction, and for a life that is fulfilment to every individual. So I greet you and I give you all my good wishes.

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INDIA USA OMAN MALI

Date : Feb 01, 1976

Volume No

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IRAQ

Indo-Iraq Joint Communiqué

The following joint communiqué was issued on February 26, 1976 in New Delhi at the end of the visit of Dr. Saadoun Hammadi, Foreign Minister of Iraq to India:

Dr. Saadoun Hammadi, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq paid a visit to India from February 25 to February 26, 1976, as personal Envoy of His Excellency the President of the Republic of Iraq, Marshal Ahmed Hassen al-Bakr. Dr. Hammadi delivered a message from His Excellency the President of the Republic of Iraq to His Excellency the President of the Republic of India. Dr. Hammadi called on the Prime Minister of India and held discussions with Mr. Y. B. Chavan, the Minister of External Affairs of India. The discussions covered the good bilateral relations already existing between the two countries and the developments taking place in the international field.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Iraq and the Minister of External Affairs of India noted with satisfaction that the relations between the two countries are growing and developing in the interests of the two friendly peoples. The two Ministers agreed that such encouraging development in relations should be further promoted with a view to reaching an ideal formula for bilateral relations between the two countries.

The two Ministers noted with satisfaction that the principles of the policy of non-alignment are an influential factor in international relations and in resolving international problems. In the context of the forthcoming summit of Non-aligned Heads of State Government in Colombo, they were in complete agreement on the need to strengthen the unity, solidarity and cohesiveness of the non-aligned countries. They attach great importance to promotion of economic cooperation among non-aligned countries and greater coordination of effort among them to enable the movement to play an effective role in international affairs. They agreed to remain in close contact with each other in order to ensure the success of the forthcoming Summit in Colombo.

The two Ministers reviewed the situation the Indian ocean and voiced concern over the increasing military activity therein. Their viewpoints were identical on the necessity of the Indian Ocean remaining a zone

of peace, free from foreign military bases and great power rivalry and tension. They called on the great powers and major maritime users to fully cooperate with the littoral and hinterland States in achieving this objective.

They called upon the developed countries to place their economic relations with developing countries on an equitable and just basis. They also agreed that the non-aligned and developing countries should continue their efforts to bring about a more just world economic order and strengthen economic and technical cooperation among themselves in order to achieve speedy all round progress.

Mr. Y. B. Chavan, the Minister of External Affairs of India, reviewed the latest developments on the Indian Sub-continent and underlined the constant endeavours of India to normalise relations therein. The Iraqi side expressed its optimism and hope that relations between the States on the Indian Sub-continent will be pervaded by understanding and goodwill.

In the Arab field Dr. Saadoun Hammadi, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq, discussed the Palestinian issue which is a central question accorded foremost attention by the Government and people of Iraq. In this connection, the Iraqi and Indian sides reiterated their unqualified support for the national rights of the Arab Palestinian people. They also expressed their belief that a just peace cannot prevail in the region without the liberation of all occupied Arab territories and the restoration of the full rights to the Arab people of Palestine.

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IRAQ INDIA USA SRI LANKA MALI

Date : Feb 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

JORDAN

Indo-Jordan Cultural Agreement

The following press release on Indo-Jordan cultural agreement was issued in New Delhi on February 17, 1976:

India and Jordan signed on February 15 a comprehensive cultural agreement which will remain in force for five years. The agreement was signed in Amman by Jordan's Education Minister, Mr. Zuqan Al Hindawi and India's Ambassador to Jordan, Shri S. K. Singh. The agreement stipulates co-operation between the two countries in fields of art and culture, education, science and technology, public health, mass media of information and education, sports and games and journalism. Such cooperation is to be accomplished by various means, including reciprocal visits of professors and experts and exchange of materials in fields of culture, science, education, etc.

The agreement also provides for facilities and scholarships to students and scientific personnel of the two countries seeking to study in the other country's institutions of higher education and research laboratories.

Speaking on the occasion, Jordan's Education Minister, Mr. Hindawi said that Jordan was proud of India's "great cultural role in the history of humanity". He thanked India for extending facilities to about four hundred Jordanian scholars, including doctors and engineers, currently undergoing courses in India and hoped that as a result of signing of agreement this number would grow.

Ambassador S. K. Singh said as the non-aligned and developing countries having a stake in the future of Asia it was imperative for India and Jordan to build up cooperation in scientific and technological fields. With this objective India, he said, would be happy

to place at Jordan's disposal whatever experience she has achieved in fields of science, including peaceful application of nuclear energy for economic development and work in space research.

JORDAN INDIA USA

Date : Feb 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

JORDAN

Indo-Jordan Trade and Economic Agreement

Following is the text of Indo-Jordan trade and economic agreement signed by the representatives of the Government of India and Jordan in Amman on February 24, 1976:

The Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan animated by desire to develop and strengthen trade between the two countries and to promote closer economic relations have agreed as follows:

ARTICLE I

The two Parties shall accord to the commerce of each other, treatment no less favourable than that accorded to the commerce of any third country.

This provision shall not, however, apply to the grant or continuance of any:

- a. Advantage accorded by either of the two Parties to contiguous countries which in so far as Jordan is concerned, will include States of the Arab League and, so far as India is concern-

ed, Afghanistan.

- b. Advantages resulting from any Customs union or free trade, of which either of the Parties is or may become a member,
- c. Preferences and advantages accorded by India or Jordan to any country existing on the date of this Agreement or in so far as India is concerned, in replacement of such preferences or ad-

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vantages; that existed prior to the 15th August, 1947; and or

- d. Advantages and preferences accorded under any arrangement for expansion of trade and economic cooperation between developing countries to which either of the Parties is or may become a party.

ARTICLE 2

Subject to their respective import, export, foreign exchange and other relevant regulations, the two Parties shall give maximum possible facilities and take all appropriate measures to promote trade between the two countries in all possible ways, in particular with regard to items mentioned in Schedules "A" and "B" annexed to this Agreement.

Nothing in this Agreement shall preclude trade in goods and commodities not mentioned in the said Schedules-

ARTICLE 3

All payments for current transactions under this Agreement shall be made in freely convertible currencies acceptable to both the Parties.

ARTICLE 4

The two Parties agree to grant to each

other, subject to their respective laws and regulations, reasonable facilities for holding exhibitions and participating in trade fairs in their respective territories.

ARTICLE 5

Nationals of either Party shall be permitted to enter, sojourn, travel or reside in the territory of the other Party for the purpose of promoting trade between the two countries, provided that enjoyment of the above rights shall be subject to laws and regulations of the other Party as are generally applicable to all foreigners.

ARTICLE 6

The two Parties undertake to cooperate for mutual benefit with a view to strengthening economic relations between the two countries and to furthering interchange and use of scientific and technical knowledge, particularly by affording opportunities for technical training and assistance, wherever possible.

ARTICLE: 7

Merchant ships and sailing vessels belonging to either of the two Parties, together with their cargoes, shall enjoy, in respect of all matters relating to navigation, free entry into ports open to foreign trade, use of ports and harbour facilities, loading and unloading dues, taxes and other facilities, a treatment in no way less favourable than the treatment accorded to ships of any other foreign country, except that any concessions accorded to ships engaged in coastal trade of either Party shall not be available under this Article to ships of the other Party.

ARTICLE 8

The two Parties agree to explore possibilities for establishment of joint ventures for mutual benefit of both countries.

ARTICLE 9

The two Parties may, within terms of the present Agreement, enter into specific trading arrangements from time to time, as may be found necessary.

ARTICLE 10

In order to ensure smooth implementation of this Agreement, the two Governments agree to establish within three months from the date of coming into force of this Agreement, a Joint Committee composed of representatives to be nominated by the two Governments. This Committee shall convene upon request of either Party in New Delhi and Amman alternately and shall have the following tasks:

- i. To make suggestions aiming at improvement and expansion of economic relations between the two countries.
- ii To eliminate difficulties and settle all problems that may arise in implementation of this Agreement.
- iii. To review flow of trade between the two countries and formulate projections of imports and exports from one country to the other during the succeeding twelve months.
- iv. To identify fields, projects, commodities, etc. for expansion of economic

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cooperation and for promoting trade exchanges between the two countries.

ARTICLE 11

This Agreement shall come into force with effect from the date on which documents conveying ratification of approval are exchanged.

This Agreement shall remain in force for a period of five years and shall thereafter continue to get renewed automatically for further periods of one year at a time, unless

a notice of termination in writing is given by either of the two Parties three months before expiry of the Agreement.

Both Contracting Parties have agreed that provisions of this Agreement shall be applied provisionally from the date of this signature.

ARTICLE 12

This Agreement supersedes and replaces Indo-Jordan Trade Agreement of 19th July 1963.

Done at Amman on the Twentyfourth day of February, Nineteen Hundred and Seventy Six in two originals, both being equally authentic.

SCHEDULE "A"

ITEMS OF EXPORTS FROM JORDAN TO INDIA

1. Rock Phosphate.
2. Potash.
3. Phosphate Fertilizers.
4. Copper.
5. P.V.C. Granules.
6. Sheet Glass.
7. Gas Ovens.
8. Raw Hides & Skins.
9. Miscellaneous.

SCHEDULE "B"

LIST OF EXPORTABLE; GOODS FROM INDIA

1. Tea and Coffee,
2. Spices including Dry Ginger.
3. Tamarind.
4. Henna Leaves and Powder.
5. Vegetable Oils and Oil Cakes.
6. Tobacco and Tobacco Manufactures.
7. Rice.
8. Sugar.
9. Fresh and Frozen Meats.
10. Finished Leather and Manufactures thereof.
11. Engineering goods including all types of Machinery, Plants, Projects, Trans-

- port equipment and Accessories, Power Generation, Transmission and Distribution Machinery and Equipment, Electrical Machinery and Equipment, Domestic Appliances all sorts, etc.
12. Cotton/woollen/Man-made Fibre Textiles and Manufactures thereof.
 13. Woollen Hosiery and Knit Wear.
 14. Jute Manufactures.
 15. Coir and Coir Products.
 16. Chemicals (including Dyes), Drugs and Pharmaceuticals.
 17. Industrial Explosives.
 18. Glass Manufactures.
 19. Sanitary Ware and Fittings.
 20. Rubber Manufactures including Tyres and Tubes, etc.
 21. Plywood.
 22. Paper and Paper Products.
 23. Paints and Varnishes.
 24. Plastics and Linoleum.
 25. Developed Cinematographic Films.
 26. Iron and Steel items, including Billets, Plooms, Bars and Rods, Wires, Pipes and Tubes, etc.
 27. Cement, Asbestos Cement and Products thereof.
 28. Sports Goods.
 29. Army Software.
 30. Electronic Equipment including Radios,
 31. Telecommunication Equipment, etc.
 32. Dry and Storage Batteries.
Other items such as Confectionery, Books and Stationery Articles, Agarbathies, etc.

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JORDAN INDIA USA AFGHANISTAN CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC RUSSIA

Date : Feb 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

SRI LANKA

Foreign Minister's Speech at Dinner in Honour of Sri Lanka Minister

Following is the text of the speech of the Minister of External Affairs, Shri Y. B. Chavan, at dinner in honour of Mr. T. B. Ilangaratne, Minister of Trade and Minister of Public Administration and Home Affairs of the Republic of Sri Lanka and Madame Ilangaratne, in New Delhi on February 10, 1976:

I am happy that the Third Meeting of the Indo-Sri Lanka Joint Commission has provided us an opportunity of welcoming Mrs. Ilangaratne and yourself here tonight. I am particularly happy that Mrs. Ilangaratne is also amongst us tonight. The relations between India and Sri Lanka are ancient and traditional. It is in keeping with these age-old ties and the many splendoured association of our peoples that our relations today are characterised by warm friendship, close understanding and active cooperation in diverse fields. What is more important is the significant fact that on major international questions, we share a common world view and a common approach.

The policy of non-alignment is one of the bonds which brings us together. Later this year, the Heads of State and Government of non-aligned countries will be meeting in your beautiful capital city of Colombo. This will be the first non-aligned Summit to take place in Asia. It is indeed a matter of pride for us that it is taking place in Sri Lanka. The non-alignment movement has become a force to reckon with in the global affairs. More and more countries associate themselves with this movement which has played a major role in creating a climate of peace and cooperation based on equality of nations, big and small. At the same time it is essential to see that there is no weakening or dilution of basic principles of non-alignment which continue to retain their validity in today's changing world situation.

Within the non-aligned group as well as in the larger arena of world affairs, India and Sri Lanka have worked hand in hand for strengthening prospects of peace. It is in this

context that I recall the initiative of your Prime Minister to mobilise international opinion in favour of preserving the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace. On our part, we have consistently supported this proposal which would eliminate great rivalries, tensions and conflicts from the Indian Ocean.

While the nations of the world are engaged in giving some concrete shape to the concept of a new international economic order, it is necessary to work for strengthening economic cooperation bilaterally also. It is therefore, appropriate that after your return from the meeting of Group of 77 in Manila, we should be engaged in promoting bilateral economic cooperation under the aegis of the Joint Commission. I am gratified to know that as a result of the Joint Commission meeting, concrete steps are being taken to extend our economic cooperation, leading to increased turnover of trade, closer scientific and technological cooperation and establishment of a microwave link between India and Sri Lanka. I dare say that the problems of economic cooperation between Sri Lanka and India are indicative of the problems which most of the countries of the Group of 77 face in their bilateral and multilateral economic relationships. We have not only to discover complementarities of our economies but have to consciously work to develop new fields of cooperation. It is imperative for the developing countries to retain their solidarity and determination to cooperate amongst themselves, if the objectives of the Manila Declaration are to be realised. I am happy to find that Sri Lanka and India have a close identity of approach on issues facing the developing world.

Excellency, as I said earlier, our relations are based on ties of geography and history, tradition and culture. In fact, Sri Lanka is the first country which I visited after assuming charge of Foreign Affairs portfolio. I still cherish the happy memories of the three days I spent in your hospitable country which is making rapid progress under your illus-

will also get some glimpses of the rapid economic and social transformation which is going on in our country under the dynamic leadership of our Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi.

Excellency, Ladies and Gentlemen, may I now request you to join me in a toast to the health of our distinguished guests, H.E. Mr. Ilangaratne and Mrs. Ilangaratne and to the abiding friendship and ever-increasing cooperation between India and Sri Lanka?

SRI LANKA INDIA USA PERU PHILIPPINES

Date : Feb 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

SRI LANKA

Mr. Ilangaratne's Reply

Replying Mr. Ilangaratne delivered the following speech:

It is a great pleasure for me and my wife to be in New Delhi to be as your guests for the third meeting of the Indo-Sri Lanka Joint Commission on Economic Cooperation. On behalf of my wife, the other members of the Sri Lanka delegation and myself, may I express sincere thanks for the warmth and friendliness with which we have been received and for the excellent arrangements that have been made for our stay in India.

You are aware, Your Excellency, I have come to India direct from Manila where questions of utmost importance and critical concern to all countries, both developed and developing, were discussed. Our talks here on Joint Economic Cooperation between India and Sri Lanka are no less important than

what was discussed in Manila. What we are seeking to do is to build a new economic order in which all countries big and small, developed and developing, can have adequate conditions in which they can fulfil the aspirations of their people. India and Sri Lanka, both countries that steadfastly follow a policy of non-alignment shared a common approach to solving the many problems that face the international community. I am confident that both India and Sri Lanka can together with other like-minded countries contribute something constructive towards the solution of the problems that the world faces today.

Indo-Sri Lanka relations, Your Excellency, follow a steady course and for this the Government of India and the Government of Sri Lanka are indebted to their respective Prime Ministers who have played such an important role in helping to overcome the difficulties that stood in our way. We are today in the fortunate position of having no major issue that divides us. We are not only neighbours but we are friends who are trying to make a cooperative endeavour towards strengthening even further the traditional ties of friendship and cordiality that have bound us over centuries.

Our discussions in Delhi, I am sure, will meet with success. Our officials have already discussed for several days and when we conclude our session tomorrow, I am sure we will be able to set up new guidelines for even greater cooperation in the future. We in Sri Lanka appreciate very sincerely the assistance that has been rendered by the Government of India to us for furthering our development activities. We are confident that in the future too you will extend to us assistance and cooperation in our own plans to fulfil the aspirations of our people.

The Government and the people of Sri Lanka have followed very closely the developments in India. We are confident that in the time ahead you will continue to progress and make further advances. We extend to you our best wishes for success in all your endeavours.

Finally, Your Excellency, I would like once again to thank you and Mrs. Chavan for your kindness in extending an invitation to my wife and to me to be your guests in India. I would also like to thank all the officials for all the courtesies that they have extended to us in India.

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SRI LANKA INDIA PHILIPPINES USA

Date : Feb 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

SRI LANKA

Indo-Sri Lanka Agreement on Air Services

The following press release on Indo-Sri Lanka agreement an air services was issued in New Delhi on February 13, 1976:

India and Sri Lanka today reached an agreement under which the Indian side agreed to Air Ceylon operating upto two services through Bombay to Sharjah (United Arab Emirate) via Karachi. The Sri Lanka delegation noted the intention of the designated airline of the Government of India to operate services between Colombo and Male.

Consultations between the delegations of the Government of India and the Government of Sri Lanka were held here on February 12 and 13, 1976. The delegation of the Government of Sri Lanka was led by Dr. H. A. De S Gunasekera, Secretary, Ministry of Planning and Economic Affairs. The Indian delegation was led by Shri N. K. Mukarji, Secretary, Ministry of Tourism & Civil Aviation.

The talks were held in an atmosphere of cordiality.

SRI LANKA INDIA PAKISTAN MALDIVES UNITED KINGDOM

Date : Feb 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

TONGA

Speech by the President at Banquet in Honour of King of Tonga

Following is the text of the speech of the President, Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, at banquet in honour of His Majesty King Taufa' Ahau Tupou of Tonga and Her Majesty Queen Halaevalu-Mata' Aho, in New Delhi on February 18, 1976:

It gives me great pleasure this evening to welcome Your Majesties once again on behalf of the Government and the people of India. We cannot but recall the happy memories of Your Majesties' earlier visit and the deep impression of your personal charm and your friendly sentiments for the people of India. By choosing to visit our country for the second time, you have paid the people of India a great compliment.

Your Majesties, nature places India and Tonga in different geographical settings and it is only in modern times, when world began shrinking fast, that they came into contact with each other.

But in the world of today where oceans divide peoples and are scenes of power rivalry, Tonga and India, having rejected this approach, are building ties of friendship and cooperation that may be termed as unique in many ways. We in India cherish these ties and derive great satisfaction from the fact that our friendship is not based on expediency

but on a community of outlook and aspirations.

Recently, Tonga celebrated the centenary of its constitution. My Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation, Shri Raj Bahadur, who attended these celebrations, came back not only overwhelmed by the hospitality and the warmth of the reception that he received but impressed by the deep faith that the leaders and people of Tonga have in democratic institutions and their commitment to world peace.

Promotion of relations among developing countries is an important aspect of our foreign policy and in our view solidarity among them is a necessity if the widening gap between them and the developed countries is to be narrowed and finally closed.

Since Your Majesty's first visit, our bilateral relations have substantially improv-

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ed. The current visit to India of your charming daughter, Her Royal Highness Princess Pelolevu, and of your Minister for Commerce, Industry and Labour bears witness to this growing friendship. We appreciate the interest Tonga has shown in India and we would feel proud if we can make a small contribution to the progress of the Tongan people.

India has consistently pursued a policy of non-alignment and peaceful co-existence and played its part in the universal quest for a new world order in which the old concept of a sphere of influence would become outmoded. The South Pacific today is already resurgent with nationalism and moving towards complete political and economic independence. Under your leadership Tonga has blazed the trail and as more and more peoples and nations in the region emerge into sovereign equality, the South Pacific will no more be, as it was in the past, a private lake of imperial powers.

Your Majesties, brief though your visit is, you would notice that India today is marching forward with a new sense of confidence,

dedication and discipline towards a new society based on economic and social justice. In this endeavour we rely, to a large extent, on our own resources, knowledge and skills. We are harnessing the forces of nature and the power of the atom for this peaceful purpose. Your visit is indeed a landmark in Indo-Tongan relations and is an occasion which has brought two peoples, two countries, two regions and perhaps two oceans together.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, may I invite you to the long life and happiness of Their Majesties the King and Queen of Tonga, to the progress and prosperity of their people and to the friendship between our countries.

TONGA RUSSIA INDIA USA

Date : Feb 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

TONGA

Reply by King of Tonga

Replying, His Majesty King Tonga Ahau Tupou delivered the following speech:

This is the second official visit I have made to India and it so happens that I have with me my nephew who is the first Tongan Graduate of the Indian Military Academy. So since our last visit here, the process of cooperation between our two countries has gone forward and has born fruit in many many ways.

The relations between countries not only exist because Heads of State visit one another. The relationship between countries can only have a good and proper foundation if it is carried on at all levels - not only at

the Head of State level or ministerial level or official level, but at individual level where people can visit each other's countries and learn from each other and benefit from each other's experience. I feel that this is happening to the relationship between India and Tonga, that we are not only making visits at the Head of State level, we have been having Indian Ministers come to Tonga and we have, of course our Commerce Minister present here who is going to see some of the projects in India that particularly relate to his own portfolio. I believe that these relationships have very great importance for the development of countries. I also believe that the love and affection of man for his fellowman is the proper foundation not only for relationship between persons but also relationship between communities and in politics as well as in international affairs. Having such common beliefs, it is not at all surprising that we should wish to help one another in as many ways as possible.

I wish to thank your Excellency and Madam Prime Minister and the Indian Government for inviting us once again to visit your country.

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TONGA INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Feb 01, 1976

Volume No

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UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Indo-Soviet Protocol on Training of Standardisation of Personnel

The following press release on Indo-Soviet protocol on training of standardisation of personnel was issued in New Delhi on February 15, 1976;

A two-member team of Soviet experts in the field of training of personnel in standardisation and metrology was recently in New Delhi for discussions with their counterparts in the Indian Standards Institution (ISI) and Directorate of Weights and Measures. After six days of discussions between Indian and Soviet experts, a protocol was signed between the two countries under the Bilateral Scientific and Technical Cooperation Agreement between India and the USSR.

The visiting experts were acquainted with the activities of the Indian Standards Institution (ISI), the Directorate of Weights and Measures (DWM) and National Physical Laboratory (NPL) in the fields of Standardisation, Metrology and Quality Control. The Indian team furnished details regarding the nature of training programmes being organised by ISI and DWM. The details of educational and training facilities offered by various institutes under the Gosstandart were explained by the Soviet team.

Since its very inception, the Indian Standards Institution has been paying attention to the training of Standards Engineers employed both in the Institution and in the standards departments of individual companies. The Institution has also been offering its training facilities to other developing countries over the past ten years, which have so far been availed of by 79 participants nominated by the Governments of 21 countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America.

The Russian Delegation comprised Mr. V. I. Artimov, Deputy Chief, Department of Personnel in the State Committee for Standards and Mr. U. A. Gusakov, Deputy Director, UNIDO Training Programme of GOSSTANDART. Experts from the National Physical Laboratory, Directorate of Weights and Measures and Indian Standards Institution participated in the deliberations from the Indian side.

Exchange of expertise in the field of personnel training is one of the six areas identified for Indo-Soviet collaboration in the field of standardisation and metrology under

the Inter-Governmental Agreement between India and the USSR for bilateral cooperation in the field of science and technology.

Some aspects of the work detailed in the programme for the year 1976 relate to exchange of documentation, reciprocal examination of these documents for seeking additional information and exchange of experts for on-the-spot study and discussions. This would facilitate a review by both sides of various facets of training, such as programme of lectures, practicals, case studies and different aspects of standardisation, etc.

INDIA USA RUSSIA
Date : Feb 01, 1976

Volume No
1995
UNITED KINGDOM
50,400 Metric Tons of UK Food Aid for India

The following press release on 50,400 Metric tons of UK food aid for India was issued in New Delhi on February 20, 1976:

India will receive grant of 50,400 metric tons of foodgrains from United Kingdom. An agreement to this effect was signed here yesterday by Shri M. Narasimham, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Finance and Mr. W. L. Allinson, Deputy High Commissioner for U.K in India.

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This is the second agreement for grant of foodgrains, the first one having been signed earlier in March last year for supply of 30,000 metric tons of foodgrains.

Under the present agreement the food-grains consisting mainly of wheat will be

made available for sale through the fair-price shops and the sale proceeds will be utilised by the Government for the purpose of rural development.

This is part of the contribution of the United Kingdom to the EEC Cereals Food Aid Programme for the harvest year 1974-75.

Indo-British Agreement on Management of Libraries

The following press release on Indo-British agreement on management of libraries was issued in New Delhi on February 21, 1976:

In pursuance of the decision taken by the Ministry of External Affairs in September 1971, the Indian Council for Cultural Relations negotiated with the British High Commission, New Delhi, the take over of former British Council Libraries in India at places other than those where the British High Commission, had diplomatic or Consular representation.

The Council on October 1, 1973, took over the management of the former seven British Council Libraries in Bangalore, Bhopal, Lucknow, Patna, Poona, Ranchi and Trivandrum. The libraries were, with effect from October 1, 1973, called the British Libraries and were managed by the Indian Council for Cultural Relations on terms agreed upon with the British Council Division, British High Commission.

As stipulated before the take over of the libraries the British Council Division, New Delhi, and the Council had a review in October 1975, i.e., after two years of management by the ICCR, to see that the experiments in dual responsibility was working out satisfactorily.

As a result of the review the British Authorities and the Government of India have agreed to the extension of the management by the Indian Council for Cultural Relations for another period of five years, i.e.,

upto 1980. The Foreign Secretary, Shri Kewal Singh, and the Director General of the British Council, Sir John Liewellyn, signed a document today to this effect. They also formally adopted on behalf of their respective Governments the standing instructions to be followed by the seven British Libraries upto 1980.

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TUNISIA KOREA NORTH KOREA SRI LANKA SWEDEN USA

Date : Mar 01, 1976

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ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT

Official Statement on Egyptian Request for MIG 21 Spares

Following is the text of statement made by the official spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on March 17, 1976:

Our attention has been drawn to a statement in Cairo about an Egyptian request to India for supply of spares for MIG 21 aircraft. We had received such a request and had explained to the Egyptian Government fully and in all friendliness the reasons for our inability to supply the spares in view of our contractual commitments. The impression we gathered was that the Egyptian Government fully understood our position.

A reference had also been made to a 10-year old agreement between India and Egypt for the joint production of aircraft. There appears to be a slight inadvertent error in that statement as that agreement related to the production of HF 24 and not to MIG 21 aircraft.

EGYPT INDIA

Date : Mar 01, 1976

Volume No

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ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT

Indo-Egyptian Air Agreement

The following press release on Indo-Egyptian air agreement was released in New Delhi on March 22, 1976:

India and Egypt have reached an agreement under which Air India will be able to introduce four Boeing 747 (Jumbo) services per week through Cairo. The agreement also provides for rights for Air India to operate to Accra (Ghana) via Cairo, in addition to Tripoli and any other points in West Africa that may be mutually agreed to.

The agreement followed talks between the official delegations of Egypt and India in New Delhi last week. The Egyptian delegation was led by Air Marshal E. Y. L. El-Shannawi, President, Civil Aviation Authority in Egypt and the Indian delegation was led by Shri A. S. Bhatnagar, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation.

EGYPT INDIA GHANA LIBYA

Date : Mar 01, 1976

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BANGLADESH

Official Statement on Bangladesh Reply on Ganga Water Talks

The official spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs made the following statement in New Delhi on March 18, 1976 in response to press enquiries:

A reply was received late on March 17, to the Government of India's invitation, which was renewed in a statement by the Foreign Minister in Parliament on March 9, and subsequently in another note of the March 12, for holding talks on sharing of the Ganga water flows during the lean months. Earlier, the Government of Bangladesh had neither accepted nor rejected our

75 invitation. However, the note of March 17, does not stipulate stoppage of withdrawals of water at Farakka as a pre-condition for talks but extraneous issues have been raised for the first time such as the allocation of the Ganga water flows not only during the lean months but throughout the year.

We hope that the Government of Bangladesh will respond positively to our invitation for talks which could more appropriately be held in Delhi. The last round of talks at Governmental level was held in Dacca in April last year on the question of allocation of the lean season flows of the Ganga.

BANGLADESH INDIA USA

Date : Mar 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

BANGLADESH

India's Note to Bangladesh on Ganga Water Talks

An official spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs released on March 25,

1976 the following communication handed over to the High Commission of People's Republic of Bangladesh in New Delhi On March 20, 1976:

The Ministry of External Affairs presents its compliments to the High Commission of the People's Republic of Bangladesh and, with reference to the Note Verbale of March 16, 1976, from the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh has the honour to state:

The Government of India have noted with gratification the willingness of the Government of Bangladesh to enter into talks, without precondition, in response to their invitation.

As far as the Government of India are aware, the discussions between the two Governments have throughout been confined to the sharing of the Ganga. waters during the lean season for the obvious reason that during the remainder of the year the water flows are ample. The Government of India have therefore been unable to appreciate the reasons which may have prompted the Government of Bangladesh to raise for the first time extraneous issues such as the "sharing" of the Ganga waters throughout the year.

It is well known that the problems of floods is not confined to the Ganga but to the rivers of the eastern region as a whole, particularly the Brahmaputra. The Government of India are, therefore, willing to cooperate with Bangladesh in evolving a project or projects for harnessing the rivers of the eastern region as a whole for the benefit of the peoples of the two countries.

As the last round of talks between the two Governments was held in Dacca, it is appropriate that the next meeting should take place in Delhi. Accordingly, the Government of India would be glad to receive a delegation from Bangladesh at any time convenient to them.

The Government of India would like to reassure the Government of Bangladesh that they approach this matter with an open mind

and with a desire to reach a solution in a spirit of friendship, understanding and cooperation.

As the lean season has already set in, the Government of India would urge that there be no further delay in discussing and resolving the immediate question of the sharing of the lean season flow of the Ganga.

The Ministry of External Affairs avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the High Commission of the People's Republic of Bangladesh the assurances of its highest consideration.

BANGLADESH INDIA USA

Date : Mar 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

BANGLADESH

Press Note on Ganga Water Talks

Following is the text of the Press Note issued by the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on March 27, 1976:

The Government of India's sincere efforts to reach an agreement with Bangladesh on the sharing of the Ganga waters during the lean season have unfortunately not evoked a positive response so far. Meanwhile, the lean season has set in. As a measure of friendship towards Bangladesh, the Government of India have decided to effect a reduction of drawals at Farakka into the feeder canal of the Bhagirathi-Hooghly river system thus releasing more water for flow into Bangladesh.

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The Government of India would continue

to hope for an agreement with Bangladesh on the allocation of the lean season flow of the Ganga and to find the best means of augmentation of the flow during this period.

It is the earnest hope of the Government of India that their gesture of goodwill will meet with a positive response from Bangladesh so that differences on the question of the river waters can be resolved.

BANGLADESH INDIA USA

Date : Mar 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

BANGLADESH

India's Note to Bangladesh on Ganga Water Talks

An official spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs made the following statement in New Delhi on March 29, 1976 while releasing the text of the note handed over to the High Commission of the People's Republic of Bangladesh:

A note in reply to the Bangladesh note of March 26, was delivered on March 27 afternoon to Bangladesh High Commission here. In their note the Government of India have renewed the invitation for talks to be held in New Delhi - the last meeting had been held in Dacca, to discuss and resolve questions relating to the Ganga water during the lean season.

As a gesture of goodwill and friendship, now that the lean season has set in, the note also informs the Government of Bangladesh of the decision of the Government of India to effect a reduction in drawal at Farakka.

TEXT OF NOTE

The Ministry of External Affairs present its compliments to the High Commission of the People's Republic of Bangladesh and, with reference to Note Verbale No. IND(CB)30/75 of March 25, 1976 from the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh has the honour to state:

The Government of India greatly regret that their sincere efforts to reach an agreement through friendly discussion have not evoked a positive response so far. The Government of Bangladesh in their latest Note of March 25, 1976, have reasserted their new demand for "month-wise allocation" of the Ganga waters throughout the year, including the period of monsoon abundance and floods.

As far as the Government of India are aware, the discussions between the two Governments have throughout been confined to the sharing of the Ganga waters during the lean season for the obvious reason that during the remainder of the year the water flows are plentiful.

The Government of India's offer of talks remains open. As the last round of talks was held in Dacca in April last year, it will be appreciated that the request of the Government of India that the next meeting should take place in Delhi is eminently reasonable. The Government of India are impelled to point out that the intense propaganda campaign launched in Bangladesh is not conducive to the creation of a right atmosphere for friendly and fruitful talks in Dacca at the present time.

As regards the alleged adverse effects in Bangladesh of the utilisation of Ganga waters at Farakka during the lean season, this can best be studied and evaluated by a competent body of experts under proper conditions and for the requisite period. The Government of India are of the view that the existing machinery of the Joint Rivers Commission with its considerable expertise and experience could be more purposefully utilised to this end.

The Government of Bangladesh are aware that 40,000 cusecs will be needed during the lean months to meet the requirements of the Calcutta Port because it is precisely during this period that high tides occur and the danger of silting is the greatest in the Bhagirathi-Hooghly navigation channel. However, as a measure of friendship and goodwill towards Bangladesh and at the cost of their own legitimate requirements, the Government of India have decided to effect a reduction of drawal at Farakka into the feeder canal of the Bhagirathi-Hooghly river system thus releasing more water for flow into Bangladesh. It must, however, be understood that this gesture has been made without prejudice to India's position and requirements.

It is the earnest hope of the Government of India that their gesture of goodwill meet

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a positive response from Bangladesh thus facilitating the resolution of differences on the question of the river waters.

The Government of India would continue to strive for an agreement with Bangladesh on the allocation of the lean season flow of the Ganga and also to extend their wholehearted cooperation in finding the best means of augmentation of the flow during this period.

The Government and people of Bangladesh may rest assured that in regard to the resolution of any problem between the two countries, the Government of India will always act in a spirit of good-neighbourliness, understanding and cooperation.

The Ministry of External Affairs avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the High Commission of the People's Republic of Bangladesh the assurances of its highest consideration.

BANGLADESH INDIA USA

Date : Mar 01, 1976

Volume No

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CANADA

Canadian Aid for Kundah Project

The following press release on Canadian aid for Kundah project was released in New Delhi on March 11, 1976:

Canada has provided a further grant of 350,000 Canadian Dollars (Rs. 3.1 million) for Stage IV of the Kundah Hydro-electric Project in Tamil Nadu. This amount is in addition to the original loan of C\$ 3.972 million (Rs. 27.8 million) and grant of C\$ 1.20 million (Rs. 8.4 million) provided by them in August, 1973. The grant documents were signed here by Shri J. S. Baijal, Joint Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance and His Excellency, Mr. J. R. Maybee, Canadian High Commissioner in India.

The funds would cover the cost of services of the Canadian installation engineers and special tools needed for the Project.

The equipment, spares and services for installation and commissioning of the project are being supplied by the Canadian General Electric Company under a contract signed with the Tamil Nadu Electricity Board. The project when completed will provide additional peaking capacity to the State electricity system.

CANADA USA INDIA

Date : Mar 01, 1976

Volume No

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CANADA

Indo-Canadian Agreement on Dryland Agriculture

The following press release on Indo-Canadian agreement on dryland agriculture was released in New Delhi on March 31, 1976:

A five-year technical collaboration agreement on Dryland Agriculture was signed here today, between the Governments of India and Canada.

The Government of Canada will contribute 1.63 million dollars (Canadian) in foreign currency and 11.5 million rupees, in Indian currency, during the five year period. The foreign exchange component of the contribution will be utilised primarily for cooperative research, exchange of scientists, field and laboratory equipments and supplies.

A sum of Rs. 34.3 million has been provided by the Government of India, for the All-India Coordinated Research Project on

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Dryland Agriculture, during the V plan period.

Dr. M. S. Swaminathan, Secretary, Department of Agricultural Research & Education, Government of India and HE R. J. Maybee, High Commissioner of Canada in India, signed the agreement on behalf of their respective governments.

During the V plan period, the Dryland Research Project would intensify efforts on-

- i) Engineering research to develop time-saving implements and devices for land preparation, moisture conservation, tillage, seeding, inter-culture, run-off re-cycling, efficient methods of crop-life saving irrigation and minimal irrigation.

- ii) Efforts to develop more efficient rain-fed crop husbandry and cropping systems, including oilseeds, grain legumes, tuber crops, grasses and fodder crops to meet the challenges of aberrant weather.
- iii) Alternate or multiple land use systems to be developed and evaluated on watershed basis for efficient resource management.
- iv) Operational Research Projects on complete watershed basis at four locations, to be executed for obtaining economic evaluation and credit-worthiness of the proven dryland practices, while demonstrating methods for quick transfer of available technology under scientists' supervision.
- v) Krishi Vigyan Kendra (trainers' training centre) is to be set up for early dissemination of dryland technology at the Project headquarters, Hyderabad.
- vi) Intensification of researches on millets, oilseeds and pulses, grown in dryland areas for improving their productivity.

CANADA INDIA LATVIA USA

Date : Mar 01, 1976

Volume No

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DENMARK

Indo-Danish Agreement on Technical Assistance

The following press release on Indo-Danish agreement on technical assistance was

released in New Delhi on March 19, 1976:

A technical assistance agreement between India and Denmark was concluded here today. It was signed by Shri B. N. Jaysimha, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Industry and Civil Supplies, on behalf of the Government of India and by Mr. Joern Krogbeck, Charge' d'Affaires of the Royal Danish Embassy in India, on behalf of Denmark. The agreement provides for technical assistance by Denmark in the establishment of one tool room and training centre at Delhi and another at Calcutta. Shri A. P. Sharma, Minister of State for Industry and Civil Supplies, who was present at the signing of the agreement, thanked the Government of Denmark for their help and cooperation in the project and expressed the hope that it would result in widening of friendly cooperation between the two countries in various spheres.

According to the terms of the agreement, Denmark will give machinery worth Rs. 24 million (16 million Danish Kroners) and Rs. 21.75 million (14.5 million Danish Kroners) for Delhi and Calcutta Centres, respectively. In addition, the Government of Denmark will provide Rs. 750,000 (500,000 Danish Kroners) towards installation, electrification and commissioning of the machinery for each centre. A provision of Rs. 7.5 million for buildings installations and air-conditioning for the Calcutta Centre and Rs. 6.75

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million for the Delhi Centre has been made. Denmark will also make available experts and fellowships to Indian citizens.

The Tool Room and Training Centre at Delhi would be under the administration control of the Directorate of Industries, Delhi Administration, while the Calcutta Centre would be under the control of the Development Commissioner of Small-Scale Industries in the Ministry of Industry and Civil Supplies. Besides providing training facilities in tool making, these centres will also undertake the supply of tools to small-scale industries and extend consultancy services. Design and common facility services will also be made available by these centres, in addition to recommending measures for standardisation of

various types of tools, dies, fixtures and moulds. A tool designers' course of two years duration will be available at the Delhi Centre.

The two centres at Delhi and Calcutta will turn out 100 trained workers per year. It is expected that the centres: would earn approximately Rs. 2.9 million per year through supply of toolings and accessories and common facilities. The total project cost for the centres is estimated at about Rs. 49 million for Calcutta Centre and Rs. 52.45 million for the Delhi Centre.

DENMARK INDIA USA

Date : Mar 01, 1976

Volume No

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GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

Indo-GDR Protocol on Education

The following press Note on Indo-GDR protocol on education was issued in New Delhi on March 19, 1976:

A protocol has been signed between the Republic of India and the German Democratic Republic on March 19, 1976 on the equivalence of certificates, degrees and diplomas awarded by secondary schools, universities and other higher institutions of equal standard. Shri K. N. Channa, Secretary, Ministry of Education and Social Welfare has signed on behalf of the Government of India. Prof. G. Schirmer, Deputy Minister for Higher and specialised Education, German Democratic Republic, who is on a short visit to India, has signed on behalf of the Government of the German Democratic Republic.

According to the protocol, the Higher

Secondary School Leaving Certificate Pre-university Certificate in India will be equivalent to the certificate awarded on the completion of studies in the extended general poly-technical secondary schools or in adult educational institutions of equal standard in the German Democratic Republic. Master's degree in arts or sciences awarded by universities in India will be treated as equivalent to the academic degree "Diploma of a Branch of Sciences" awarded by universities and other higher institutions of equal standard in the German Democratic Republic. In the fields of engineering and technology, agriculture and veterinary science, the bachelor's degree shall be recognised as equivalent to the academic degree "Diploma of a Branch of Sciences" in the German Democratic Republic. The Ph.D. degree awarded by universities in India will be treated as equivalent to the academic degree "Doctor of a Branch of Sciences (Promotion A)" awarded by universities in the German Democratic Republic. The degree of Doctor of Letters Literature Science awarded by Indian universities will be treated as equivalent to the academic degree "Doctor of Sciences (Promotion B)" awarded by universities in the German Democratic Republic.

The protocol is yet another mile-stone in the process of further strengthening of friendly relations and promoting the mutually beneficial co-operation in the field of higher education between the peoples of both the countries. It will enable exchange of scholars between the countries for study and research and for employment in educational, scientific or research institutions.

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INDIA

Date : Mar 01, 1976

Volume No

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INDONESIA

India-Indonesia Air Agreement

The following press release on India-Indonesia air agreement was released in New Delhi on March 23, 1976:

Diplomatic letters were exchanged here today between India and Indonesia placing on a formal basis the summary of conclusions reached earlier on Air Services between the two countries. The letters were exchanged between H.E. Lieut. Gen. Soegih Arto, Ambassador of the Republic of Indonesia and Shri N. K. Mukarji, Secretary, Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation.

Under these arrangements, both Garuda Indonesian Airways and Air India were permitted to introduce wide bodied aircraft excluding supersonic aircraft, on their services to and through India and Indonesia respectively. At present, Garuda Indonesian Airways is operating two services per week with DC-10 aircraft on the route Jakarta-Singapore-Bangkok-Bombay-Rome-Frankfurt and terminating at Amsterdam. Air India is operating one service a week with Boeing 707 aircraft on the route Bombay-Madras-Kuala Lumpur-Singapore and terminating at Jakarta.

INDONESIA INDIA USA UNITED KINGDOM ITALY THE NETHERLANDS REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE

Date : Mar 01, 1976

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JAPAN

Over Rs. 20 Crore Japanese Commodity Loan to India

The following press release on Japanese loan to India was released in New Delhi on March 31, 1976:

The Governments of Japan and India exchanged today Notes concerning the Japanese Commodity Loan to India for the year 1975-76 upto an amount of 7 billion Yen (equivalent to Rs. 20.89 crores at the current exchange rate).

The Notes were exchanged between His Excellency Mr. Takashi Suzuki, Ambassador of Japan to India and Shri M. G. Kaul, Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Government of India on behalf of their respective governments.

This Commodity Loan is a part of the 15th Yen Credit in the aggregate amount of 30.2 billion Yen (equivalent to Rs. 90 crores at the current exchange rate) extended by Japan to India for the year 1975-76.

The other Notes covering the other segments of the 15th Yen Credit, viz. Debt Relief Loan for 12.3 billion Yen (equivalent to Rs. 36.59 crores at the current exchange rate) and Project Loan for 10.9 billion Yen (equivalent to Rs. 32.52 crores at the current exchange rate), were exchanged on August 22 and September 12, 1975, respectively.

The gist of the Exchange of Notes concerning the Commodity Loan is as follows:

- (i) This Commodity Loan will be extended by the Overseas Economic Co-operation Fund of Japan which is to take over the extension of Commodity Yen Credits to India from the Export-Import Bank of Japan.

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This is the first loan that the Fund which provides loans on softer terms compared to the Export-Import Bank, is extending to India.

- (ii) The interest rate of the Commodity Loan will be 3.5 per cent per annum compared to the previous rate of

4 per cent. The Loan will be repayable over a period of 25 years including a seven year grace period.

(iii) This loan will be untied in favour of procurement in developing countries and will be used to cover payments to be made by Indian importers not only to Japanese suppliers but also to suppliers from developing countries for the purchase of such products as were enumerated in the previous loan agreements including services incidental to such purchases.

This Commodity Loan is extended to India in response to the request made by the Government of India at the Aid India Consortium meeting held in Paris in June 1975 and with a view to contributing to the economic development of India.

JAPAN INDIA UNITED KINGDOM USA FRANCE

Date : Mar 01, 1976

Volume No

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MOZAMBIQUE

Deputy Minister's Statement in Parliament on Economic Aid to Mozambique

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of External Affairs, Shri Bipinpal Das, made the following statement in Parliament on March 31, 1976 on economic and technical assistance to Mozambique:

The House is aware of the recent provocative and aggressive acts committed by the racist regime in Southern Rhodesia against Mozambique. In the face of these provocations, the Government of Mozambique, on

March 3, 1976, closed the border and severed all trade and communications with Rhodesia. This courageous step implementing U.N. sanctions has opened a new stage in the struggle for the liberation of the people of Zimbabwe and has rallied world opinion in favour of Mozambique and the freedom movement in Zimbabwe.

The House will recall that, at the last Commonwealth Conference in Kingston, it was decided to assist Mozambique if it closed the border with Rhodesia thereby denying to itself the considerable revenues it earned from its road and rail links with Rhodesia. On March 17, 1976, the U.N. Security Council passed a resolution unanimously condemning the aggressive acts committed by the illegal minority regime in Southern Rhodesia and appealing to all States to provide immediate financial, technical and material assistance to Mozambique. We have also received a similar appeal from the Secretary General of the Commonwealth in a telegram addressed to the Prime Minister.

As the House knows, it has been the established policy of the Government of India to extend unstinted support and all possible assistance to the liberation movements in Africa, and to oppose the obnoxious policies of racism and apartheid pursued by the white minority regimes in Southern Africa. To the liberation movement in Mozambique, we have had the privilege of giving moral and material support during the struggle for independence.

Today, when Mozambique has taken the bold and principled step of imposing U.N. sanctions against Rhodesia, the sympathies of the Government and people of India are wholly with Mozambique and the freedom fighters of Zimbabwe.

As a mark of our solidarity with the Government of Mozambique in this critical situation, we have decided to extend econo-

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mic and technical assistance to Mozambique. The extent and form of such assistance will be determined only after we hear further from the Secretary General of the United

Nations and the Secretary General of the Commonwealth as well as from the Government of Mozambique about the priorities of their requirements.

In the meantime, we have, as an immediate gesture, decided to make a grant of Rs. 900,000 as assistance to the Government of Mozambique to be used for the purchase of some of its requirements from India. This grant will form part of the collective contribution to Mozambique by the Commonwealth.

MOZAMBIQUE USA ZIMBABWE JAMAICA INDIA

Date : Mar 01, 1976

Volume No

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NEPAL

Indo-Nepal Agreement on Standby Credit

Following is the text of Indo-Nepal agreement on standby credit signed by Shri M. G. Kaul (India) and Mr. B. B. Pradhan (Nepal) in New Delhi on March 5, 1976:

Whereas His Majesty's Government of Nepal had requested the Government of India for a temporary standby credit and whereas the Government of India, in the spirit of the close and friendly relations and cooperation existing between the two countries, had agreed to make such credit available for a total period of one year from the 23rd February 1974, and whereas, subsequently the quantum of the credit had been enhanced to Rs. 10 crores and the period of availability also extended upto 22nd February 1976, and whereas the Government of India had duly considered the request of His Majesty's Government of Nepal to continue the credit beyond the 22nd February 1976,

now therefore, it is hereby agreed as follows:

ARTICLE 1

The Government of India shall make available from the 23rd February 1976 to the Nepal Rastra Bank acting for and on behalf of His Majesty's Government of Nepal a Standby Credit for a period of six months upto an amount not exceeding ten crores of Indian rupees to be disbursed and accounted for as hereinafter provided. The amount drawn under the agreement dated the 21st May 1975 between the Government of India and His Majesty's Government of Nepal as subsequently extended by the letters exchanged on 19th August, 1975, and outstanding on the 22nd February 1976 shall, with effect from 23rd February 1976, be deemed to have been drawn under this agreement and stand included in the aforesaid sum of Rs. 10 crores.

ARTICLE 2

The Reserve Bank of India (hereinafter referred to as the Reserve Bank), acting for and on behalf of the Government of India, shall, on demand in this behalf being made by the Nepal Rastra Bank, acting for and on behalf of His Majesty's Government of Nepal, credit the sum of Rs. 10 crores hereinbefore mentioned or such smaller sums as may be desired by the Nepal Rastra Bank to the current account which is being maintained for the Nepal Rastra Bank at the Calcutta office of the Reserve Bank, provided that the credit outstanding at any time shall not exceed Rs. 10 crores.

ARTICLE 3

Interest shall be charged on the amount of the credit outstanding from time to time at the rate of 7 per cent per annum, and a commitment charge at the rate of one half of one per cent per annum on the amount of the difference between the amount or the

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total amounts which are drawn and credited to the account of the Nepal Rastra Bank under this Agreement and the total amount

of the standby credit of Rs. 10 crores shall be levied, for the period during which the standby credit or any portion thereof remains unutilised. The interest and commitment charge shall be recovered from or debited to the account of the Nepal Rastra Bank at the end of every month.

ARTICLE 4

The amount of the credit shall be utilised only for making within India payments on account of cheques, drafts or pay orders drawn by the Nepal Rastra Bank or other payments by duly authenticated cables or telex messages received from that Bank. Provided that any actual expenses incurred on account of such payments, including any charges for the transfer of funds within India in connection therewith, shall be payable by the Nepal Rastra Bank.

ARTICLE 5

The amount advanced on account of the Standby Credit shall be repaid on or before the 22nd August 1976 provided that on the termination of this Agreement any surplus which may be standing to the credit of the Nepal Rastra Bank in its account with the Reserve Bank at Calcutta and proceeds of the sale of any investments on behalf of the Nepal Rastra Bank by the Reserve Bank shall on a request by the Nepal Rastra Bank in this behalf, be utilised for the repayment of the standby credit.

ARTICLE 6

The repayment of the standby credit, including interest and commitment charge, shall be made without any deduction on account of any tax or levy which may be imposed in Nepal or any other deduction for any other purpose and shall also be free from any restrictions under any law, which may, for the time being, be in force in Nepal.

ARTICLE 7

His Majesty's Government of Nepal agrees to furnish such reports and information as may be reasonably and specifically

required by the Government of India regarding Nepal's trade and payments, the measures taken or contemplated by His Majesty's Government of Nepal in connection therewith, the purpose for which the credit is used and other connected matters.

ARTICLE 8

The Reserve Bank of India shall furnish to the Government of India and His Majesty's Government of Nepal from time to time such information and details as they may require regarding the drawals and utilisation of the credit, the recovery of interest and commitment charge and the repayment of the credit.

ARTICLE 9

The Government of India may, at the request of His Majesty's Government of Nepal extend the period of credit by six months, subject to such terms and conditions as may be mutually agreed upon. In the event of an extension being granted, amounts outstanding on 22nd August, 1976 shall be repaid within six months of the drawal of each instalment. Amounts drawn after 22nd August, 1976 shall be repaid on or before 22nd February 1977 subject to the proviso to Article 5.

Done in New Delhi on the fifth day of March, nineteen hundred seventy six in two originals in the English language, both texts being authentic.

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NEPAL INDIA USA

Date : Mar 01, 1976

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NON-ALIGNED SYMPOSIUM ON INFORMATION

Special Envoy's Statement at Tunis Symposium

Following is the text of statement made by Mr. Mohammed Yunus, Special Envoy of the Prime Minister and Leader of the Indian Delegation at the plenary session of the Symposium on Information Among Non-aligned Countries at Tunis on March 26, 1976:

Mr. President, I congratulate you on your election and offer to you, to the distinguished participants in this Symposium and to the brotherly people of Tunisia the cordial greetings of the Prime Minister, the Government and the people of India.

We thank the Government and people of Tunisia for their warm welcome and hospitality and for the excellent arrangements made for our work and stay in this beautiful city. The address by His Excellency the Prime Minister of Tunisia this morning has given us valuable ideas and will make our task much easier. I am sure that under your wise guidance our work in this Symposium will mark an important step in the continued efforts of non-aligned countries to widen their cooperation in the field of information and mutual understanding.

This is a field of vital importance. The growth of technology has given a global and all-embracing dimension to mass communications and the dissemination of information. The impressions and attitudes which provide an indispensable background to all our plans and activities are coloured and conditioned by the fast and all pervasive flow of information and ideas which characterizes the modern world. The problems of the information environment cannot be ignored in seeking solutions to the great problems of the international political, economic and social environment. Indeed there is a broad pattern in all these problems which tends to divide the world between the rich and the poor, the powerful and the weak, the oppressor and the oppressed.

Non-aligned countries, so often described by information media as the 'third world'

have in fact always stood for 'one world' of peace, justice and progress for all. It is in this spirit that they have addressed themselves at Algiers and Lima to the global situation of information and their own role in it.

What are the broad characteristics of the present day information environment? The latest UNESCO survey on World Communications, 1975, has this to say on the state of information flows and exchanges today:

'A far larger part of the population in most countries is receiving more information and ideas about other countries than in the past, but the facts and figures also show imbalances in the flow and exchanges between countries and in the context of what flows, the greater quantity of the flow is from a small number of countries to the rest and from technically developed countries to the others. There is room for more two-way flow in place of the present dominant flow from a few countries to the rest. All people should be able to speak as well as be spoken to, and to present themselves to others as they see themselves.'

The realities expressed in this finely balanced language deserve a little more detailed attention by us.

The most powerful, the most highly organised and, therefore, the most pervasive information media in the world belong to a few affluent countries. There is a near monopoly in the international flow of information by a few large trans-national corporations from those countries who have links with and influence over media in most developing countries. In effect most of the news and views of international events are recorded and presented both in the developed and the developing world by media representing the former which are able to overwhelm the comparatively meagre media resources of developing societies. Our friends from Sri Lanka and Yugoslavia have given us many details

of this situation and I do not need to repeat it. This situation is also reflected in the infrastructure of information. Production and consumption of mass media material is highly concentrated. A few countries of North America and Western Europe account for about 70 per cent of the world consumption of newsprint. The ratio for radio and television sets is even more disparate. It is cheaper and faster for a cable to travel from London to Delhi than from Delhi to Kabul. Two non-aligned countries like India and Tunisia mostly depend on information about each other on one of the three or four information distributing centres of the world. Five great news agencies centred in their respective countries bestraddle the globe in purveying information together with a few powerful syndication services and television networks also centred in the same countries. As in the global economic and political situation, this is also the bequest of an earlier era.

The results of this situation are of profound significance. If judgements and decisions on what should be known, and how it should be known, are concentrated in a few countries they are mostly made, consciously or not, in terms of how the world is seen from those centres and in accordance with the interests prevailing in these centres. The true realities and genuine aspirations in other parts of the world are often ignored or distorted. Non-aligned countries have suffered from this both individually and collectively. We all remember how little and what kind of attention the global information media devoted to the Summit Conferences at Belgrade, Cairo, Lusaka and Algiers. The co-operative efforts of non-aligned countries for world peace and justice have been underplayed or misrepresented from time to time. The presentations in the international media have often tried to shake the cohesion and unity of the non-aligned movement and to question and dilute the principles upon which that unity rests. The word 'non-aligned' has itself been used as a pejorative. Individually also non-aligned countries have been maligned, their national efforts to safeguard their political and economic independence have

been distorted and more dangerous pressures which militate against their unity, stability and economic progress have been encouraged. All of us have been subjected to this at different times and my own country is no exception.

Another and more insidious consequence of the present information environment is its impact on our own attitudes. Prime Minister Indira Gandhi said at Lusaka: 'Those who dominated the world's political affairs and manned its economic controls also imposed a monopoly of ideas. For years we accepted their values, their image of the world and strangely enough even of ourselves. Whether we like it or not, we have been pushed into postures of imitation'. Information is not naturally confined to dissemination of news and views of the moment. It permeates the sphere of education, culture and opinion formation. Books and ideas, consumer attitudes and advertising fashion and behaviour patterns also tend to be purveyed from the same centres where the dissemination of news is concentrated. The result particularly in the developing world has been a measure of cultural alienation and erosion of national self-confidence in one's own values and judgments. We still tend to see and judge ourselves and our brothers through the eyes of a few who dominated us in the past. This is another relic of the old colonialism. It is a danger which threatens our young generation no less than the present generation.

As in other fields, non-aligned countries can give a lead in rectifying this information environment. The direction of this lead must be neither isolation nor automatic confrontation, but constructive cooperation.

We do not want to shut out the present information flows but only to have our rightful place in them. The Father of our Freedom, Mahatma Gandhi said: 'I want the culture of all lands to be blown about my house as freely as possible but I refuse to be blown off my feet by any of them'.

We want to be masters in our own houses and cannot permit an information situation where this independence is compromised. We

would like to be able to present, each to the other, our efforts and aspirations directly and in proper perspective. Non-aligned countries can and should cooperate among themselves for attaining self-reliance in the field of information. This cooperation is essential for improving their mutual understanding and for making them better understood to others. It is also important for further strengthening their cooperation in other fields. Already a number of cooperative ventures have been undertaken by non-aligned

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countries in the field of information, notably the Press Agency Pool initiated by Yugoslavia and the regional arrangements made by non-aligned countries in Africa and the Arab world. The experience of these ventures should encourage us to go forward. We are not without material and technical resources. New vistas can be opened by pooling and sharing them.

The ingredients of further cooperation have been spelt out in detail in Resolution VII of the Lima Conference based on the programme of action adopted at the Algiers Summit. The Lima resolution endorsed the holding of this Symposium as an important part of this programme. The three themes selected for our deliberations have been well chosen and permit a wide-ranging exchange of ideas on all aspects of our cooperation in this field. Three valuable communications on these themes have just been presented to us. My delegation looks forward to these exchanges with particular anticipation as the same Lima resolution designated New Delhi as the venue of the forthcoming conference of non-aligned countries on the constitution of a pool of their news agencies.

The cooperation of non-aligned countries in the field of information and culture has the aim of enabling them and their people to know and understand each other and the rest of the world more effectively through direct exchanges and contacts instead of depending exclusively on the established information centres which are part of the legacy of colonialism. It can be described as an effort for the decolonisation of information.

It is a cooperative effort not only among non-aligned countries as a first step but eventually to be pursued in the appropriate forums of the international community as a whole. It should lead to the establishment of a more genuine cooperation between peoples and countries on the basis of equality and mutual respect and the recognition of the political, social and cultural identity of each. It can be an important means for working towards a new international economic order for which greater mutual understanding of needs and aspirations is essential. It is an important and worthwhile effort to which, along with other non-aligned countries, India will make her best contribution.

These ideas have been with us since a long time, as long ago as the Asian Relations Conference which was held in March, 1947. Our great leader Jawaharlal Nehru said: 'For too long have we of Asia been petitioners in Western courts and chancelleries. That story must now belong to the past. We propose to stand on our own legs and to co-operate with all others who are prepared to cooperate with us. We do not intend to be the play-things of others. The freedom that we envisage is not to be confined to this nation or that or to a particular people, but must spread out over the whole human race. That universal human freedom cannot be based on the supremacy of any particular class. It must be the freedom of the common man everywhere and full opportunities for him to develop'.

Mr. President, in conclusion we thank you again for your report on the organisation of this symposium. In this connection my delegation would like to mention for the record that the well-known and established criteria of non-alignment were established at the Summit Conference in Cairo and reaffirmed at the subsequent Summit Conferences in Lusaka and Algiers. The practice at other non-aligned gatherings does not constitute a precedent for their review.

TUNISIA USA INDIA ALGERIA PERU SRI LANKA YUGOSLAVIA AFGHANISTAN UNITED KINGDOM
EGYPT ZAMBIA MALI

Date : Mar 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

NORTH KOREA

Indo-Korean Trade Protocol for 1976

The following press release on Indo-Korean trade protocol for 1976 was released in New Delhi on March 20, 1976:

The total turn-over of trade between India and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in 1976 is envisaged at Rs. 270 million, as against the estimated trade turn-over of Rs. 120 million in 1975. The Indo-DPRK Trade Protocol for 1976 was signed here today by Mr. Li Tae Baek, Vice Minister

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of Foreign Trade and Dr. P. C. Alexander, Union Foreign Trade Secretary on behalf their respective Governments. It is expected that with the introduction of direct shipping line between India and DPRK, the trade plan provisions will be utilised to the maximum extent.

Under the new Protocol, the DPRK has agreed to supply to India items like urea, zinc, mild steel plates and various kinds of refractories. Lead has also been included for the first time in the list of DPRK exports to India.

India's exports to DPRK will include cotton textiles, jute bags, finished leather manganese ore, mica and mica products, steel billets, engineering goods like bearings, wire ropes and various chemicals.

The signing of the Trade Protocol was the culmination of talks between the two delegations led by Mr. Li Tae Baek and Dr. P. C. Alexander between March 17 to 20,

1976. The discussions were held in a cordial and friendly atmosphere. During his stay in Delhi, Mr. Tae Baek called on the Deputy Minister of Commerce, Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh and exchanged views on the possible scope for further trade expansion between the two countries.

BACKGROUNDER

India's trade with the DPRK is regulated by long-term Trade and Payments Agreement, which provide for the settlement of all transactions between the two countries in non-convertible Indian rupees. This is a balanced form of trading and imports and exports are to balance each other over a period of time.

The first Trade Agreement with the DPRK was concluded in 1961 and since then, extended from time to time. In 1968, a Trade and Payments Agreement was concluded by exchange of letters. The latest Agreement was signed on February 18, 1974 for a period of three years.

The total trade turn-over between India and the DPRK has been growing over the last few years. The value of the two way trade increased from Rs. 8.26 million in 1970 to Rs. 33.19 million in 1973 and Rs. 69 million in 1974. It is expected that the trade turnover for 1.975 will be around Rs. 120 million.

KOREA NORTH KOREA INDIA USA

Date : Mar 01, 1976

Volume No

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SOUTH KOREA

Indo-South Korean Agreement on Science and Technology

Following is the text of Indo-South Korean agreement on science and technology signed by Shri S. M. Aga (India) and Mr. Tong Jin, Park (Korea) in Seoul on March 5, 1976:

The Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Republic of Korea

CONSIDERING THAT development of scientific and technical relations shall be of mutual benefit to the two countries. DESIROUS OF strengthening cooperation between the two countries, particularly in the fields of science and technology.

CONSIDERING FURTHER THAT such cooperation shall promote the development of existing friendly relations between the Republic of India and the Republic of Korea.

HAVE AGREED as follows:

ARTICLE I

The Contracting Parties hereby agree to promote development of cooperation in the

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fields of science and technology between the two countries on the basis of equality and mutual benefit and, by mutual consent to define various areas in which this cooperation is desirable, taking into account the experience which scientists and specialists have gained and the possibilities available.

ARTICLE II

Cooperation between the Contracting Parties in the fields of science and technology may be effected by means of:

1. exchange of scientists, research-workers, specialists and scholars;
2. exchange of scientific and technical information and documentation;

3. organization of bilateral scientific and technical seminars and courses on problems of interest to both Contracting Parties;
4. joint identification of scientific and technical problems and formulation and implementation of joint research programmes which might lead to application of the results of such research in industry, agriculture and other fields including exchange of achieved experiences and know-how resulting therefrom.

ARTICLE III

1. The Contracting Parties shall promote cooperation between their organizations, enterprises and scientific institutions concerned with science and technology in both countries with a view to concluding, if necessary, appropriate protocols or contracts within the framework of this Agreement.
2. Protocols or Contracts, which shall be the basis for developing cooperation between organizations, enterprises and scientific institutions of the two countries, shall be signed in accordance with the laws and regulations in force in their respective countries. These protocols or contracts shall provide for, in case of necessity:
 - i) recompense for licensing know-how or utilization of patents,
 - ii) exchange of patents, joint application for patents based on joint projects of research and development and conditions for their commercialisation by either Contracting Party or jointly by them in a third country,
 - iii) conditions of introduction into production and realization of output, and
 - iv) financial terms and conditions.
3. In order to facilitate the implementation of this Agreement, representatives of

the Contracting Parties shall meet alternately in Korea and India whenever necessary at the request of either Contracting party.

ARTICLE IV

The Contracting Parties agree that the delivery of the equipment required for joint research and for pilot plant studies instituted in furtherance of this agreement shall be effected in the manner discussed and agreed upon by both Contracting parties in each individual case. The delivery of equipment and apparatus from one country to another produced in the course of implementation of this Agreement shall be effected in accordance with the terms of the existing trade agreement between them, if they do not agree on another way of making these deliveries.

ARTICLE V

The Contracting Parties shall take steps to promote cooperation among scientific libraries, centres of scientific and technical information scientific institutions for exchange of books, periodicals and bibliographies.

ARTICLE VI

1. This Agreement shall be realised on the basis of implementation programme signed periodically, but not less frequently than one for two years. These implementation programmes shall specify the range, subject and forms of cooperation including financial terms and conditions.
2. The implementation of this Agreement is entrusted to the Department of Science and Technology for the Indian

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side and to the Ministry of Science and Technology for the Korean side.

ARTICLE VII

Expenses of travel of the scientists and

specialists between the two countries shall be borne by the sending country, while the expenses for accommodation and other expenses, such as pocket money, internal travel, medical facilities, etc., shall be borne by the host country, according to the terms mutually agreed upon between the Contracting Parties.

ARTICLE VIII

Each Contracting Party agrees not to divulge information obtained by them or their personnel under this Agreement to any third party without the specific consent of the other Contracting Party.

ARTICLE IX

Within the limits of the standing regulations, each Contracting Party shall secure to the citizens of the other, who stay on its territories, all assistances and facilities in the fulfilment of the tasks they are entrusted with, according to the provisions of this Agreement.

ARTICLE X

This agreement shall be subject to approval by the Contracting Parties in accordance with their respective constitutional procedures and shall come into force upon exchange of notes concerning such approval.

This Agreement shall remain in force for a period of five years and shall be automatically extended for a further period of five years, if none of the Contracting Parties gives to the other Party a notice of its intention to terminate this Agreement twelve months before the expiry of the first-mentioned period.

IN WITNESS THEREOF the undersigned, being duly authorised in that regard by their respective Governments, have signed this Agreement.

Done in duplicate in Seoul on March 5, 1976 in the Hindi, Korean and English languages, all texts being equally authentic, but in case of any divergence of interpretation

the English text shall prevail.

KOREA INDIA USA

Date : Mar 01, 1976

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SRI LANKA

Indo-Sri Lanka Joint Press Statement

The following Press statement on Indo-Sri Lanka agreement regarding maritime boundary was issued in New Delhi on March 24, 1976;

The Defence & Foreign Secretary of Sri Lanka, Mr. W. T. Jayasinghe and the Foreign Secretary of India, Shri Kewal Singh, signed an Agreement regarding the maritime Boundary between India and Sri Lanka in the Gulf of Mannar and the Bay of Bengal and Related Matters on March 23, 1976, in New Delhi.

It will be recalled that the maritime boundary between India and Sri Lanka in the Palk Bay was settled by a similar Agreement in June 1974. Thus with the signing of the present agreement the maritime boundary between India and Sri Lanka has been settled along its entire length from the Bay of Bengal to the Indian Ocean. The two countries shall exercise full sovereignty and control on their side of the maritime boundary which has been drawn strictly on the principle of the median line.

The two Foreign Secretaries also exchanged Letters - which would also constitute an Agreement between the two countries - on the regulation of fishing by Sri Lanka

fishing vessels in the Wadge Bank, off the Cape Comorin, which falls entirely on the Indian side of the maritime boundary in the Gulf of Mannar and shall form the part of the exclusive economic zone of India, once it is established under the proposed maritime legislation. It has been agreed that at the request of the Government of Sri Lanka, as a gesture of goodwill, Sri Lanka fishing vessels may continue to fish in the Wadge Bank for a period of three years from the date of establishment by India of its exclusive economic zone. Taking into account the present level of fishing activity it has been agreed that the number of Sri Lanka fishing vessels will be limited to six and the fish catch to 2,000 tonnes in any one year. At the expiry of this period the Government of India have agreed to provide the same quantity of fish to Sri Lanka for a further period of five years at an agreed price. The two Governments have also agreed that the fishing activity of Sri Lanka shall be subject to the terms and conditions specified by the Government of India and to inspection and control by the Indian authorities. India would also provide technical assistance to Sri Lanka in the field of fisheries in order to facilitate the diversion of Sri Lanka fishing vessels from the Wadge Bank, under terms and conditions to be agreed upon between the two Governments.

Bilateral negotiations on the subject began in August 1975, in Colombo and were subsequently held in the two capitals. The texts of the Agreements were finalised in New Delhi on March 22, 1976. Throughout, the negotiations were held in an atmosphere of warm friendship and cordiality.

SRI LANKA INDIA USA

Date : Mar 01, 1976

Volume No

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Shri Chavan's Statement on Indo-Sri Lanka Maritime Boundary Agreement

The Minister of External Affairs, Shri V. B. Chavan, made the following statement in Parliament on March 24, 1976 on the agreement between India and Sri Lanka on the Maritime Boundary between the two countries in the Gulf of Manaar and the Bay of Bengal and related matters:

I rise to place before the House the two agreements that have been signed with Sri Lanka on March 23, 1976, in New Delhi. The first Agreement relates to the Maritime Boundary between India and Sri Lanka in the Gulf of Manaar and the Bay of Bengal and Related Matters. Consequent upon the signing of the Agreement, there was also an exchange of Letters regarding the regulation of fishing by Sri Lanka fishing vessels in the Wadge Bank. This Exchange of Letters also constitutes an agreement between the two countries.

The maritime boundary between India and Sri Lanka in the Palk Bay was settled by a similar Agreement in June 1974. With the signing of the present Agreement, the maritime boundary between India and Sri Lanka stands settled along its entire length. The two countries shall exercise full sovereignty and absolute jurisdiction on their side of the maritime boundary. Both countries have agreed that after the determination of the maritime boundary, fishing vessel and fishermen of one country shall not engage in fishing in the waters of the other. However, the immediate extinction of fishing activity by Sri Lanka would have caused certain amount of economic dislocation. As a gesture of goodwill towards a friendly neighbour, we have agreed that the fishing activity by Sri Lanka in the Wadge Bank may be phased out within a period of three years from the date of establishment by India of its exclusive economic zone. During this period of three years, Sri Lanka may continue to fish at the same level of activity as at present.

Though the documents will speak for themselves, I would like to record that along with the Agreement of June 1974, these two agreements constitute an important milestone in the strengthening of friendly relations between India and Sri Lanka.

With these words, I beg to lay the texts of the two agreements before the House.

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Date : Mar 01, 1976

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SWEDEN

Shri Chavan's Speech at Dinner in Honour of Swedish Foreign Minister

Following is the text of speech of the Minister of External Affairs, Shri Y. B. Chavan, at dinner in honour of His Excellency Mr. Sven Andersson, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Sweden, in New Delhi on March 3, 1976:

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, it is with great pleasure that I welcome Their Excellencies the Foreign Minister of Sweden and Mrs. Andersson to India. I have been looking forward to their visit in order to have an opportunity to renew my pleasant contacts with His Excellency Mr. Andersson in New York and recently in Paris. We believe that even for countries like ours which have a long tradition of friendly cooperation and mutual understanding, such periodic exchange of views is very valuable. My only regret is that the visit is so short and there is so much to see in India. Particularly at present, there is a new upsurge of popular

energy, enthusiasm and purposive action. I hope that even during this short visit, you will be able to get a few glimpses of the progress that we have made so far and the firm determination with which the country is forging ahead towards the goal of national development on the basis of democracy and socialism. Sweden has often shown others the way in taking measures to improve the lot of the weaker sections of society. With Your Excellency's long and distinguished record in this respect, you will readily appreciate the over-riding priority which we attach to the abolition of poverty and to the equitable distribution of the fruits of development.

Although Sweden and India are separated by geography, history and different processes of development, we share many principles and objectives including a genuine dedication to human fraternity and the desire to abolish violence from the world. A principled search for peace and cooperation has actuated India's foreign policy from the very beginning. It is in that spirit that we have welcomed the conclusion of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe at Helsinki. However, the world today has grown more and more inter-dependent. It is, therefore, essential that detente should not be confined to the continent of Europe. It must spread to other areas where conflict and tension still persist.

Our own approach to international relations is characterised by a commitment to the policy of non-alignment and pursuit of durable peace and cooperation. It was this approach which resulted in the signing of the Simla Agreement. Since then we have taken several initiatives in pursuance of the Agreement to establish a structure of durable peace in the sub-continent. Our approach will continue to be one of restraint and reasonableness arising from a sincere belief that the Simla Agreement is the best framework for peace for countries in the sub-continent.

As a developing country, we have noted with appreciation the sympathy and positive response of Sweden to the problems and aspirations of the developing world. Political

independence is devoid of meaning without economic viability and self-reliance. Like many other developing countries, but perhaps more acutely than most, we face enormous economic problems which have been aggravated by the energy crisis and existing world economic conditions. With the cooperation of friendly countries like Sweden which we deeply appreciate but largely through our own efforts we are doing our utmost to develop the national economy. Our efforts to develop new energy resources by harnessing, among others, nuclear technology for the cause of peaceful progress have to be seen and understood in this context.

India today has a strong industrial base. Despite our present economic problems, we wish to become more viable trading partners, both bilaterally and internationally. We wish to develop our contacts and relations with your country in industry, science and technology. Friendly and mutually beneficial co-operation between our two countries is nothing new; it started decades ago but we look forward to giving it greater meaning and

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content. Sweden was the first West European country with whom we set up a Joint Commission for economic, technical and scientific cooperation. Given the community of our approach and the sympathy and understanding that Sweden has always displayed for our problems in the difficult present-day international economic context, we are sure that we can depend upon your support in our endeavours.

our good relations with Sweden and the warmth and understanding that have characterised them over the years have been a source of satisfaction to us. I am confident that your visit here and our discussions will further deepen this understanding and will serve to extend and enrich our cooperation in all fields.

Once again, Your Excellency and Mrs. Andersson, I welcome you to India and hope that your days with us will leave you with pleasant memories. May I request all present to join me in a toast to the health and happi-

ness of Their Excellencies the Foreign
Minister of Sweden and Mrs. Andersson and
to Indo-Swedish friendship?

SWEDEN INDIA FRANCE USA FINLAND

Date : Mar 01, 1976

Volume No

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SWEDEN

Swedish Foreign Minister's Reply

Replying, the Swedish Foreign Minister
delivered the following speech:

Mr. Minister, Ladies and Gentlemen, let
me first thank you Mr. Minister, for your
warm words of welcome. Let me also tell
you how much we all have appreciated the
friendly hospitality you have shown us here
in India.

I regard this warm reception as a sign
of the good relations between India and
Sweden. There have been close ties between
our nations for many years. India is, and
rightfully so, one of Sweden's main partners
in development cooperation. The resources
made available on our side for Indian deve-
lopment purposes are now being speedily and
fully utilised, which shows that this coope-
ration is well related to Indian needs and
priorities. There are also extensive trade
relations between our nations, and increasing
diversification of the trade. The ties between
India and Sweden have been further streng-
thened by important visits by Indians to my
country and by Swedish representatives to
yours. Professional and personal contacts
between individuals and groups in our two
countries appear to be on the increase.

Let me take this opportunity to invite

you, Mr. Minister, and your wife to come to visit us in Sweden in the near future. I know that you have been to Stockholm before, when you were Minister of Finance, so you already know a little about what our country is like. But I am sure that there is more for you to see. It would also give us an opportunity to continue the fruitful discussions we had this morning. Only through such frequent contacts will it be possible for us to fully understand each other's problems and to talk frankly about them - like we have done today and always should do. Openness is the best ground for a real solid friendship.

When we discussed current International developments earlier today, we both noted that great changes had taken place in the world during the last year. It was the year when the struggle for independence achieved important results. The Vietnamese people, after 30 years of war, finally reached their national liberation. And in Africa, after the fall of the Portuguese colonial rule, several new independent states were born. Both in Sweden and in India we have supported this development, and we have greeted it with great satisfaction.

At the same time it should be noted, I think, that the ground for the historic struggle for independence and the freedom of nations to a large extent was laid by India. The birth of India as an independent nation in 1947 was seen as an example all over the world. It could be considered a beginning of the process of decolonization. This process now has completely changed the political situation in the world. We can, for instance, see the results in the United Nations: now the number of member states has more than doubled since your independence. But Mr. Minister, as you yourself pointed out

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at the U.N. special session last autumn, political independence is not an end in itself. It is only the first step to economic independence, you said.

We, in Sweden, agree with you that

political independence becomes almost illusory for any new state if it is not coupled with the right to influence and direct also its economic and social development. Therefore we support the efforts to establish a new economic world order with increased economic independence for the developing nations, and greater influence for these countries in world economic affairs.

These questions are presently being dealt with at the Conference on International Economic Co-operation in Paris: the so-called dialogue. We are both members of this conference, and I am confident that we will be able to work together at these meetings for the same basic principles.

At the same time, the United Nations is still the focus of both India's and Sweden's Foreign policy. Even if Sweden and India in many ways are very different countries, we share some common ideas. We both believe in a policy of neutrality, and we both feel free to state our opinion in the international community. The Swedish Government follows the development in South Asia with keen interest. We are quite aware of the fact that what happens on your continent is of great importance also for Europe, and thus also for Sweden. Efforts to normalise the situation in your part of the world are thus highly appreciated in Sweden.

We have looked very much forward to this visit to India. We are grateful for the programme you have arranged for us, and I look forward to the continuation of our talks. Let me once again tell you how highly we appreciate the hospitality, extended to me, my wife and my collaborators. I am convinced that the close ties between Sweden and India will be further strengthened.

I now ask you all to join me in a toast to the prosperity and wellbeing of the Indian people, and to the health of the Foreign Minister of India.

SWEDEN USA INDIA VIETNAM FRANCE MALI

Date : Mar 01, 1976

Volume No

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TUNISIA

Indo-Tunisian Trade Agreement

Following is the text of Indo-Tunisian trade agreement signed in Tunis by Shri P. K. Guha (India) and Mr. Hamed Ammar (Tunisia) on March 17, 1976:

The Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Republic of Tunisia being desirous of developing closer economic cooperation and trade relations between the two countries on the basis of equality and reciprocity have agreed as follows:

ARTICLE I

The Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Republic of Tunisia will accord to each other treatment as favourable as possible to facilitate exchange of goods between the two countries.

ARTICLE II

Subject to their respective regulations, the two Contracting Parties shall give maximum possible facilities and take all appropriate measures to promote trade between the two countries.

ARTICLE III

Items of special interest to both the Contracting Parties are given in Lists "I"

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and "T" annexed to this Agreement. These lists are indicative and nothing in this Agreement shall preclude Trade in goods and commodities not mentioned in these Lists.

These Lists form an integral part of the present Agreement.

ARTICLE IV

The two Contracting Parties agree to grant each other, subject to their respective laws and regulations, all facilities for participating in trade fairs and holding exhibitions in their respective territories.

ARTICLE V

Payment for the goods exchanged between the two countries in pursuance of this Agreement will be made in freely convertible currencies.

ARTICLE VI

A Joint Commission composed of representatives of the two Governments will meet at the request of either of the Contracting Parties in New Delhi and Tunis alternately to review the implementation of this Agreement and notably

- (I) to conclude indicative annual programmes of exchange of goods and commodities between the two countries;
- (II) to eliminate difficulties and settle all problems that may arise in the implementation of this Agreement; and
- (III) to make suggestions for the improvement and expansion of trade and economic relations between the two countries.

ARTICLE VII

This Agreement shall come into force with effect from the date of its approval by the two Governments in accordance with their respective constitutional provisions.

This Agreement shall remain in force for a period of three years; thereafter it shall stand renewed from year to year by tacit consent of the two Contracting Parties unless rescinded on giving three months' notice in writing by either Contracting Party before its expiry.

ARTICLE VIII

This Agreement supercedes and replaces
Indo-Tunisian Trade Agreement of 5 October
1960.

Done at Tunis on 17 March 1976 in
duplicate in English and French, both texts
being equally authentic.

LIST "I"

ITEMS OF EXPORT FROM INDIA To TUNISIA

1. Rice
2. Leather
3. Spices
4. Tobacco
5. Mica
6. Handicrafts
7. Bicycles and Motorcycles
8. Sewing machines
9. Sports goods
10. Plate glass
11. Silk
12. Machinery and equipment
13. Others.

LIST "T"

ITEMS OF EXPORT FROM TUNISIA TO INDIA

1. Natural phosphate
2. Lead
3. Mercury
4. Cork and cork products
5. Hides and skins
6. Olive oil
7. Paper, paper pulp and paper products
8. Different mineral products
9. Handicrafts
10. Others.

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TUNISIA INDIA USA

Date : Mar 01, 1976

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Indo-US Joint Communiqué

The following joint communiqué was issued in New Delhi on March 26, 1976 at the conclusion of the second meeting of Indo-US Economic and Commercial Sub-Commission:

The Economic and Commercial Sub-Commission of the U.S.-India Joint Commission held its second meeting in New Delhi on March 24-25, 1976.

The meetings were chaired by Mr. Joseph A. Greenwald, American Assistant Secretary of State for Economic and Business Affairs and Shri M. G. Kaul, Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, of the Government of India.

The Sub-Commission discussed a wide range of multilateral and bilateral economic, trade and investment issues.

The two delegations exchanged views on questions to be discussed at the UNCTAD IV meeting in Nairobi and the CIEC sessions in Paris and agreed that the two meetings should complement each other and further the dialogue between the developed and developing countries. Both sides also exchanged views on a number of other international issues with the object of developing a better understanding of their respective positions. The Sub-Commission held a detailed discussion of the issues being considered in the Multilateral Trade Negotiations and expressed the hope that agreement in accordance with the objectives of the Tokyo Declaration would be achieved in 1977.

The Sub-Commission reviewed US-

Indian trade. The Indian side emphasised the need for increasing and broadening India's exports to the United States. The Indian delegation appreciating the recent implementation of the U.S. system of generalised tariff preference (GSP) put forward additions and modifications which would be of particular importance to Indian exports. The Sub-Commission discussed prospects for the resolution of specific problems involved in trade in cotton textiles, mica and leather footwear.

The Sub-commission discussed a wide range of investment matters. The Indian side explained the objectives of the Indian Government's investment policy and the manner in which FERA and the guidelines pertaining thereto were being implemented. Both sides recognised the importance in this area, of practical and clear rules for the entry of foreign investment and the stability of these, once the investment had taken place.

The Sub-commission also discussed in detail the scope for mutual commercial cooperation between the U.S. and the Indian firms in third countries. The U.S. side agreed to take steps to inform U.S. business of the scope for such collaboration arrangements. The two sides outlined specific methods of assuring the timely exchange of information on sub-contracting possibilities. Both governments agreed to pursue this objective in conjunction with the Joint Business Council.

The Sub-commission noted with satisfaction that the Joint Business Council had a useful inaugural meeting in New Delhi in February and discussed some of the recommendations arising from that meeting. Both sides agreed to continue to work closely with the Council to ensure that the Council continues its effective contribution to the development of bilateral economic and commercial relations.

The Sub-commission also reviewed a report of its Working Group on Agricultural Inputs. The two sides noted that this Group has been having very useful discussions and

is concentrating in the areas of fertilizer production and pi-ice trends, joint research possibilities and third country ventures for the construction of fertilizer plants. The Agricultural Inputs Working Group is scheduled to hold its third meeting on March 29, 1976.

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USA INDIA KENYA FRANCE JAPAN

Date : Mar 01, 1976

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UPPER VOLTA

India-Upper Volta Memorandum on Economic and Technical Cooperation

The following press release on India-Upper Volta Memorandum on economic and technical cooperation was issued in New Delhi on March 22, 1976:

A Memorandum of Understanding on economic, technical and scientific cooperation was signed here today between India and Upper Volta. Shri A. C. George, Minister of State for Industry and Civil Supplies, signed on behalf of India and H.E. Mr. Emmanuel Zoma, Minister for Commerce, Industrial Development and Mines, signed on behalf of Upper Volta. Mr. Zoma, who has been on a visit to India since March 16, had talks with several Ministers of the Government of India during the past few days.

The Memorandum of Understanding provides for cooperation in the fields of industry, agriculture, oil exploration and trade. The Government will extend assistance to Upper Volta for the establishment of small and medium scale industries, such as extraction of vegetable oils, leather tanning, production of textiles, sewing thread, ceramics, sheet

glass and glassware, builders' hardware and sanitaryware, as also readymade garments and food processing. A small delegation of technical experts from India will visit Upper Volta to determine the specific requirements of that country. A survey report would be prepared by them and submitted to the Government of Upper Volta.

In the field of agriculture, the Government of India would extend cooperation and assistance to Upper Volta according to that country's requirements. A small delegation of experts would be sent to Upper Volta for an assessment of the needs and the progress made in community development, dry-farming, fruit and vegetable cultivation and manufacture of agricultural tools and implements.

The cooperation in the spheres of petroleum and minerals would cover exploration and provision of technical experts.

In response to a request made by Upper Volta, India would make available doctors and professors for medical and educational services in that country. The details of such requirements would be provided shortly by the Government of Upper Volta.

The two countries have discussed in detail the possibilities of having a trade agreement and there was a mutual desire to further extend and strengthen the excellent friendly relations that have existed for a long time. It has been agreed that India and Upper Volta will maintain constant contacts for economic, technical and commercial co-operation.

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INDIA USA

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OMAN ROMANIA TANZANIA TURKEY UNITED ARAB EMIRATES YUGOSLAVIA

Date : Apr 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

BANGLADESH

India's Strong Protest to Bangladesh on Border Incident

The following Press Note on India's strong protest to Bangladesh on border incident was issued in New Delhi on April 20,

1976:

The Government of India today lodged a strong protest with the Bangladesh High Commission in New Delhi against a serious incident on the India-Bangladesh border.

At 0900 hours on April 19, 1976, an Indian Border Security Force patrol in Meghalaya was fired upon from across the border. On receipt of the report, the Director General of the Border Security Force, Shri Ashwani Kumar, who was on a routine visit to Meghalaya, visited the scene of the incident along with the Inspector General of the BSF, Shillong, and another senior officer. During this visit, Shri Ashwani Kumar and party were fired upon from across the border whilst they were well within Indian territory.

As a result of this unprovoked shooting a member of the patrol accompanying the party of the Director General, BSF, suffered serious injury and was evacuated to a hospital.

The Government of India have requested the Government of Bangladesh to institute an immediate enquiry into the incident and to bring the offenders to book. The Government of Bangladesh have also been requested to take adequate measures to prevent the recurrence of such incidents in the interests of maintaining tranquillity on the border and amity and goodwill between the two countries.

BANGLADESH INDIA USA

Date : Apr 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

BANGLADESH

India's Second Protest to Bangladesh on Border Incident

The following Press Note on India's second protest to Bangladesh on border incident was issued in New Delhi on April 21, 1976:

Government of India which yesterday lodged a strong protest with the Bangladesh High Commission in New Delhi regarding serious incidents on the India-Bangladesh Border on April 19, 1976, have again protested emphatically against yet another serious incident on April 20, which occurred on the India-Bangladesh border.

At 0530 hours on April 20, 1976 whilst an Indian BSF patrol was passing near Dumnikura Border outpost, Garo Hills District of the State of Meghalaya, inside Indian territory, on routine duty, they came under unprovoked heavy fire with mortars and automatic weapons from the Bangladesh side of the border. At first the Indian patrol tried to withdraw to avoid unnecessary engagement but when the firing continued and was even intensified they found themselves compelled to return the fire in self-defence. As a result of the exchange of fire there were casualties on both sides.

Government of India have urged the Government of Bangladesh to take immediate and effective measures to prevent violations of the International border and disturbances of peace and tranquillity in the area.

Government of India have noted with regret and concern these incidents have taken place at a time when diplomatic exchanges between the two countries are going on various issues to improve the climate of relations between the two countries.

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BANGLADESH INDIA USA PERU

Date : Apr 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

BANGLADESH

Official Statement on Indo-Bangladesh Talks on Ganga Waters

Following is the text of statement made by the official spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on April 26, 1976:

At the suggestion of the Government of India, the Government of Bangladesh have agreed to hold technical level talks to exchange information and data and to assess the alleged effects in Bangladesh of the operation of the Farakka Barrage feeder canal. Opportunity will also be taken for discussing arrangements for joint observation of the effects of the separation of the Farakka Barrage feeder canal in irrigation, salinity, navigation, etc. the Bangladesh and on the Hooghly river for the benefit of Calcutta Port.

In our view meaningful talks on the allocation of the Ganga waters which is a highly technical matter, can take place only after experts of the two sides have been able to study and evaluate all relevant data.

A high level seven-member delegation with Shri C. C. Patel, Additional Secretary, Department of Irrigation as leader, and Shri J. C. Ajmani, Additional Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, as deputy leader, will be leaving Delhi for Dacca on April 27, 1976.

Accepting the suggestion of the Government of Bangladesh, the Government of India have agreed that immediately on the conclusion of the visit of the Indian delegation to Dacca, a similar delegation from Bangladesh will be received in India.

The Government of India sincerely hope

that the technical level talks will lead to better mutual understanding and pave the way for an amicable settlement of the question of allocation of the lean season flows of the Ganga between India and Bangladesh.

The Government of India approach the forthcoming meetings and negotiations with an open mind and with a genuine desire to reach an agreement safeguarding the legitimate interests of both the countries.

BANGLADESH INDIA USA LATVIA

Date : Apr 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

BOTSWANA

Speech by the President at Banquet in Honour of Sir Seretse Khama

The President, Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, made the following speech at the banquet in honour of His Excellency Sir Seretse Khama, President of the Republic of Botswana and Lady Ruth Khama, in New Delhi on April 4, 1976:

It is with great pleasure that we welcome His Excellency Sir Seretse Khama, Lady Khama and their distinguished colleagues here tonight. As the founder of the nation of Botswana we are particularly happy to welcome you to India, especially at this time when Southern Africa is going through historic and revolutionary changes.

Excellency, contacts between the peoples of India and Africa have a long history. It was in Southern Africa that Mahatma Gandhi, the father of our nation, tested for the first time, fifty years ago, the method of 'Satyagraha' against the pernicious philo-

sophy of racial discrimination.

Your statesmanship and courage as the leader of your nation is deeply respected in India. The Government and the people of

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India have noted with great admiration the struggle of the Botswana people for political independence and economic emancipation. Particularly significant is the fact that this struggle has been conducted in the midst of constraints and hazards imposed by Botswana's difficult geographical situation. We fully appreciate your Government's commitments to the eradication of colonialism and racial discrimination in Southern Africa and your efforts to create a society in which people of all races, creeds and philosophies can live in peace with one another.

Your Excellency is aware that India has been privileged to support materially, morally and politically the cause of liberation of Africa ever since it became independent in 1947. It had been a source of joy and great satisfaction to my government and people to see the birth of free and independent African nations over the last two decades. The collapse of the Portuguese empire in Africa during the last two years was the result of countless sacrifices by the brave freedom fighters of Africa. We have welcomed recently the new nations of Guinea-Bissau, Cape Verde, Sao Tome & Principe, Comoros, Mozambique and Angola, to the community of free nations. But the forces of racism and vestiges of colonialism in Southern Africa have not learnt the lesson of history. The brave people of Angola, soon after their independence, had to face an armed aggression by the racist regime of South Africa. We Condemned that aggression strongly and pledged our full support to the people of Angola for protecting their independence and territorial integrity. We are glad that the Government of the Peoples Republic of Angola has consolidated its position and that South African forces are being vacated from its territory. We hope that African aspirations will similarly meet with success in Zimbabwe, Namibia and in the Union of

South Africa.

We have been watching closely with great interest the efforts which you, along with my good friends His Excellencies President Nyerere, Kaunda. and Samora Machel, have been making to bring about early majority rule in Zimbabwe which has long been denied to the sons of the soil by a small minority. We have no doubt that the cause of African nationalism and majority rule will triumph in Zimbabwe, Namibia and South Africa. We welcome and support whole-heartedly the action of the Government of Mozambique in applying U.N. Sanctions and in closing the border with Rhodesia. Together with the United Nations and the Commonwealth India is ready to join the international effort to extend assistance to Mozambique in this critical situation. I have no doubt that these developments mark the beginning of the end of racial discrimination, apartheid and tyrannical minority rule in Southern Africa.

Excellency, we look forward to the exchange of views we shall be having and we hope to learn a great deal from your experience and knowledge of Southern Africa, its problems, hopes and aspirations. We belong to the family of non-aligned nations and developing countries. Our societies have to consolidate our newly-won freedom and provide benefits in concrete terms to the common men and women who have long been denied even the minimum standard of living. To raise the standards of living of our people and to bring about a just world economic order, the Government and the people of India are very happy to cooperate with the Government and the people of Botswana. I am sure that with your visit this cooperation will be strengthened further.

Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, may I request you to join me in a toast to the health of His Excellency Sir Seretse Khama, Lady Ruth Khama and the distinguished members of the Botswana Delegation, to the early liberation of Zimbabwe, Namibia and the liquidation of apartheid in South Africa, to the welfare of the people of Botswana and to the friendship between our two

countries.

BOTSWANA INDIA USA GUINEA GUINEA!!GUINEA-BISSAU COMOROS SAO TOME E PRINCIPE
ANGOLA MOZAMBIQUE SOUTH AFRICA NAMIBIA ZIMBABWE

Date : Apr 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

BOTSWANA

Sir Seretse Khama's Reply

Replying, Sir Seretse Khama delivered the following speech:

First of all, let me say how happy my wife and I are to be here on the occasion of our first visit to India, We have only been here for a very short time but we are nevertheless extremely touched by the hospitality which has been accorded us. I am sure I

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speak also for all members of my party. We are all grateful to you. Mr. President, and Begum Abida Ahmed, anti through you to the people of your great country for the friendship and indeed the hospitality you have shown us since our arrival here. We have no doubt that our stay in India will be both fruitful and memorable.

I should also express my sincere gratitude and that of my Government and people to the Government and people of India for the services rendered us in Botswana by your highly dedicated young men and women who have contributed and continue to contribute so much and so willingly to the development of our country. I bring you their regards.

I also bring you fraternal greetings from the people of Botswana. Let me assure you,

Mr. President, that although, few Botswana know where India is, the very fact that I am here tonight is indicative of the feeling of friendship and brotherhood which exists between our two countries and peoples.

I thought it would be appropriate, Mr. President, to share with you and with the people of India some of my thoughts about a matter of mutual concern to both Botswana and India, namely, the question of the continued existence on our African continent of racism and oppression. I want to share these thoughts with you for two basic reasons:

- (I) The presence in Southern Africa of Racism and oppression is a day to day reality;
- (II) India has always been a staunch advocate of the right of peoples to self determination and freedom.

But, I should not be understood to mean that either India or Botswana know the answers to the various problems of Southern Africa. It is simply because we in Botswana live our day-to-day lives alongside injustice that we welcome the opportunity, wherever and whenever it arises? To express in no uncertain terms our fears and concerns. To illustrate these fears and concerns I would like to ask you to bear with me while I take you on a geographical excursion to the Southern tip of sub-equatorial Africa, although you already know something about it.

Botswana, formerly Bechuanaland protectorate, is sandwiched between Rhodesia to the North, South Africa to the South and South West Africa (Namibia) to the West. Rhodesia (Zimbabwe) and South Africa meet in the East to complete the vicious encirclement. To the north there is only a tiny outlet to Zambia and to free Africa. In short, Botswana is not only a land-locked country geographically but it is also one of the most endangered countries in the area in the sense that it is wholly surrounded by hostile forces represented by minority and racist regimes in Rhodesia and South Africa. During the Angolan civil war a new serious dimension was added to our geographical predicament

by the invasion of that country by South Africa. Angola is separated from us by a narrow strip of land known as the Caprivi Strip. Because this strip of land is, by the twist of colonial longica, considered to be an extension of the Namibian territory South Africa has turned it into a military zone in perpetuation of her illegal presence in Namibia.

You can see, therefore, ladies and gentlemen, that Botswana is a country in a virtued state of siege. We are a poor country, as you know, and this makes us even more vulnerable in an atmosphere such as that of out-region. And because we are poor, we are also powerless. This is why we cherish the stability and the peace which we have established in our country for we firmly believe that it is only in a stable peaceful Botswana that we can hope to maintain our mastery over our destiny.

But our destiny is inevitably intertwined with that of our fellowmen in Southern Africa. I do not imply here that we are not an integral part of humanity in its entirety, but what I am saying is that we recognize our special affinity with those millions of men and women in South Africa, Zimbabwe and Namibia who have never known peace, let alone freedom, in their own countries. We are indeed pained by the conditions under which they live and we are appalled by the callous indifference of their oppressors. And we think that the international community has a duty to fight racism and oppression wherever they exist for if we allow these enemies of human freedom to continue we will deprive ourselves of our own moral right to freedom and human equality.

The attitude we must adopt is essentially that the people of Namibia, Zimbabwe and

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South Africa are entitled, like everybody else, to a life which is characterized by freedom and happiness. We are not advocating racism in reverse. We are not saying that the white minority in these countries, by virtue of

their attitude towards the Black majority, are not equally entitled to a life of freedom and happiness for if we took that view we could be negating their humanity. This would be racism in reverse, we in Botswana are not for it.

For Namibia we only demand that the people of that territory should be allowed to determine their own future without interference. We also demand that South Africa should demonstrate to the world that she is a responsible member of the human community by respecting the law of Nations to which she is subject and by which the human community itself governs its relations. We cannot but repeat that South Africa has no right to be in Namibia in defiance of International Law.

The fact of the matter, however, is that South Africa is deliberately blinding herself to reality by refusing to recognize the inevitability of independence in Namibia and the inescapability of an end to oppression and racism in the whole of Southern Africa. We in Botswana believe that where basic human rights are denied by the substitution of violent repression for meaningful dialogue among the parties involved the love for freedom and liberty becomes a consuming fire and violent revolution becomes the only logical and indeed a justifiable alternative. A man who is subjected to legalized state violence every single day of his life cannot be expected to have a clear perception of the sanctity of human life. History is replete with examples of this kind. Human civilization, call it what you may, is strewn with mutilated bodies of martyrs who, in their desperate desire to be free preferred death, which they pursued with fanatic determination and zeal, to a life of endless misery.

And so we regard apartheid and racism based on the colour of the skin as a violent affront to human dignity and a negation of the divine proposition that human beings are equal in the face of God. Apartheid and racism deny the validity of this proposition and thus the only alternative left to a man who is discriminated against, oppressed and victimized in many ways simply because he hap-

pend to have the wrong colour is to resort to violence in order to vindicate his worth as a human being. This is happening in Southern Africa. In that troubled part of our continent men and women whose daily lives are scarred by persistent humiliation and degradation are increasingly finding refuge behind violent opposition in reaction to legalized and institutional violence. We do not necessarily affix a moral stamp to their actions and yet we have no reason to condemn such actions in the absence of a perceivable change of heart on the part of those who think they can maintain institutionalised privileges at the expense of the rights of others.

It is also our considered opinion that our own peace and freedom in Botswana are in jeopardy as long as oppression and racism are the order of the day in Zimbabwe where a ruthless minority regime is continuing to deny self-determination to the black majority. We have always said that if only the white community in Zimbabwe accepted the fact that they have no right to claim ownership of that country to the total exclusion of its indigenous inhabitants there would be less conflict. What Mr. Smith is trying to tell us is that the preservation of European civilisation is more important than the preservation of peace and good relations among people. The implication is that since the black majority in Zimbabwe belongs to a non-European civilization they are not civilized and therefore have no right to be free even in their own country. This we totally reject.

And we reject the misconception that majority rule is a negation of the aspirations of minorities. Zimbabwe is not the only country where there are minority races. No country on earth is inhabited by only one race and Zimbabwe is not an exception. We cannot, therefore, accept the argument advanced by the white community in Zimbabwe to the effect that they would be committing suicide if they accepted the principle of majority rule. On the contrary, by refusing to recognize the aspirations of the majority in Zimbabwe, Mr. Smith is leading his people to disaster.

Allow me at this juncture to say some-

thing about the prevailing order of things inside my own country. Botswana has only been independent for nine years and six months. For our troubled continent nine years of peace and stability is a phenomenal achievement by any standard. When we

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attained our independence back in 1966 few people believed we had the capacity for sustained existence as a nation and there were many who felt sorry for us because they thought we were too poor to be viable in an increasingly hostile political environment. There were yet those who were convinced that a longer spell of colonialization and foreign domination would do us a lot of good until such time that we would be pronounced politically mature and economically viable enough to qualify for an independent existence. But nine years later the spirit that moved us to declare our desire to be left alone to decide our own destiny in a larger freedom has been vindicated in the socio-economic and political developments that have taken place in our country. In six months we will be celebrating ten years of peace, stability and progress.

Botswana, like India, is a democratic country. Like you, we are a multi-party state. At present we have four political parties all of which are represented in our national parliament. Every five years we go to the people to seek a new mandate in free elections. We have thus succeeded in consolidating our democratic institutions and in forging a greater unity among our people in spite of the sinister misgivings of our detractors. We are very pleased indeed to know that India shares this heartening experience.

We have also succeeded in demonstrating to the minority regimes around us and to the rest of the world that there can be common humanity among people of different races, cultures and political philosophies. Today our country is known not so much for its aridity and economic backwardness as for its racial harmony, political stability and peace.

For us, therefore, the forcible separation of races and the creation of ethnic homelands in South Africa on the basis that a black man and a white man cannot live together in peace and harmony is as indispensable as it is reprehensible. We in Botswana find it difficult to believe that the tolerance that is being shown by Botswana to their fellow white citizens is a result of any unique biological trait peculiar to Botswana. Even if we were to proceed from the premise that the socio-political environment that prevails in South Africa is such that it has probably affected the biological constitutions of both whites and non-whites there, we would still question very seriously the basic philosophy behind the growing welter of oppressive apartheid statutes. But, Alas! we know that the animosity in South Africa between whites and non-white stems from the fact that the former consider the latter to be innately inferior. This attitude has in the past given rise to the evil doctrine of the master race identifiable not by any unique possession of divine wisdom on its part, inaccessible to the other races, but by mere pigment and opportunity, the latter being denied to others by force.

Thus we have proved beyond doubt that racist political philosophies have no place in modern society. They are dangerous because they strike at the very roots of peaceful relations among people. We have exposed the bankruptcy of the whole rationale behind apartheid not by withdrawing into the far-reaches of ideological sophistry but by setting a living example of human brotherhood in our country. But we remain touched by the voices of men, women and children crying for freedom in South Africa, Namibia and Zimbabwe. We will continue to be appalled by the intransigence of the suicidal minority regime that rules Zimbabwe in defiance of the counsels of wisdom and the dictates of reason.

Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, we deem it our duty to draw the world's attention to the dangers that are likely to turn the whole of Southern Africa into the cockpit of racial conflict. We do so not because we consider ourselves the moral spokes-

men of the people of Southern Africa but because our peace-loving people will no doubt be sacrificed in the process. There is no way we can escape the effects of the holocaust that is already being planned in Zimbabwe with its visions of blood and tears. There is no way we can make sure that we are not crushed by those who might wish to rescue Ian Smith. Such rescue mission in reaction to the intensification of the armed struggle in Zimbabwe is almost a certainty in view of the fact that hitherto Zimbabwe has acted as a buffer zone for South Africa's security. Thus the collapse of the Smith regime would come as a challenge to the bastion of racism in Southern Africa. These are the realities of our situation and it would be suicidal for us if we were to hide the fact that they exist.

I cannot end this statement without commending the Indian people for the role

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they have always played in the struggle for human rights in Southern Africa. Your history, like the history of the people of Africa, is a history of perpetual struggle. You have always been on the side of right, of justice, as evidenced by your unwavering support for the rights of man both inside your country and wherever injustice exists in the world. It was your illustrious leaders, Mahatma and Nehru, who gave the world the legacy of love in spite of the widespread hatred. Admittedly, their efforts did not turn the world into a place of love because the world is what it is - a place of hate. Nevertheless, we pay homage to them for their everlasting contribution to world peace and understanding.

In conclusion, let me say that, we in Africa have but one great ambition to live in peace amongst ourselves and with our fellowmen everywhere. At a time when we are engaged in the task of reasserting our humanity after centuries of denial, denigration and exploitation we cannot accept the imposition of foreign ideologies on our people. We will regard as imperialistic any foreign power which seeks to extend its hegemony beyond its territorial frontiers, and

we will resist any attempts by such power to turn our continent into a theatre of super-power ideological confrontation. Botswana, following the example of India, is a non-aligned country not because we want to have nothing to do with this world of which we are a part but because we wish to retain our individuality so that we can decide our own destiny as we see fit. This has been our policy since Independence and we are determined to maintain it,

Once again, I would like to thank you Mr. President, for affording me the opportunity of sharing with you and with the Indian people as a whole my hopes and aspirations for the future of Southern Africa. I am convinced that with your traditional support for people struggling for freedom the forces of justice will win and peace will reign in our region.

BOTSWANA INDIA USA ECUADOR SOUTH AFRICA NAMIBIA ZIMBABWE ZAMBIA ANGOLA
CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Apr 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

BOTSWANA

Indo-Botswana Joint Communique

Following is the text of the joint communique issued in New Delhi on April 11, 1976 at the end of the visit of Sir Seretse Khama, President of the Republic of Botswana to India:

New Delhi, April 11, 1976: His Excellency Sir Seretse Khama, K.B.E., M.P., President of the Republic of Botswana and Lady Khama paid a State Visit to India from and to 11th April, 1976, at the invitation of the President of India, Shri Fakhruddin Ali

Ahmad and Begum Abida Ahmed. The President of the Republic of Botswana and Lady Khama were received with great warmth and cordiality by the Government and people of India, reflecting the very friendly relations existing between the two countries. President Khama, Lady Khama and their delegation paid homage to the memory of Mahatma Gandhi at Rajghat.

During his stay in Delhi, the President of the Republic of Botswana had talks with the President, Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed and the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi. He also received Vice-President, Shri B.D. Jatti; the Minister of External Affairs, Shri Y. B. Chavan; the Minister of Irrigation and Agriculture, Shri Jagjivan Ram; and the Minister of Railways, Shri Kamlapati Tripathi.

During their stay in India, the President of Botswana, Lady Khama and the delegation visited Bombay, Hissar, Agra, Bangalore and Madras where they saw places of industrial, agricultural and historical interest.

The talks were conducted in an atmosphere of friendship and understanding and covered major international issues and bilateral relations between India and Botswana.

During the talks, the President of Botswana was assisted by Hon'bles A. M. Mogwe, Minister of External Affairs; P. L. Steenkamp, Permanent Secretary to the President; M. C. Tibone, Secretary for External Affairs; L.J.M.J. Legwaila, Senior Private Secretary to the President (Political); B. S. Tlale, Senior Agricultural Officer; Johan Ter Haar, Director, Botswana Enterprise Development Unit.

The Prime Minister of India was assisted by Sarvashri Y. B. Chavan, Minister of

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External Affairs; Prof. D. P. Chattopadhyaya, Minister of Commerce; A. C. George, Minister of State in the Ministry of Industry and civil Supplies; A. P. Shinde, Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation; Bipin Pal Das, Deputy Minister

of External Affairs; J. S. Mehta, Foreign Secretary; B. K. Sanyal, Secretary (ED); K. R. Narayanan, Secretary (East), Shiam Sunder Nath, Joint Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs; K. Srinivasan, High Commissioner of India accredited to Botswana and other senior officials.

The two leaders expressed their faith in the United Nations Charter and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and reiterated their adherence to the policy of non-interference in the internal affairs of other States. They reaffirmed their faith in the policy of non-alignment as an effective instrument for promoting greater understanding among nations. They recognized the need for further strengthening the unity, solidarity and cohesiveness of the non-aligned nations and of injecting greater dynamism in their activities in order to thwart efforts to dilute and divide the movement. They were confident that the forthcoming Conference of Heads of State and Government of non-aligned countries to be held in Colombo this year would reinforce the progressive thrust of the movement.

The President of the Republic of Botswana and the Prime Minister of the Republic of India expressed their happiness at the independence of the African States of Mozambique, Angola, Cape Verde, Sao Tome and Principe from Portuguese colonial rule. They also welcomed the emergence as independent nations of Comoros, Surinam and Papua New Guinea.

The two leaders reviewed the problems and challenges posed by Botswana's geopolitical situation in Africa. The Prime Minister of India expressed appreciation for Botswana's commitment to the eradication of colonialism, racial discrimination and white minority rule in Southern Africa and its efforts to create a society in which people of all races can live in peace and harmony with one another. The Prime Minister also expressed appreciation for the role which the President of Botswana, together with the Presidents of Tanzania, Zambia and Mozambique, has played in promoting majority rule in Southern Africa.

The two leaders strongly condemned apartheid and racial discrimination being practised in Southern Africa. The Prime Minister of India reiterated India's complete support to the struggle to liquidate apartheid, liberate Namibia and to bring to an end racist minority rule in Zimbabwe and South Africa. The two leaders expressed their determination to help the liberation movements in Southern Africa by all possible means in their struggle against apartheid, racialism and white minority regimes. They reiterated their condemnation of the aggression committed by the Government of South Africa against the newly independent State of Angola and pledged their support to the heroic people of Angola for defending and consolidating their independence and territorial integrity.

Both sides expressed support for the courageous steps taken by the Mozambique government to apply sanctions against the illegal regime in Rhodesia and welcomed the collective efforts being made by the United Nations and the Commonwealth of Nations to come to the assistance of Mozambique to offset the revenues lost by it as a result of the closure of the border. The two leaders reaffirmed their full support to the liberation movement of Zimbabwe, and paid their homage to its martyrs and the freedom fighters who are still in the prisons and detention camps of the illegal minority regime or in exile. The two leaders further declared that the British Government remained constitutionally responsible for Zimbabwe.

Reviewing the situation in West Asia both sides reiterated their support to the Arab cause and emphasised the importance of arriving at a just and lasting solution of the problems. They stressed that there could be no peace in West Asia unless all the Arab territories occupied by force by Israel are vacated and the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people restored.

The two leaders reiterated their support to the declaration of the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace, free from foreign military bases and great power rivalry and tension. They called on the great powers and major

maritime users to fully cooperate with the littoral and hinterland states in achieving this objective. The two leaders expressed concern at the continued expansion of military facilities in Diego Garcia.

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While agreeing that effective steps would be taken to bring about general and complete disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, the two sides stressed the need for the development of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes which can make a great contribution to the well-being and economic development of all peoples.

The two sides urged early implementation of the recommendations made by the 7th Special Session of the U.N. General Assembly to promote the establishment of a just and equitable international economic order.

The Prime Minister of India outlined the recent developments and initiatives taken by India for the normalisation of relations amongst the countries of the sub-continent. The Prime Minister also reiterated India's resolve to create a climate of understanding and cooperation in the sub-continent. The President of Botswana appreciated the initiatives taken by the Government of India for the furtherance of the establishment of durable peace and economic cooperation among all the countries in the region. The President of Botswana expressed his admiration for the remarkable progress and development made by India under the leadership of Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi.

The two leaders reviewed the development of bilateral relations between the two countries. Both sides expressed their desire to enhance these relations in the commercial, economic, scientific and technical fields.

The President of Botswana expressed his deep appreciation for the warm and cordial welcome extended to him, Lady Khama and to the members of his delegation by the Government and the people of India.

BOTSWANA INDIA LATVIA USA SRI LANKA ANGOLA CAPE VERDE SAO TOME E PRINCIPE
COMOROS GUINEA TANZANIA ZAMBIA NAMIBIA SOUTH AFRICA ZIMBABWE MOZAMBIQUE
ISRAEL MALI PERU

Date : Apr 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

CHINA

Foreign Minister's Statement in Lok Sabha on Relations with China

The Minister of External Affairs, Shri Y.B. Chavan, made the following statement in Lok Sabha on April 15, 1976 on the recent developments in India's relations with the People's Republic of China:

The House is aware that our tradition and policy is to endeavour to develop amicable relations with all countries, notably with our neighbours. The House will recall that while replying to the debate on the budget estimates for the Ministry of External Affairs last week, I had mentioned that we were making an effort in this direction with the People's Republic of China. In pursuance of this policy, representatives of the two Governments in Delhi and Peking discussed the question of restoring the level of diplomatic representation in both countries to the Ambassadorial status.

It is proposed to appoint Shri K. R. Narayanan, at present Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs as our Ambassador to the People's Republic of China. He is an able and distinguished member of the Foreign Service. The Chinese Government have conveyed their agreement to this nomination. Shri Narayanan will be taking up his new assignment in about two months.

On the basis of the discussions which have taken place, it is our understanding that this initiative for raising the level of our

diplomatic representation in Peking will be followed by a similar move by the Government of the People's Republic of China.

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CHINA INDIA USA

Date : Apr 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

HUNGARY

Indo-Hungarian Trade Protocol

The following press release on Indo-Hungarian trade protocol was issued in New Delhi on April 19, 1976:

The second session of the Indo-Hungarian Joint Commission for economic, scientific and technical cooperation concluded in Budapest on April 17. The Indian delegation was led by Mr. T. A. Pai, Minister for Industry and Civil Supplies and the Hungarian delegation by Mr. T. Nameslski, Minister for Machine Building and Metallurgy. The Indian delegation included representatives from the Departments of Heavy Industry, Shipping, P and T Board, Science and Technology, Electronics, Chemicals, Economic Affairs and the Ministries of Commerce and External Affairs and Agriculture.

The Joint Commission reviewed the implementation of the decisions taken in the first session of the commission held in New Delhi in October, 1974 and expressed satisfaction of the progress made in this regard. The commission identified new areas of co-operation especially in the fields of aluminium, machine tools, garment-making machinery, telecommunication equipment, drugs, powder metallurgy and leather proces-

sing machinery.

The Joint Commission reviewed the trade exchanges and decided that steps needed to sustain a high level may especially include an increase in the export of non-traditional goods and diversification of the items. It was agreed that both sides will continue and intensify their efforts in the fields of production, cooperation and joint marketing in their respective countries. Possibilities in this regard were considered to be favourable in the production of different types of machines and machine tools, consumer goods, leather garments, textiles, electronics and telecommunication equipment. The two sides also exchanged views on the question of concluding a shipping agreement between the two countries. Further negotiations are expected to take place in Budapest within three months. A three-year working programme of cooperation in the field of science and technology was also concluded.

The next meeting of the Joint Commission will be held in New Delhi in 1977.

HUNGARY INDIA USA

Date : Apr 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Foreign Minister's Speech on United Nations and Third World

Inaugurating the Seminar on "The United Nations and the Third World" in New Delhi on April 20, 1976 the Minister of External Affairs, Shri Y. B. Chavan delivered the following speech:

I am glad to be with you today at the inaugural session of the Seminar on "The

United Nations and the Third World". The subject is topical and deserves analysis in depth by research scholars. I am happy to note that you have associated in your discussions practitioners of diplomacy as well. This should bring about a happy blend of theory with practice in your deliberation. There is often much misunderstanding and

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confusion about the subject in the public mind. It is, therefore, necessary to put it in the correct perspective.

We in India have always reposed great faith in the United Nations. Our late Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru said while addressing the UN General Assembly in 1960 and I quote:

"The United Nations has played a great role and it is a little difficult now to think of this troubled world without the UN. If it had defects, they lay in the world situation itself which inevitably it mirrored. If there had been no United Nations today, our first task would be to create something of that kind."

We have no doubt that the UN is the appropriate forum for the solution of the problems of facing non-aligned and developing countries. Its imperfections and failings are an indication of our own inadequacies. Non-aligned and developing countries have to work collectively and unitedly so that the UN becomes a more effective instrument for the establishment of world peace and a new international economic and social order based on equality and justice. It is a unique instrument which can, with foresight and vision, be adapted to meet the unprecedented challenge of the future.

UN is no longer an exclusive club but the voice of the humanity. The non-aligned and developing countries can be considered to be a distinct entity in that they have common aspirations and objectives. As a result, we often find that for purposes of analysis many times these countries are grouped together as the so-called "Third World". But we believe in "one world". As our Prime

Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi observed at the Algiers Summit in 1973 and I quote:

"Is this (phase) not a product of the unconscious desire of the small affluent sections of humanity to continue as oasis of prosperity in the midst of vast waste lands of want? Surely, our world is too small to be further fragmented. Mankind will survive together with hope and faith or give way to despair and destruction."

The United Nations today consists of 144 members of whom the vast majority are non-aligned and developing countries. This fundamental change in the character of the membership of the UN has of necessity to reflect itself in the priorities and activities of the organisation. The UN system today concerns itself not merely with "saving succeeding generations from the scourge of war", but equally with economic and social questions that vitally concern the interests of non-aligned and developing countries. The "Third World" has its problems and priorities, its hopes and aspirations. The problems have to be solved, the hopes and aspirations fulfilled and the objectives attained. The success of the UN organisation will have to be related to the extent to which it succeeds in creating a new world order which is not only free from war but also free from want.

The emergence on the world stage of the developing world representing an overwhelming majority of humanity is the most significant development of our times. We are all children of revolution which has brought about political liberation of the peoples of Asia, Africa, Latin America and the Caribbeans. We are all participants in the efforts of the newly-liberated peoples to overcome the economic, technological and intellectual consequence of colonisation, We want to bridge the ever-widening gulf that divides the developed and the developing nations. The developing world can no longer be a mute spectator while decisions vitally affecting its destiny are being made. All that they seek is that like peace, prosperity should also be indivisible.

I would now like to identify some of the

areas which are of direct interest to non-aligned and developing countries, briefly assess the contribution of the UN in these areas to date and point generally to the tasks that lie ahead.

On the political side, one important issue is the question of de-colonisation. While the liberation movements in the erstwhile colonies have naturally been in the vanguard of this process, the UN organisation can also claim considerable success in this area. Indeed, the increased membership of the UN and the change in its composition to which I have made a reference earlier, is due to the emergence from the colonial rule of a large number of countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America. However, pockets of colonialism still exist. Let us hope that instead of engaging in a futile last ditch struggle. the

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colonial rulers would see the writing on the wall. Whether they like it or not, the "new world" of today cannot tolerate remaining vestiges of colonialism or emergence of new-colonialism in any part of the world.

A second area in which non-aligned and developing countries have succeeded in persuading the UN to focus attention has been in relation to racialism and apartheid. The UN has taken a large number of concrete and useful measures, among them the adoption of the universal declaration of human rights, the international covenants on economic, social and cultural rights and civil and political rights and the UN Declaration on the elimination of all forms of racial discrimination. All these documents stress the dignity and equality of human beings. The UN has also specifically condemned the policies of apartheid and racial discrimination in Southern Africa and urged member-states to maintain diplomatic, economic and social boycott of the racist regimes. It is a matter of regret, however, that the racist regimes in Southern Africa still persist and refuse to face realities. But time is running out for them. The struggle for liberation is bound to be completed sooner than later. We hope that efforts by the UN in this direction will

be successful.

Non-aligned and developing countries have also attained a measure of success in getting the UN to pay greater attention to the maintenance of peace and questions of disarmament and international security. Detente, as exemplified by the Helsinki Agreement, is a welcome development though it still seems to be limited and rather tenuous. Peace has come to the Indo-Chinese people after many years of violent suffering. But the situation in the Middle East remains critical. There can be no enduring peace until Israel vacates all territories occupied by aggression and the national rights of the Palestinian people are restored. The UN's role in securing greater international recognition for the PLO has, in this context, been significant. In other areas of crisis also, UN has continued to play a significant and constructive role. A major step towards peace has been the UN Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace. However it is unfortunate that the expansion of the Diego Garcia Base continues against the declared wishes of the littoral States of the Indian Ocean.

It is a matter of some concern that efforts to convene the World Disarmament Conference have not yet been successful. Disarmament, including nuclear disarmament, will not only reduce nuclear disarmament, will not only reduce the risk of war but enable a significant diversion of funds presently wasted on arms race, to the urgent needs of economic and social development of the developing countries.

Perhaps the most significant achievement of non-aligned and developing countries at the UN over the years has been to focus attention on international economic cooperation and the variety of problems facing developing countries, including unfavourable trade patterns and extremely heavy debt burdens. The adoption of the UN Charter on economic rights and duties in 1974 and the resolutions adopted at the 6th and the 7th Special Sessions of the UN General Assembly are important mile-stones in our quest towards true inter-dependence and indications

of the growing awareness, even among developed countries, of the need to find urgent and constructive solutions to these problems.

The spirit of cooperation that was manifest during the 7th Special Session held last year is testimony to the success of the unity and the efforts of the developing countries and to the lead given in such matters by the non-aligned group. However, actual implementation has fallen short of expectations and we hope that continuing efforts in this direction in various international forums such as UNCTAD and the Paris Conference, will bear tangible fruit, particularly in relation to the problems facing the most seriously affected developing countries.

In this context, it should be mentioned that there is considerable scope for expanding technical and economic cooperation among the developing countries themselves. Technological skills are available in some developing countries and financial resources in others. We hope that the UN and international organisations will give increasing attention to the prospects and possibilities in this area. Transfer of technology is another area where UN action would be particularly useful. We also hope that the proposed reorganisation of the economic and social sectors of the UN will strengthen the process of development and international economic co-

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operation. I hope that the Seminar will pay particular attention to the different facets of development and international economic Cooperation and make concrete recommendations for action.

The UN has yet to go a long way before it can be said that it has met the aspirations of non-aligned and developing countries in any significant measure. In the ultimate analysis the UN's effectiveness is related to the collective national wills of its members. Non-aligned and developing countries have played a significant role in changing the political climate at the UN into one in which developed countries are beginning to take a

serious look at questions that they had in the past preferred to avoid, and are beginning to accept their responsibilities in this context. The organisation of two special Sessions of the General Assembly devoted exclusively to problems of development, convening of World Conferences on Food, Population, Environment, Industrial Development, Role of Women, Employment, etc. are welcome evidence of the new priorities in the UN system. We hope that this process will gather momentum in the years to come. Non-aligned and developing countries have to remain united in continuing to endeavour in that direction.

In this context, I cannot but refer to the misleading talk in some circles that the UN is being divided into two blocs. The poor countries do not constitute a bloc. Developing countries have stressed the cooperative approach and not the confrontationist approach - otherwise the resolution at the 7th Special Session could not have been adopted unanimously. They have expressed, and with moderation, their urges and their hopes with the legitimate expectation that countries more fortunately placed would recognise it as their duty and obligation to help their less fortunate brethren. We have to get away from this talk of confrontation and deadlock and move into new fields of cooperative endeavour and continue our efforts to achieve a new world order based on justice and equality. Let us not confront each other but let us together confront the problems facing us.

The policy of non-alignment has made a significant impact on world affairs. Policy of non-alignment was evolved as an assertion of our will to be independent and not be puppet of colonial powers. Non-alignment made the concept of peaceful coexistence increasingly acceptable. It made a vital contribution to peace and relaxation of tensions. Non-alignment has not lost any of its relevance even when cold war era is part of history. Non-aligned countries have taken significant and successful initiatives in orienting the international community to the urgent need of the establishment of a new international economic and social order.

The UN is at a turning point in its history. It is an instrument for shaping the destiny of mankind. Its mission expressed in the Charter is to secure peace and justice for all mankind. Its duty is to the peoples of all nations. Its objective is the moulding of one world based on peace and cooperation and not its division into three or more worlds separated by conflict and inequality. There is today a growing awareness of the interdependence between peoples and nations, each other conscious and responsive to the basic needs and legitimate aspirations of the other. But the problems posed by this reality of interdependence are only just beginning to be appreciated. What U Thant described as "prosperous provincialism" is dangerous for world order; and as the present UN Secretary-General has said, and I quote:

"We must now go forward from deliberation to action, from confrontation to cooperation and from eloquently expressed allegiance to principles to the far more difficult task of making these principles a reality."

I would like to conclude by wishing the participants in the Seminar very fruitful deliberations and to thank you once again for inviting me.

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INDIA USA ALGERIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC FINLAND ISRAEL FRANCE PERU

Date : Apr 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

IRAQ

Press Note on Indo-Iraqi Joint Commission Meet

The following Press Note on the second

session of Indo-Iraq Joint Commission was issued in New Delhi on April 6, 1976:

The Second Session of the Indo-Iraqi Joint Commission for Economic, Technical and Cultural Cooperation was held in New Delhi from March 29 to April 3, 1976. The Iraqi side was led by His Excellency Mr. Ghanim Abdul Jalil, Minister for Higher Education and Scientific Research and Iraqi Co-Chairman of the Indo-Iraqi Joint Commission, and the Indian side by Shri K. D. Malaviya, Minister of Petroleum and Indian Co-Chairman of the Indo-Iraqi Joint Commission.

During his stay in New Delhi, His Excellency Mr. Ghanim Abdul Jalil was received by Ms Excellency Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, President of India, Her Excellency Shrimati Indira Gandhi, Prime Minister of India, and Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Food, Agriculture and Irrigation, Finance, Industry, Education, Railways and others. His meetings with Indian dignitaries took place in an atmosphere of warm cordiality which has always characterized the relations between India and Iraq.

The agenda of the Joint Commission covered a wide range of subjects and the items were examined in great depth by six Committees which dealt with Petroleum, Trade, Transport and Services, Industrial Collaboration, Agriculture and Irrigation, and Cultural and Technical Cooperation. Both sides expressed satisfaction at the progress made in the implementation of the decisions taken by the First Session of the Joint Commission held in Baghdad in January 1975 and drew up a programme of cooperation for the future.

The Joint Commission examined the possibilities of cooperation in other sectors such as trade, agriculture, irrigation and animal husbandry, and agreed on the steps needed to promote such cooperation.

Iraq's needs for Indian experts in certain specialised fields and also training facilities for Iraqi personnel in India were also considered and the Indian side offered full co-

operation in every practicable way.

The Joint Commission marked an important step forward in the strengthening of the traditionally close ties between India and Iraq and both sides agreed that the decisions taken would be speedily implemented.

The Third Session of the Indo-Iraqi Joint Commission would take place in Baghdad towards the end of 1976.

The Iraqi Delegation expressed its deep gratitude for the hospitality and cooperation extended to it by the Government of India throughout the Delegation's stay in India.

IRAQ INDIA LATVIA USA

Date : Apr 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

MAURITIUS

India-Mauritius Agreement on Small Industries

The following press release on India-Mauritius agreement on small industries was issued in New Delhi on April 24, 1976:

An agreement for Indian assistance in the development of small-scale industries in Mauritius was signed at Port Louis on April 22, 1976. Shri A. P. Sharma, Minister of State for Industry and Civil Supplies, Government of India, signed on behalf of India and Mr. Jomadar, Mauritius Minister of Commerce and Industry signed for the Govern-

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ment of Mauritius. Shri Sharma has been in Mauritius leading an Indian small-scale industries delegation for exploring the possi-

bilities of cooperation between the two countries.

India will assist Mauritius in the establishment of agro-based industries, forest-based industries, light engineering industries and textile-based industries. The two Governments have also agreed to the establishment of consultancy services and the setting up of common facility-cum-training workshops through Indian expertise.

During his visit, Shri Sharma called on the Mauritius Minister of Finance, Sir Veerasamy Ringadoo, and was the chief guest at a lunch hosted by Mr. Ramnarain, Mauritius Minister for Cooperatives. Begum Mohsina Kidwai, U.P. Minister for Small Industries, who is a member of the Indian delegation, had a meeting with Mrs. Poonoosamy, Mauritius Minister for Women's Affairs, Consumer Protection and Price Control. They discussed in detail the question of training of women in handloom and handicraft industries.

The Indian delegation left Mauritius for Dar-es-Salaam on April 22, 1976. They were seen off at the airport by Mr. Jomadar, the Indian High Commissioner and Indian residents.

MAURITIUS USA INDIA

Date : Apr 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

NEPAL

Speech by Shrimati Indira Gandhi at Banquet in Honour of Nepalese Premier

Following is the free rendering of the Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi's speech at banquet given in honour of the Prime Minister of Nepal, Dr. Tulsi Giri, in

New Delhi on April 7, 1976:

Mr. Prime Minister, on behalf of the Government of India, people of India and myself, I welcome you and your colleagues. You are acquainted with India but this is your first visit after you became Prime Minister.

Geographically Nepal and India are neighbours. We have prospered under the protection of the Himalayas and derived life giving energy from its rivers. We have felt inspired from common Rishis and mythological stories. Today we are engaged in common efforts to remove poverty and want and to raise standards of living of the people. Complete success in the struggle against poverty can only be achieved if all countries consider human race as a family and jointly pool their resources.

India's struggle for freedom was not only for political freedom, not even for economic freedom but for the liberation of the national soul. Our dream was cooperation and brotherhood. Since India became free we are co-operating with all countries on the basis of friendship and on the basis of goodwill and equality especially with our neighbours. Because of this feeling we have cooperated in educational and technical fields with our Nepalese brothers and sisters. In spite of our rising demands we have taken part in the economic development of Nepal. This is a symbol of our sympathy with your aspirations.

No nation can remain unaffected by historical changes and international economic developments. Human causes also intervene. In the life of a nation, as in the life of an individual, ups and downs are natural. The interest of every nation is bound with that of its neighbours. It is the duty of statesmen to perceive the true interests and aspirations of their people and to remove obstacles in the path of friendship. Our friendship with other countries ought not to come in the way of the friendship between our two countries.

This is the confidence of India and Nepal that world peace is safe only in keeping aloof

from groups. All should collectively try to

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reduce economic gaps. We both oppose all kinds of racialism and have supported Africa's legitimate demands in world forums. It has been our effort to find solution of differences through peaceful and mutual discussion without bitterness. India's deep cherished desire is that military bases should not extend to more areas and the spirit of 'detente' should develop. This has raised so much hopes but appears facing some difficulty now.

You are amidst us for a short time. I am happy that you are, finding time to go to other cities. In the course of your journey you will see places of cultural importance, those big projects and industries where we are harnessing science in the service of human beings. My father had described them as India's new temples. You will have an idea of our great efforts through which we are modernising our country. During past years we faced many difficulties - external and internal, natural and man-made. But we got over them one by one and held under check all those elements which were engaged in weakening our national stability and unity. In all spheres you will see a new energy and dynamism. We have to maintain them and advance towards new achievements. These achievements will help not only India but our neighbours and other developing countries. India's economic power will always be utilised in promoting goodwill and peace.

I now request all of you to join me in wishing good health for the Mahadhiraj, Elder Maharani and Prime Minister, Dr. Tulsi Giri. May the friendship between the Government and people of India and Nepal strengthen further and prosper,,

NEPAL INDIA USA

Date : Apr 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

NEPAL

Reply by Dr. Tulsi Giri

Replying, Dr. Tulsi Giri delivered the following speech:

This is, indeed a very pleasant moment for me and members of my party to meet all of you on our visit to this great country at the kind invitation of the Prime Minister of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi. Since we arrived here early this afternoon in this beautiful and historic city, we have been received and greeted with warmth and cordiality. We are grateful for the great honour and the warm hospitality accorded to us and also for the friendly and thoughtful references to my country, to our King and myself by the Prime Minister. This I have taken as the expression of the traditional relations of friendship, goodwill and understanding existing between India and Nepal.

Geography has placed our countries together in the closest proximity. Nepal and India, though having distinct historical and political identity and differences in size, resources and the stage of economic development, do nevertheless, share many similar legacies of culture, civilization and religion. Between us, there are deep historical bonds of friendship and an earnest desire not only to preserve these ties but also to strengthen them in every possible way.

The tie that binds us most is the peace-loving tradition of both the countries. We have been firm in the belief that peace is indispensable for the progress and development of our countries, of the countries of our region and of all countries in the world. The principles of the United Nations Charter as well as those of Non-alignment and Peaceful Co-existence to which your late Father contributed so much have been the funda-

mental feature of our policy. They have guided our actions in the past, which have all along been aimed at the promotion of peace, justice and progress in the world. The shifting trends in power balance and the unstable economy of the present-day world warrant the urgent need for us and for all the peace-loving countries to work more actively and in a more concerted way for the establishment of a just and durable structure of peace for the coming generations.

Equally vital in the chain of our friendship has been a common dedication on our part to the task of nation-building. We in Nepal are engaged in development efforts with singleminded devotion under the leadership of His Majesty King Birendra. We have watched with interest and sympathy the developments that are taking place in India. The progress which you have achieved

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specially in the scientific and technological fields in recent years, has been truly impressive. The way in which you, Madame Prime Minister, have been fighting the enormous problems and challenges in your country and your tenacious pursuit of peace and development have imparted a new sense of cohesion and unity to the Indian people.

Peace and development are the common policy objectives of both our countries. Peace and development cannot be separated. India has extended cooperation by actively participating in the development efforts of Nepal. We appreciate this not only as a gesture of friendship but also as India's genuine understanding of a neighbour's need for peace and development. Mutual trust and respect for each other's aspirations and values will undoubtedly carry us a long way in our common objective of peace and development. I need hardly tell you that our proposal of a zone of Peace for Nepal is based on the twin pillars of peace and development - an objective which is both fundamental and the need of the hour.

In case of such countries as ours with contiguous borders, it is but inevitable that

differences would arise from time to time.,
But, as I have said on some other occasions,
these differences need not persist. In this
connection, Madame Prime Minister, please
allow me to assure you - if assurances are
indeed needed between such close neighbours
as Nepal and India - that we shall, not
slacken in our endeavour not only to add
sobriety and maturity to our dealings but also
to provide a durable base and worthwhile con-
tents to our friendship. It will be our effort
to reduce any imbalance in trade, commerce
and development by means of wider coope-
ration. And we shall constantly work to
strengthen the friendship between us by gene-
rating deeper trust and understanding. In
this way, it is our belief, we shall succeed in
preserving the intimacy and warmth of our
traditional relations and at the same time
build up and expand relations in the modern
context.

Madame Prime Minister, I fully share
your view that there should be frequent ex-
change of views between countries especially
those who are close neighbours. The talks
which we have held today have been most
useful. I do hope that subsequent talks which
will be held in the course of this visit will be
equally fruitful.

Ladies and Gentlemen, may I now pro-
pose a toast to the health and happiness of
His Excellency the President of India, to the
health and happiness of Her Excellency the
Prime Minister of India, to the progress and
prosperity of the people of India and to the
friendship between India and Nepal.

NEPAL INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Apr 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

PAKISTAN

In response to press queries, the official spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs made the following statement in New Delhi on April 19, 1976:

In a letter to the Prime Minister of Pakistan, the Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi has said that India would be prepared to discuss pending matters such as air-links between the two countries, overflights and the resumption of rail and road communications.

The Prime Minister has said that India is prepared to go further and discuss measures for the restoration of diplomatic relations.

The Prime Minister's letter, dated April 11, 1976, was in reply to Prime Minister Bhutto's letter of March 27 which was received in New Delhi in early April. In his letter Prime Minister Bhutto had said that Pakistan would be prepared to withdraw its case regarding suspension of overflights from

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the ICAO. India had suggested last year the withdrawal of both countries' cases from the ICAO in the spirit of Simla Agreement for the furtherance of the process of normalisation.

It is important to make purposeful efforts to improve the climate of Indo-Pakistan relations by firmly curbing propaganda which creates mistrust of each other and desisting from steps hostile to the interests of the other countries. Recent statements from Pakistan have caused concern in India and are hardly conducive to the fulfilment of the Simla Agreement.

PAKISTAN INDIA USA MALI PERU

Date : Apr 01, 1976

1995

PAKISTAN

Official Statement on Indo-Pak Talks

The official spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs made the following statement in New Delhi on April 27, 1976:

Prime Minister Bhutto of Pakistan has accepted the offer of the Prime Minister for official level talks to be held between the two countries to conclude agreements on resumption of air services including overflights, rail and road links and restoration of diplomatic relations. The Pakistan Prime Minister's acceptance was conveyed in his letter of April 18.

The Government of India has welcomed this development and the Foreign Secretaries of the two countries are in touch with each other to finalise the details of the meeting which will take place in Islamabad.

PAKISTAN INDIA

Date : Apr 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

ROMANIA

Indo-Romanian Trade Protocol and Executive Programme

The following Press Note on Indo-Romanian trade Protocol was issued in New Delhi on April 28, 1976:

The Second Meeting of the Indo-Romanian Joint Commission for Economic, Technical and Scientific Cooperation concluded its ministerial level deliberations here today on an optimistic note. The two Co-Chairmen of the Joint Commission, Shri K. D. Malaviya, Minister of Petroleum, and H.E. Mr. Neculai Agachi, Minister of Metallurgy, have been holding discussions since April 26, 1976.

The Joint Commission reviewed the implementation of the task set up in the Protocol in the first meeting of the Joint Commission held in Bucharest in September 1974 and expressed satisfaction with the progress made in this regard. It was also noted that the discussions, in separate Working Groups, were held in an atmosphere of trust and mutual understanding. The Joint Commission agreed that Indo-Romanian cooperation was steadily strengthening and there were good prospects for further development of economic and industrial cooperation.

The Indo-Romanian Joint Commission was set up through exchange of Letters signed in New Delhi on January 13, 1974. The Joint Commission is expected to periodically review, identify and recommend areas of cooperation so that bilateral ties take into account the changing needs and capabilities of the two national economies.

PROTOCOL SIGNED

The Protocol signed here today by the two Co-Chairmen noted with satisfaction that there was increasing trend in recent years

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for the growth of bilateral trade. The volume achieved in 1975 amounted to Rs. 1 billion surpassing the targets visualised at the first meeting of the Joint Commission. It was noted that there was also a welcome trend of diversification on both sides.

Both sides have agreed to take appropriate measures to double the volume of mutual trade by 1980 as compared with 1975.

In the field of petroleum and chemicals, both sides have noted with satisfaction the

results of collaboration between the two countries in the setting up of Haldia refinery and also for technical services in the kerosene treating units of Bongaigaon Refinery Private Limited.

The Indian side has agreed to examine the Romanian offer for collaboration in the manufacture of some petrochemicals and some drug items.

In the field of industrial cooperation it was agreed to examine the possibility of collaboration with Romania with regard to projects for finished leather, for beneficiation of China-clay and Dolomite and with regard to steel and non-ferrous metal industries.

Both sides have recognised possibilities of supplementing and complimenting each other's efforts for export to third countries and broadly took note of each other's needs and capabilities in this regard.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COOPERATION

A 3-year Executive Programme (1976-78) for cooperation in the field of science and technology was also signed here today by Dr. Y. Nayudamma, Director General, Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, and H.E. Mr. Petre Tanasie, Romanian Ambassador in India on behalf of National Council for Science and Technology in Romania.

The areas identified include metallurgy, textile, glass and ceramics, leather, building and agricultural sciences. In addition to these, new areas of cooperation include petroleum refining and petrochemicals and medicinal sciences.

OMAN ROMANIA USA INDIA RUSSIA CHINA

Date : Apr 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

Indo-Tanzanian Agreement on Small Scale Industries

The following press release oil Indo-Tanzanian agreement on small scale industries was issued in New Delhi on April 29, 1976:

A formal agreement between India. and Tanzania was signed in Dar-es-Salaam under which the two countries would cooperate in the establishment of 52 small-scale industrial projects in the rural areas of Tanzania. On behalf of India, the agreement was signed by Shri A. P. Sharma, Minister of State in the Ministry of Industry and Civil Supplies and by Mr. C. D. Msuya, Minister for Industries for Government of Tanzania.

Shri A. P. Sharma, called on Dr. Julius K. Nyerere, President of the United Republic of Tanzania. The Minister was accompanied by Begum Mohsina Kidwai, U.P. Minister of Small-Scale Industries. President Nyerere expressed satisfaction over the successful negotiation of an agreement under which India would assist Tanzania to set up a network of small-scale industries.

The small-scale industrial projects will be expeditiously completed. The assistance includes supply, installation and commissioning of plant and machinery, training of Tanzanian personnel in India and the deputation of Indian experts and technicians. It was agreed that small projects to meet the ancillary needs of existing industrial projects in

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Tanzania would also be established at the earliest.

According to the agreement, measures would also be taken to establish common facilities-cum-training-cum-service centres to provide necessary technical support for industrial programmes of the Government of Tanzania.

Shri A. P. Sharma informed the Tanzanian Minister of Industries that the Government of India had decided to gift six powerlooms and machinery for the manufacture of spectacle frames, exercise books and pesticide formulations. India will help in the establishment of model small scale industries in these fields.

During his stay in Tanzania, Shri Sharma visited the Agriculture faculty at the University of Dar-es-Salaam and also the Institute of Development Management at Mzumbe.

At a reception given by the Indian experts working in Tanzania in the Minister's honour at Dar-es-Salaam, Shri Sharma exhorted them to work hard and thereby play an effective role as goodwill ambassadors of India. Shri Sharma also hosted a reception at India House in Dar-es-Salaam which was attended by Cabinet Ministers and senior officials of the Government of Tanzania, heads of diplomatic missions and a large number of eminent local persons in the social, political, educational and cultural fields.

TANZANIA USA INDIA RUSSIA

Date : Apr 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

TURKEY

Indo-Turkish Agreement on Cooperation in Science and Technology

Following is the text of Indo-Turkish agreement on cooperation in science and technology signed in Ankara by Shri Y. B. Chavan (Foreign Minister of India) and Mr. I. S. Caglayangil (Foreign Minister of Turkey) on April 2, 1976:

The Government of the Republic of
India and the Government of the Republic of
Turkey.

CONSIDERING that development of
scientific and technical relations shall be
of mutual benefit to both the countries.

DESIROUS of strengthening cooperation
between the two countries, particularly

in the fields of science and technology.

CONSIDERING further that such co-
operation will promote the development
of existing friendly relations between
the two countries.

HAVE AGREED as follows:

ARTICLE I

The Contracting Parties agree to pro-
mote development of cooperation in the fields
of science and technology between the two
countries on the basis of equality and mutual
advantages and to define by mutual consent
various areas in which such cooperation is
desirable, taking into account the experience
which scientists and specialists of the two
Countries have gained and the possibilities
available.

ARTICLE II

Cooperation between the Contracting
Parties in the fields of science and technology
may be effected by means of:

(I) exchange of scientists, research wor-
kers, specialists and scholars;

(II) exchange of scientific and technical
information and documentation;

(III) organisation of bilateral scientific and
technical seminars and courses on
problems of interest to both countries;
(iv) joint identification of scientific and
technical problems, formulation and
implementation of joint research pro-
grammes which might lead to appli-

cation of the results of such research
in industry, agriculture and other

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fields, and exchange of experience and
knowhow resulting therefrom.

ARTICLE III

1. The Contracting Parties shall promote cooperation between their respective organisations, enterprises and institutions concerned with science and technology in both countries with a view to concluding, if necessary, appropriate protocols or contracts within the framework of this Agreement.

2. Protocols or contracts, which shall be the basis for developing cooperation between organisations, enterprises and institutions concerned with science and technology in both countries, shall be signed in accordance with the laws and regulations in force in the respective countries.

ARTICLE IV

The contracting Parties shall take steps to promote cooperation among scientific libraries, centres of scientific and technical information and scientific institutions for exchange of books, periodicals and bibliographies.

ARTICLE V

1. The objectives of this Agreement shall be realised through the implementation of programmes signed periodically. Such programmes shall specify and range, subjects and forms of cooperation including financial terms and conditions.
2. Each Contracting Party will determine and communicate to the other the Government agency, which will be responsible for the implementation of this Agreement.

ARTICLE VI

Each Contracting Party agrees not to divulge information obtained by it or its

personnel under the Agreement to any third party without the specific consent of the other Party.

ARTICLE: VII

Expenses for travel of the scientists and specialists between the two countries shall be borne by the sending country, while the expenses for accommodation and other expenses, such as pocket money, internal travel, medical facilities, etc. shall be borne by the host country, according to the terms mutually agreed upon between the Contracting Parties.

ARTICLE VIII

Each Contracting Party, shall, subject to its laws and regulations, secure to the citizens of the other Party, who stay on its territory, all assistance and facilities in the fulfilment of the tasks they are entrusted with, according to the provisions of this Agreement.

ARTICLE IX

This Agreement shall be subject to approval by the Contracting Parties in accordance with their respective Constitutional procedures and shall come into force upon exchange of notes concerning such approval.

This Agreement shall remain in force for a period of five years and shall be automatically extended for further period of five years, unless one of the Contracting Parties gives notice to the other Party of its intention to terminate this Agreement twelve months before the expiry of the said period.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the respective representatives of the two Governments have signed this Agreement.

Done at Ankara in six originals, two each in Hindi, Turkish and English languages on the second day of April in the years One Thousand Nine Hundred and Seventy Six, all texts being equally authentic, but in case of doubt the English text shall prevail.

Volume No

1995

TURKEY

Indo-Turkish Joint Communiqué

Following is the text of the joint communiqué issued at the conclusion of the visit of the Minister of External Affairs, Shri Y. B. Chavan, to Turkey from March 31 to April 4, 1976:

At the invitation of the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Turkey, His Excellency Ihsan Sabri Caglayangil, the Minister of External Affairs of India, His Excellency Yeshwantrao Balwantrao Chavan paid an official visit to Turkey from 31st March to 4th April 1976.

His Excellency Yeshwantrao Balwantrao Chavan was received by the President of the

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Republic of Turkey, His Excellency Fahri S. Koruturk and by the Prime Minister, His Excellency Suleyman Demirel.

In a period of growing awareness of conditions of interdependence and important developments in the international scene, the visit provided a valuable occasion to the two ministers to review in detail international issues of mutual interest and to reassess ways of further strengthening their bilateral relation. The talks were held in an atmosphere of cordiality and mutual understanding.

Mr. Caglayangil informed his Indian colleague of his view on the present situation in Europe. He also gave an account of the positive developments which are taking

place in the region in which Turkey is situated. As a result of consistent efforts made towards implementing the contents of the final act of Helsinki.

The two Foreign Ministers regarded the Helsinki Conference as an important step in the consolidation of peace and promotion of cooperation in Europe. They shared the opinion that in view of the present complex pattern of international relations, the problem of maintaining world peace has acquired new dimensions. In this context, they expressed the belief it was necessary for the international community to persevere in search for relaxation of tensions in all parts of the world for promoting greater co-operation among the nations.

The two Foreign Ministers discussed the general situation in Asia. The Indian Foreign Minister informed his Turkish colleague about his Government's policies and explained the efforts made by India to establish friendly and harmonious relations with all the neighbouring countries of India based on equality and mutual respect for each other's sovereignty and territorial integrity and non-interference in each other's internal affairs.

The Foreign Minister of Turkey noted with great interest the expose given by the Foreign Minister of India. He expressed his belief that promotion of good neighbourly relations in the sub-continent in terms of the Simla Agreement would constitute an important achievement for the stability and development of the region as well as a very significant contribution to world peace.

The Foreign Minister of Turkey reviewed in detail the recent developments regarding Cyprus. While reaffirming the necessity of safeguarding the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and non-alignment of Cyprus, the two Foreign Ministers expressed the hope that the resumption of inter-communal talks would lead to a mutually acceptable solution in conformity with the above principle as well as with the legitimate rights of the Turkish Cypriot and Greek Cypriot communities.

The two Foreign Ministers expressed their continuing concern with regard to the situation in the Middle East. They reaffirmed their belief that the evacuation of Israeli forces from occupied Arab territories in accordance with the relevant U.N. resolutions as the restoration of the legitimate rights of the Arab people of Palestine, including the right to establish their own national state, constitute the indispensable conditions for the establishment of a just and lasting peace in the region.

Taking into consideration the present new economic trends in the world, the two ministers agreed on the importance of the implementation of the decisions of the recent international meetings and in particular of the 6th and 7th special sessions of the U.N. General Assembly on the establishment of a new international economic order. Both countries shared similar views and interests on many problems relating to the establishment of conditions for a just world economic order. Mr. Caglayangil stressed that Turkey shares many common problems with the other developing countries and has similar positions on common issues. In this connection, he expressed the close interest of Turkey in the forthcoming meeting of UNCTAD.

The two ministers also examined in detail and noted with satisfaction the developing trend of bilateral trade and economic relations between the two countries. They agreed that to utilise the scope which exists for the growth of such relations between the two countries, an exchange of delegations of representatives of trade and industry should take place at an early date to identify areas of commercial and industrial cooperation. In this context they agreed that the Joint Committee established under the Indo-Turkish Trade Agreement of September 1973 should meet shortly, to promote bilateral trade in mutually satisfactory conditions between the two countries.

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The two ministers signed an agreement on cooperation in the fields of science and

technology between the two Governments during the current visit of the Indian Foreign Minister. They expressed the hope that this agreement would pave the way to purposeful scientific and technological exchanges between the two countries.

Cultural relations between the two countries were also discussed. The two ministers expressed their conviction that the rich cultural bonds which history has created between Turkey and India provide a firm basis for the development of cultural ties between them. They expressed their satisfaction that the new cultural exchange programme recently signed between their Governments covers large field of cooperation. They agreed that the full implementation of this programme will contribute to the further strengthening of mutual understanding and friendship between their countries.

The ministers agreed on the importance of the development of contacts between the leaders of both countries in view of the existence of important political and economic questions of mutual interest.

The Foreign Minister of India extended an invitation from the President of India to the President of the Republic of Turkey which was cordially accepted.

The Indian Foreign Minister thanked His Excellency Ihsan Sabri Caglayangil for the warm welcome and generous hospitality accorded to him and to his delegation during their stay in Turkey. His Excellency Yeshwantrao Balwantrao Chavan extended an invitation to the Foreign Minister of Turkey to visit India at an early date. This invitation was accepted with pleasure.

TURKEY USA INDIA FINLAND CYPRUS ISRAEL

Date : Apr 01, 1976

Volume No

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Indo-Soviet Trade Agreement

The following press release on Indo-Soviet trade agreement was issued in New Delhi on April 15, 1976:

The new five-year Trade Agreement between India and the USSR for 1976-80 was signed here today by Mr. N. S. Patolichev, Soviet Minister for Foreign Trade and Prof. D. P. Chattopadhyaya, Union Minister of Commerce on behalf of their respective countries. This was the culmination of several rounds of negotiations initiated in October 1974. Talks were held in an atmosphere of friendship and complete mutual understanding.

The new Trade Agreement, which was provisionally finalised and initialled at the official level in February, 1976, is operative from January 1, 1976. The existing pattern of rupee trading through single clearing account system between the two countries would continue for another period of five years.

JOINT DECLARATION

The Joint Declaration issued when the two leaders of the two countries, Shrimati Indira Gandhi and Mr. L. I. Brezhnev met in November 1973 envisaged, among other things, that the trade turn-over between the two countries should be increased by 50 to 100 per cent by 1980. The turn-over in 1973 was Rs. 4120 million. Substantial increases were made in certain commodities and in 1974 the turn-over increased to Rs. 6450 million.

The Long Term Plan for 1976-80 was discussed in the foregoing perspective and the changing needs and capabilities of the two economies. While the turn-over figures mentioned earlier were at current prices, the

1976-80 plan provisions have been worked out at the average 1975 prices. For the provisions already agreed the turnover at constant price levels in 1980 is expected to be of the order of Rs. 9350 million and during the 1976-80 period of the order of Rs. 43460 million. The plan provisions do not incorporate the trade impact of several projects which are currently under discussion in the field of industrial cooperation and for the supplies to third countries. It is the understanding of the two sides that these will be taken into account when annual plans are drawn up. It is expected that with the finalisation of these, the turn-over in 1980 would exceed Rs. 10,000 million at constant prices with India's exports touching Rs. 6,000 million.

Under the new agreement USSR has agreed to supply to India oil drilling, construction and earth-moving equipment, kerosene and diesel oil, fertilizers, various non-ferrous metals and components and equipments required by projects set up with Soviet assistance. It will also continue to supply fertilizers, asbestos, sulphur and newsprint. These are important inputs for the Indian economy. USSR will receive from India, in exchange, apart from traditional goods, like tea, coffee, spices, oil-cakes, leather, shoes, jute goods, a number of non-traditional and promotional goods in the engineering and chemical fields, like storage batteries, garage equipment, aluminium power cables, electronic instruments and components, including software, pharmaceuticals and medicines, dye-stuffs and intermediates. They have also agreed to import new items like pig iron, freight containers, dry core telecommunication cables, aluminium foils and wood veneers.

WHEAT LOAN REPAYMENT

An important and connected development is the signing of the Agreement on the repayment of Wheat Loan that the USSR had extended to India in 1973. In keeping with the friendly relations that exist between the two countries, the USSR have agreed to the proposal made by Government of India

that the repayment of loan can be effected through export from India of goods and commodities the mechanics of which have been finalised and built into the Trade Plan for 1976-80.

Over the years there has not only been change in the quantum of trade but also in its quality. During the last few years, India has developed indigenous capability in a large number of industrial fields as also for many types of raw materials, the need to import which, is now diminishing. Products like rolled steel products, lifting and transport equipment, textile machinery, tractors, printing machinery and a large range of bearings and many kinds of fertilizers and chemicals, India is not only manufacturing for her needs but also is in a position to export. Efforts, therefore, are being made to lend new dimension to the trade through further diversification and through projects for production cooperation for long term supplies and third country ventures. A beginning has already been made with contract recently signed in Moscow for supply of electrolyser buckets for a plant in Yugoslavia and other projects relating to alumina etc. are under consideration.

NEW SYSTEM

The foundations of the Indo-USSR trade were laid with the signing of the Trade Agreement in December 1953 for a period of five years. A new system of trading based on bilateral clearing arrangement through rupee account in India was initiated. The beginnings were small and in the first five years the total turn-over amounted to Rs. 1,300 million. The range of commodities traded was narrow and consisted of imports of a few non-ferrous metals, dyeing and tanning substances, newsprint, raw cotton and some chemicals. The exports consisted of traditional commodities like pepper, shellac and raw hides and skins.

During the second Trade Plan period 1959-63, the total turn-over increased to Rs. 3,800 million and range of commodities traded was diversified.

The third Agreement which was signed in June 1963, covered the period 1964-68, which was subsequently extended to 1970, saw a substantial increase in the turn-over and diversification of our exports started. Taking for comparison the period 1966-70 the turn-over amounted to Rs. 14,350 million. This period saw a significant diversification of India's exports through the addition of a range of textile products including cotton and woollen knitwear, bed linen, coir goods, various drugs and chemicals, automobile tyres and miscellaneous engineering goods. The range was, however, still limited. The

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Fourth Plan (1971-75) maintained the growth trend of trade and the total turn-over during the period amounted to Rs. 24,750 million. The exports from India saw a substantial diversification when items like storage batteries, garage equipment and hand tools, miscellaneous consumer goods, paints and varnishes entered Indian export list. ,

INDIA USA RUSSIA YUGOSLAVIA FRANCE

Date : Apr 01, 1976

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1995

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Indo-Soviet Memorandum on Soviet Cultural Centre in Trivandrum

The following press release an Indo-Soviet memorandum on Soviet Cultural Centre in Trivandrum was issued in New Delhi on April 15, 1976:

The Indian Council for Cultural Relations and the Embassy of the U.S.S.R. signed here today a memorandum of understanding for the management of the House, of Soviet Culture in Trivandrum by the Council for

another period of three years.

The House of Soviet Culture will continue to carry out such activities as will help to promote friendship and understanding between the peoples of India and the Soviet Union.

The House of Soviet Culture in Trivandrum started functioning in July 1973 under the management of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations. This was in accordance with the decision taken by the Government of India that foreign cultural centres in places where the foreign country concerned did not have diplomatic or consular representation would be managed through the Indian Council for Cultural Relations-,,

INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Apr 01, 1976

Volume No

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UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Press Note on Indo-UAE Joint Commission Meet

The following Press Note on the second session of the Indo-UAE Joint Commission was issued in New Delhi on April 24, 1976:

The Second session of the Indo-UAE Joint Commission took place at the official level on April 22 and 23, 1976. The Indian delegation was led by Shri V. K. Ahuja, Additional Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, and the UAE delegation by His Excellency Ambassador Rashid Abdullah of the UAE Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The talks took place in a spirit of warm friendship, cooperation and understanding reflecting the traditionally close relations bet-

ween India and the UAE. The two sides noted with satisfaction the progressive strengthening of their ties and agreed that there was considerable scope for further intensification of cooperation in the economic, technical and cultural fields to the mutual advantage of both countries.

The two sides reviewed the progress made in the implementation of the proposals discussed at the first session of the Indo-UAE Joint Commission in Abu Dhabi in November 1975. Particular attention was paid to the setting up of a Fertilizer Plant in Abu Dhabi as a joint venture. It was agreed that a delegation from India would go to the UAE shortly for further discussions on financial and other aspects of this project.

Among other subjects which figured in the discussions were the development of the steel industry in Abu Dhabi, the assistance of

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the Abu Dhabi for Economic Development in infrastructure projects in India and Indo-UAE joint ventures in third countries. The talks Were positive and constructive.

The two sides welcomed the excellent relationship which had developed between the Indian Oil Corporation and the Abu Dhabi National Oil Company. It was agreed that the possibilities of expanding cooperation in the field of oil should be explored.

The Leader and the Deputy Leader of the U.A.E. delegation were receivd by the Minister of Petroleum, Shri K. D. Malaviya. and Deputy Minister of External Affairs, Shri Bipinpal Das and had very useful discussions with them.

The UAE delegation will visit places of cultural and industrial interest in Bombay before returning to Abu Dhabi,

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES INDIA USA

Date : Apr 01, 1976

Volume No

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YUGOSLAVIA

Shri Chavan's Speech at Dinner in Honour of Yugoslav Foreign Minister

Following is the text of the speech of the Minister of External Affairs, Shri Y. B. Chavan, at dinner in honour of His Excellency Mr. Milos Minic, Vice-president of the Federal Executive Council and Federal Secretary for Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Yugoslavia and Madame Milka Minic, in New Delhi on April 15, 1976:

It gives me great pleasure to once more extend a most cordial welcome to you, Excellency, Madame Minic and the other distinguished members of your delegation in our midst tonight.

It is a matter of great satisfaction and encouragement to us that Indo-Yugoslav relations have been characterised by close friendship and understanding between the top leaders of our two countries. Regular and frequent exchange of visits between the leaders of our two countries has been a positive and noteworthy feature of Indo-Yugoslav relations. Such visits have played a significant role in the growth of the traditional friendly relations between India and Yugoslavia. The recent visit by President Ahmed to Yugoslavia and the Prime Minister Bijedic to India, in autumn last year, were important steps forward in promoting closer mutual understanding and in the development of ties of friendship and cooperation between India and Yugoslavia. I have vivid and pleasant recollections of my visit to your country last year and of the wide-ranging and fruitful discussions we had at that time. We are very happy that you have given us the opportunity to welcome you in India and reciprocate, in some measure, the warm hospitality that we received in such abundant

measure in your country.

India and Yugoslavia have a long tradition of consulting each other on major international issues particularly on the eve of important non-aligned meetings. Your current visit to India, coming as it does on the eve of the non-aligned summit meeting at Colombo, is, therefore, of particular significance. We have had a very useful and interesting exchange of views today on a wide range of bilateral and international issues. It has enabled us to have a much clearer perception of the tasks before India and Yugoslavia both in the bilateral field and in the international arena. I am confident that your visit will serve to further cement the close Indo-Yugoslav ties of cooperation in the fulfilment of these tasks.

It is a matter of great satisfaction to us that there has been a steady expansion and consolidation over the years of the mutually beneficial relations between India and Yugoslavia in all fields - political, economic, scientific, technological and cultural. The recently concluded 10th Session of the Indo-Yugoslav

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joint Committee on Economic Cooperation provided an opportunity for reviewing the state of our bilateral economic relations and identified new areas and forms of cooperation in the field of trade, industry, cooperation in third countries, shipping and so on.

India and Yugoslavia have a close similarity or identity of views, springing from their shared belief in the principles of non-alignment, on various world issues both political and economic. This forms a concrete foundation for our long-standing friendship. It is in pursuit of these principles that our two countries have consistently worked for the development of a new world order based on equality among nations, non-interference and cooperation for the benefit of the vast under-privileged mass of humanity. These aims and principles have stood the test of time and have made a significant contribution to the lessening of world tensions and promotion cooperation among peoples.

The attention of the world public is today focussed on the forthcoming summit conference of the non-aligned countries to be held in Colombo in August this year. It will be the first non-aligned summit to be held in Asia and, therefore, India as an Asian country, attaches special importance to the Summit. The three years since the Algiers Summit have witnessed growing recognition in the continents of Asia, Africa and Latin America, of the value and validity of non-alignment for their national independence and sovereignty. We welcome the development which serves to emphasise the continued relevance and vitality of the principles and philosophy of non-alignment. On the other hand, this growing appeal of non-alignment seems to have prompted its detractors and forces of reaction to try to divide and weaken the non-aligned movement. Therefore, there is in urgent need for strengthening the unity, solidarity and cohesiveness of the non-aligned movement so that it may retain its effectiveness as an instrument for promoting peace, cooperation and understanding. It is in this context that one must guard against any dilution of the fundamental aims and principles of the non-aligned movement.

India has followed with keen interest the moves in Europe towards greater peace and security. We welcomed the successful conclusion of the Helsinki Conference which has opened up prospects for the consolidation of peace in Europe and for more fruitful cooperation among European nations. However, detente in Europe has made little difference to conflicts in other parts of the world. Asia has not yet been able to transcend the period of suspicion and hostility. Peace and stability of nations in this continent are still under torment. It is, therefore, our earnest desire that the process of detente should extend to all other regions of the world so that all countries may benefit from it.

In our region, it has been India's consistent and principled policy to work for creating a durable structure of peace and cooperation based on mutual trust and equality. In recent months, we have concluded a number of agreements with our neighbouring

countries in a sincere effort to settle outstanding problems and enlarge areas of co-operation in economic and other fields. It is our belief that such measures would create an atmosphere that will pave the way for mutual cooperation and stability which is so vital for the economic advancement of the nations of this region.

The internal situation in India has taken a decisive turn for the better as we have been successful in giving a resolute rebuff to the forces of reaction and disruption which were bent on formenting political and economic disorder within the country. The resulting sense of dedication and national discipline, confidence and enthusiasm among the people today is a major factor in our march forward to our goal of economic prosperity and social justice. We appreciate the sympathy and understanding shown by the leaders, the Government and the people of Yugoslavia, of Our efforts to build a better life for the common people of India under the leadership of the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi and through the 20-Point socio-economic programme.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, may I invite you to join me in raising your glasses to the health of His Excellency Mr. Josip Broz Tito, President of Yugoslavia, an outstanding statesman and a true friend of India, to the health of His Excellency Mr. Milos Minic, Foreign Minister of Yugoslavia and Madame Minic, to the continued progress and well-being of the Yugoslav people and to the further growth of traditional friendship and cooperation between India and Yugoslavia?

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YUGOSLAVIA INDIA USA SRI LANKA ALGERIA FINLAND

Date : Apr 01, 1976

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Yugoslav Foreign Minister's Reply

Replying, the Yugoslav Foreign Minister, Mr. Milos Minic, delivered the following speech:

I thank you most cordially for the warm words of welcome and expressions of respect addressed here to my country, to me, to my wife and to my associates. We take these words of yours as another testimony of friendly feelings towards; Yugoslavia and as a desire further to promote the traditionally good relations and fruitful cooperation between our two non-aligned countries and to endow them with a richer substance in all spheres.

I wish in particular to express my satisfaction at having the opportunity to visit again your beautiful and hospitable country and to exchange views with you, Mr. Minister, and with your associates, on all questions of common interest. Last year in Belgrade, then in Lima during the Ministerial Conference of Non-Aligned countries, as well as during the of the United Nations General Assembly at the Paris Conference on International Economic Cooperation, we had very useful and substantive talks and achieved an exceptionally fruitful cooperation. So frequent meetings illustrate the content and scope of our mutual relationship in the execution of tasks of vital interest to Our two countries and the world at large.

In our bilateral relation an on-going dialogue and cooperation have been established in all spheres of political economic, cultural and scientific life. Through our concerted efforts we have succeeded in reaching a high degree of mutual understanding and respect, which reflect a very high degree of concurrence or great closeness of interests and viewpoint. Tangible result have been attained in the promotion of trade in the field of science, information and culture. We have also registered first encouraging experiences

in joint ventures undertaken by our inter-price on the markets of third countries. I wish to assure you that the Yugoslav Government, as well as all other factors will exert intensified efforts towards expanding in all spheres, proceeding from the jointing adopted principals and the policy of non-alignment.

Mr. Minister the time we are meeting in the course of intensive to consultations among all non-aligned countries, at a time when all of us are exerting efforts in order that the fifth Conference of head of state of government of non aligned countries--which is scheduled to take place in Colombo --may produce most concrete answer to question which today engage the interest of large majority of people and countries in the world. The policy of non-alignment is capable of giving such answer to these questions precisely because it is neither a policy of narrow interest nor a regional policy or policy of limited number of countries attempting to preserve or to gain a privileged status vis-a-vis other countries or regions of the world. Its universality and vitality is clearly conformed by the fact that a steadily growing number of countries on all continents, the enormous majority of the international community, have opted for it. In order that it may consistently assert itself as an orientation and champion of vital interest of the largest number of countries of the world, the policy of non-alignment must, in our opinion, take into account realities and need of the contemporary world and evolve constructive approaches and solutions. free from verbalism, empty radicalism and confrontation at all cost. The capacity of the policy of non-alignment for an effective action and influence on the over-all world trends has greatly multiplied, and so have proportionally also the responsibilities of non-aligned countries.

It is of crucial importance for the realisation of such a constructive role of the policy of non-aligned countries should further consolidate the unity and solidarity which we have preserved in the face of serious pressures and assaults by the forces which are against the policy of non-alig-

nment, and of various forms of interference in the internal affairs. Concrete result in the promotion of co-operation among non-aligned countries in all domains will greatly enhance our solidarity and unity and for this reason. It is very important that the fund for economic and social Development the centre for transnational Companies, the International center for public Enterprises etc. Should start of operating as soon as possible.

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This would undoubtedly enhance the action-oriented unity of non-aligned countries and thwart and attempts at destroying it.

Pressures against non-aligned countries are assuming various forms and with the approaching of the fifth summit conference they are becoming more intensive and ruthless. This among other is also manifested in the frequent unfounded attacks upon the United Nations. Yet, the role of the non-aligned countries in the United Nation is constantly increasing and represent the strongest foothold the world organisation.

Mr. Minister, in the past year peoples that fought a protracted struggle for their national liberation, have second victories of a far -reaching historic importance, not only to their own fate but also to that of all other countries and peoples.

the defeat of imperialism and colonialism in asia and africa and the emergence of new independent states on the world struggling for the policy of independence and national emancipation, and the option of these countries for the policy of the non-alignment represent a further invigoration not only of the non-aligned movement, but also of all those forces that are struggling for new and equitable international relations. However, the consolidation of these countries, has not been evolving without difficulties and pressures. In the regions of the south pacific, The Indian Ocean and southern Africa, the construction and demonstration of power is being resorted to as a threat to independence and security of the countries of regions. All this hampers all efforts of non-aligned countries to transform the Indian

Ocean in to a zone of peace. Yugoslavia resolutely supports the initiative taken to this end by India and other countries of this region, as well as other initiative and action aimed at consolidating peace, security and equitable cooperation among countries of this area.

Mr. Minister, Yugoslav public opinion has been following with great sympathies the efforts which the government of friendly India, headed by prime minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi, has been exerting towards achieving social transformation and an all-round development of your great country. We rejoice at the success you have been scoring in this respect, for in a prospectus, stably independent and non-aligned India we see an important factor of peace and security not only in the area of South Asia, but in the world in general. Last year when your country was faced with flagrant and subversive pressures when you rightly took resolute emergency measures to eliminate them, all people of Yugoslavia, President Tito and the Yugoslav Government unreservedly went on your side having been fully convinced that you were undertaking necessary measures in order to prevent destructive intentions which were directed against the progress of India and its non-aligned policy. We are happy the India is making further progress in its internal development and in securing its independent and non-aligned policy in the international relations.

Mr. Minister, Madan Chavan dear friends, allow me to thank you once again for the cordial welcome and hospitality extended to me, to my wife and to my associates.

--I propose this toast to the health of the highly esteemed President of the Republic Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed;

--to the health of the eminent statesman Prime Minister of India. Indira Gandhi;

--to your health Mr. Minister and to the health of your esteemed wife;

--to the health of your associates and all those present here;

--for the further strengthening of the all-round cooperation and traditional friendship between India and Yugoslavia.

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YUGOSLAVIA PERU FRANCE USA SRI LANKA MALI INDIA

Date : Apr 01, 1976

Volume No

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YUGOSLAVIA

Indo-Yugoslav Joint Communique

Following is the text of the Indo-Yugoslav Joint communique issued in New Delhi on April 16, 1976 at the end of the official visit of the Yugoslav Foreign Minister to India:

At the invitation of the Minister of External Affairs of India, Shri Y. B. Chavan, the Vice-President of the Federal Executive Council and Federal Secretary for Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, Mr. Milos Minic, paid an official visit to the Republic of India from April 14 to 16, 1976.

The Vice-President of the Federal Executive Council and Federal Secretary for Foreign Affairs of Yugoslavia, Mr. Minic, was received by the Prime Minister of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, with whom he had a cordial exchange of views. Mr. Minic conveyed to Shrimati Indira Gandhi the greetings of the President of the SFR of Yugoslavia, Josef Broz Tito and of the President of the Federal Executive

Council, Mr. Dzemail Bijedic, and renewed their cordial invitation to the Prime Minister to visit Yugoslavia. He also called on the Vice-President of India, Shri B. D. Jatti and the Speaker of the Lok Sabha, Shri B. R. Bhagat.

In the course of the talks the two Ministers had a broad exchange of views on bilateral relations and current international problems. The talks were held in an atmosphere of cordiality and mutual understanding in conformity with the traditional friendly relations between the two countries and revealed in identity or close similarity of views on the subjects discussed.

The two Ministers reviewed in detail Indo-Yugoslav bilateral relations. They noted with satisfaction the favourable development of all-round cooperation between the two countries and expressed their desire to promote it further in all fields. They agreed that the constant development and diversification of the economies of the two countries have opened up new possibilities for expansion of Indo-Yugoslav economic cooperation, particularly in the field of production, cooperation and trade. Both sides expressed satisfaction that the recently held 10th meeting of the Joint Indo-Yugoslav Committee for Economic Cooperation had made a significant contribution in this direction. At the same time, they pointed to the need for exerting further efforts aimed at the development of industrial cooperation and joint ventures in third countries. They expressed the view that there were favourable possibilities for the development of tripartite economic cooperation between Yugoslavia, India and Egypt,

The two sides, while taking note of the welcome developments on the world scene, expressed concern at the unresolved international problems and crisis situations that still persist. The two sides devoted particular attention to the role of non-alignment and the preparations for the fifth Summit Conference of non-aligned countries to be held in Colombo.

They stressed that the policy of non-

alignment constitutes a decisive factor of international life today. The non-aligned countries have consistently made a valuable contribution to promoting peace and cooperation among nations, and to the achievement of lasting solutions to major international problems. The policy of non-alignment most adequately reflects the historic aspirations of peoples to independence, equality, peace and general progress of mankind. At the same time, it was a matter of concern that various kinds of pressures were being applied on non-aligned countries by forces of imperialism, colonialism and foreign domination, which were resorting to such methods as destabilisation and internal subversion. These forces were trying to divide and weaken the non-aligned movement and divert the attention of non-aligned countries from important issues of development, peace and cooperation. The two Ministers stressed the need for preserving and further strengthening the unity, solidarity and cohesiveness of the non-aligned countries. In this context, they reiterated their full support for strict adherence to the fundamental principles of non-alignment.

Both sides reaffirmed the importance of thorough and timely preparations for the fifth Summit Conference of non-aligned countries and urged the active participation of all member countries, of the non-aligned movement to make it a success. The Colombo Summit should reinforce the basic principles

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of the non-aligned movement and resist efforts to dilute it.

The two Ministers expressed the conviction that the Colombo Summit would yield significant results, particularly in the field of strengthening the unity, solidarity and cohesiveness of non-aligned countries. They welcomed the spirit of cooperation manifest at the 7th Special Session of the U.N. General Assembly and emphasized the need for formulating concrete programmes of action aimed at building up a new international economic order in accordance with the decisions of the 6th and 7th Special Sessions of the UN General Assembly and for extending more

substantial and consistent support, particularly to the most severely affected countries. In this context, the two sides consider it of paramount importance that the forthcoming UNCTAD IV should take concrete Measures for the resolution of the acute economic problems confronting developing countries. The two sides called for the speedy implementation of the decisions taken at the Algiers non-aligned Summit and at the Lima Conference of Foreign Ministers of non-aligned countries aimed at promoting cooperation and collective self-reliance among non-aligned countries.

In this context both sides welcomed the forthcoming conference of the representatives of Governments at Ministerial level as well as Heads of press agencies of non-aligned countries on a "Non-aligned News Agency Pool" to be held in New Delhi in July 1976 as a significant step forward in cooperation among non-aligned countries in the field of information and called for the active participation of all the non-aligned countries in ensuring its successful outcome,

The two sides affirmed that the main thrust of the Colombo Summit should be on an integrated and balanced approach to the problems of detente, disarmament, development and cooperation both on the international plane and in the fields of the development of relations among non-aligned countries themselves.

The two Ministers commended the results of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe and expressed the hope that the process of relaxation of tensions would stabilise and extend to other regions of the world.

In reviewing the situation in the Indian Ocean, the two sides expressed their concern over the growing military presence and rivalry of outside powers in that region and called for the implementation of the UN General Assembly resolutions proclaiming the Indian Ocean a zone of peace. The two Ministers declared that the establishment and expansion of a naval base on Diego Garcia constituted a threat to the littoral states of the

Indian Ocean and called for the elimination of all foreign military bases from this area.

In assessing the situation in the Indian Sub-continent, the two Ministers agreed on the need for all concerned to make unremitting efforts, without outside interference to ensure continued progress in the promotion of durable peace and stability in the sub-continent through bilateral discussions on the basis of equality and mutual trust. The Foreign Minister of Yugoslavia expressed his appreciation of the consistent efforts made by India to this end.

The two Ministers expressed their concern over the present situation in the Middle East. Holding the view that Israel's intransigent behaviour presents the main obstacle to the search for a just and lasting solution, they reiterated that the Solution to the crisis in the Middle East should be sought in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the U.N.

The two Ministers affirmed their firm support to the independent and non-aligned position of the Republic of Cyprus and called for the implementation of the resolution, of the U.N. General Assembly and the continuation of the negotiations between the two communities of Cyprus which would preserve the sovereignty, territorial integrity and non-alignment of the Republic of Cyprus.

The two sides welcomed the emergence of the People's Republic of Angola as an independent and sovereign State. They expressed their resolve to continue to work for the elimination of the remnants of colonial rule wherever they exist and of the policy of racial discrimination and apartheid pursued in Southern Africa. The two sides also pledged their full Support to the people of Zimbabwe and Namibia in their struggle for liberation.

The two sides stressed the necessity of taking effective measures to halt the arms race and to bring about general and complete disarmament including, in particular, nuclear

disarmament. To this end, they expressed their firm support for the early convening of a World Conference on Disarmament with the participation of all countries, including the nuclear weapon powers. They agreed in this connection to examine the convening of a special session of the UN General Assembly on disarmament as referred to in the Lima Declaration. They considered that intensive efforts should be made within the framework of the UN to bring about meaningful disarmament negotiations.

The two Ministers emphasised the need for strengthening of the UN in the promotion of international cooperation based on equality and in the interest of all countries. In this context, they stressed the need for the UN to adapt itself to changing conditions including the establishment of a new international economic order.

The two Ministers informed each other on the current questions of internal socio-economic developments in India and in Yugoslavia respectively. The Minister of External Affairs of India stated that the people and Government of India rejoiced at the impressive achievements made by the peoples of Yugoslavia in social, economic, cultural and other spheres. The Vice-President of the Federal Executive Council and Federal Secretary for Foreign Affairs of Yugoslavia expressed his deep appreciation of the determined and timely measures taken by Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi and the Government of India in the wake of the Emergency to preserve and consolidate the achievements made by the people of India since Independence.

The Vice-President of the Federal Executive Council and Federal Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Milos Minic, expressed his thanks for the warm hospitality accorded to him and his wife, as well as to his associates, during their stay in India and extended an invitation to the Minister of External Affairs of India, Shri Y. B. Chavan and Smt. Chavan to visit Yugoslavia. The invitation was accepted with pleasure and a date for the visit will be fixed subsequently.

YUGOSLAVIA INDIA USA EGYPT SRI LANKA ALGERIA PERU ISRAEL CYPRUS ANGOLA NAMIBIA
ZIMBABWE

Date : Apr 01, 1976

May

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SWEDEN VIETNAM

Date : May 01, 1976

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BANGLADESH

Official Statement on Anti-India Propaganda over Farakka

An official spokesman of the ministry of External Affairs made the following statement in New Delhi on May 13, 1976 on anti-India Propaganda in Bangladesh over Farakka:

Bangladesh High Commissioner Mr. Shamsur Rahman was called to the Foreign Office today and told of the Government of India's regret and concern at the failure of the Bangladesh authorities to check inflammatory propaganda against India over Farakka which had unnecessarily aroused passions in Bangladesh and fostered ill-will and hostility towards India. The High Commissioner was told that whilst the Government of India can only deplore the hostile propaganda they cannot but take a serious view of reports of attempts to unleash mob fury and violence implicit in the threatened march towards Farakka on the 16th May from across the border.

The High Commissioner was asked to urge his Government to take all necessary measures to prevent violation of the international border as well as any other actions prejudicial to the maintenance of friendly and good neighbourly relations between the two countries.

The Government of India have issued instructions to the border authorities that violation of the border is to be prevented in the interests of maintaining tranquillity and order in the area. The Government of India would continue to act with the utmost restraint and with a sense of responsibility but would hope that unnecessary provocation and violence by irresponsible or lawless elements in Bangladesh would be prevented by the Bangladesh authorities.

The Government of India would continue to make earnest efforts to seek an expeditious settlement of the allocation of the lean season flows of the Ganga through bilateral negotiations in a spirit of friendship and mutual accommodation, safeguarding the legitimate interests of both countries.

As Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi in a recent letter to Maulana Mohd. Abdul Hamid Khan Bhashani who has threatened to lead a march on 16th May to "demolish" Farakka pointed out: "Between neighbours, problems are apt to arise sometimes. What is important is that solutions should be sought in a spirit of understanding and cooperation. We can only harm each other by pursuing a path of confrontation and hostility ... our two Governments have resumed discussions on the allocations of the Ganga flows during the lean season and related questions. This effort needs encouragements and support of all persons of goodwill on both sides.

"We are open to persuasion and reasoned argument but no one should really expect India to submit to threats or other palpably unreasonable or unjustified demands".

It may be recalled that as a gesture of goodwill and friendship the Government of India on 27th March had voluntarily reduced the flow into the Farakka feeder canal below the minimum quantity required for flushing the Hooghly.

Meanwhile, the flow into Bangladesh has been increased further by a substantial amount during the current lean season. This fact is known to the high level technical delegation from Bangladesh which had visited Farakka on 9th May.

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BANGLADESH

Official Statement on Threatened March on Farakka by Maulana Bhashani

The official spokesman of time Ministry of External Affairs made the following statement in New Delhi on May 14, 1976 on threatened march on Farakka by Maulana Bhashani:

All necessary measures are being taken to meet the situation arising from the threatened march on Farakka by Maulana Bhashani and his followers on May 16. The Government of India sincerely hope that wiser counsels will prevail and that the proposed march will be called off. In any event, it is the responsibility of the Government of Bangladesh to see that there is no violation of the international border by its nationals.

The Government of India are convinced that any problem between India and Bangladesh can best be resolved by friendly negotiations rather than through threats and recrimination.

BANGLADESH INDIA

Date : May 01, 1976

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CANADA

Foreign Minister's Statement in Parliament on Indo-Canadian Nuclear Discussions

The Minister of External Affairs, Shri

Y. B. Chavan, made the following statement in the Lok Sabha on May 20, 1976 regarding Indo-Canadian Nuclear discussions. A similar statement was made in the Rajya Sabha by the Deputy Minister, Shri Bipinpal Das:

On May 18, 1976, the Canadian Secretary of State for External Affairs informed me through his High Commissioner in Delhi of Canada's decision that further nuclear co-operation with India was not possible. His message states inter alia that, in view of Canada's policy to have nuclear cooperation only with countries which had renounced the use of Canadian supplied materials, equipment and technology for nuclear explosions, further cooperation with India would have to be compatible with this policy and since this Canadian requirement was not acceptable to India, a settlement on any other basis was not possible. The Secretary of State made a similar but more detailed statement in the Canadian House of Commons.

As the House is aware, Indo-Canadian discussions have been going on for two years to resolve differences on nuclear matters stemming from Canada's decision to suspend nuclear cooperation with India after May 18, 1974. The final round of talks was held in New Delhi in March this year. After three days of detailed negotiations, an agreement was reached on differences on nuclear matters. It was also agreed that after this draft Agreement has been approved by the two Governments, Indo-Canadian nuclear cooperation will be resumed and relations between the two countries restored to their traditional level.

The Government of India cannot but regret Canada's decision to terminate nuclear cooperation and turn down the agreement negotiated and initialled by its own representatives in the March discussions. We are indeed disappointed that, after two years of strenuous negotiations, when a detailed Understanding had been reached, the Canadian Government should have unilaterally taken the step to terminate nuclear cooperation which formed an integral part of the Nuclear Cooperation Agreements of 1963 and 1966. This amounts to unilateral abrogation

of several provisions of these agreements.

I should like to state that during the last two years when three rounds of formal dis-

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cussions, two rounds of technical level discussions and several informal discussions at the Ministerial level were held, Government of India made a sincere effort to accommodate Canadian view point. It was also explained to the Canadian side at the highest level that in conducting the peaceful nuclear experiment, which India had every right to do as PNE, is an internationally recognised concept, we had not violated any provision of any agreement with Canada, a fact which was subsequently recognised by the Canadian Government. India's views on nuclear development were reiterated on several occasions and Canada was assured of our desire to co-operate with her at various international forums to achieve, our common goals on general and complete disarmament including nuclear disarmament. Throughout these discussions, India's representatives showed goodwill and negotiated in good faith with a view to resolving the differences. In return all that we asked of Canada was that she should fulfil her contractual obligations under the existing cooperation agreements. It is regrettable that, after these long months of an almost continuous dialogue, the Canadian Government has now decided to turn its back on the negotiated settlement and its contractual obligations. The House, I am sure, will agree that there is no ground for any suggestion that the Government of India is in any way responsible for ending Indo-Canadian nuclear cooperation.

The Government of India is examining various implications of the Canadian Government's announcement and will take appropriate steps after this review has been completed.

CANADA USA INDIA

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INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Commerce Minister's Address to UNCTAD-IV at Nairobi

Following is the text of the Union Minister of Commerce, Professor D. P. Chatto-padhyaya's speech at UNCTAD-IV (Nairobi) on May 10, 1976:

Mr. President, allow me to congratulate you on your election as President of this Conference.

We are grateful for the hospitality extended to us by the Government and the People of Kenya. The inspiring address of the President of your country has no doubt set the tone of our discussions and my Delegation is in full accord with its approach and dignity, sobriety and responsible statesmanship. We have no doubt that under your able guidance the results of the Conference would in some measure live up to the expectations of the millions of people who are watching the outcome of our endeavours with anxiety and expectation.

The setting of this Conference is in many ways unique. Its venue points to the legacy of instructive history and focuses attention on the rightful yearnings of this continent to secure economic independence consistent with human dignity. The wise leadership and the determination of the Peoples of Africa constitute an appropriate response to the problems inherited from the past and the difficulties of the present. The spirit of self-reliance is the basic elan of the new international economic order, because this binds us together in the pursuit of peace, justice and progress. The last few years have demonstrated beyond doubt the inadequacy of the prevailing economic order and the philosophy which underlies it. The resulting suffering of the millions of poor has made

the pursuit for a more rational economic system a universal imperative: fortunately there is a greater international consciousness of the need to forge instruments of cooperation based on the principles of interdependence, equity and sovereign equality of nations. The useful results of the Sixth and the Seventh

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Special Sessions of the United Nations General Assembly were however in effect declarations of intent. We are now engaged in more serious and in-depth negotiations in for a like UNCTAD, the multilateral trade negotiations in GATT and the Conference of International Economic Co-operation to devise practical programme to implement these decisions. This Conference, one might say, is the first major test of the adequacy of goodwill, political authority and financial power to implement what was agreed on the floor of the most representative organisation of mankind. The liberality and rationality of the outlook expected to pervade the decisions of UNCTAD-IV will be of crucial significance and transcending the frontiers of contemporary history.

NEW ECONOMIC ORDER

We have been always maintaining that the primary responsibility for our development lies on ourselves. Indeed, collective self-reliance is a cornerstone of the new economic order. We, the developing Countries, have among ourselves adopted Various programmes of co-operation, consistent with our profession and capacity. It will, however, be academic to expect that our efforts to create a new economic order can become a perceptible reality without convergent and concomitant action by the more affluent nations. When historical and moral imperatives bring us together in an international economic Conference like UNCTAD, we must try to rise above the limiting and separating considerations of "we" and "they". Let us be soldiers in war on want and partners in progress.

Let our light be national experience and perspective international. In this context,

Mr. President, may I be permitted to refer to our own national experience. In India we are engaged in the stupendous task of improving the quality of the life of more than 600 million people with low per capita income, relying mainly on our own material and human resources. We recognise and appreciate that the enlightened international community has made some contribution to this process. When the world economy was engulfed by an unprecedented crisis in the recent past, we could not escape its serious economic consequences. The sharp rise in the prices of essential imports like food, fertilisers, fuel and machinery made it impossible to meet the maintenance needs of our economy, not to speak of the growing requirement for development. The inspiring leadership of our Prime Minister, Mrs. Gandhi, and her imaginative policy of a self-imposed economic discipline, in which we claim some legitimate pride, enabled us not only to arrest but reverse the inflationary trends without retarding the process of growth. Our performance has confirmed our faith in the policy of self-reliance. But even then we could hardly escape the adverse spill-over effects of global inflation coupled with one of the worst recessions in recent history, resulting in a massive adverse balance of trade. I have quoted our experience, Mr. President, only to underscore the constraints to the growth of individual nations circumscribed by adverse external conditions, which are not their creation and in controlling which they have little influence.

MANILA DECLARATION

The Manila Declaration and programme of action were adopted by the Group of "77" after a close analysis of the world economic situation and in the light of the educative experience of the concerned nations under diverse and difficult circumstances the basic elements of the new economic order have been comprehensively formulated. We must now concentrate on its operational aspects. To my mind the commodity issues is the fulcrum to the problems of trade and development. The ad hoc approaches of the past have failed to provide satisfactory solutions. The UNCTAD Secretariat under the imagi-

native leadership of its Secretary General, Mr. Gamani Corea, has formulated a comprehensive and coordinated strategy to deal with these problems and the result is the integrated programme for commodities. This has been further elaborated and fully endorsed in the Manila Document. The Programme has the particular merit of providing an institutional mechanism for over-seeing commodity problems. The peculiar problems of different commodities have been kept in view and a wide spectrum of arrangements has been visualised ranging from pricing to processing and from production to marketing and distribution. This programme would help stabilise and improve the purchasing power of the developing countries, with built-in measures to counteract possible adverse effects on importing developing countries.

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We have also noted with satisfaction that in response to the integrated programme some new and positive ideas are now emerging from some developed nations. Some of these ideas are in the nature of elaboration of one or the other elements of the integrated programme, while others seek to explore new dimensions of the problems. The positive elements of these responses deserve a careful examination and to the extent they are consistent with the objective of furthering the solution of commodity problems, they may be coordinated within the overall frame work of the integrated programme. Individual commodity solutions taken as a whole, and in a conceptually unified perspective, may complement the integrated approach. If suitable mechanisms are created for the early conclusion of institutional arrangements for augmenting returns to developing countries from exports of key primary commodities like tea, jute, sisal, hard fibres, cocoa, coffee and sugar, they would constitute a bold step forward in the right direction. The resulting coordinated commodity programme can preserve the character and components of the integrated programme and the operationally consistent and positive ideas of other approaches. Our cooperative endeavour should be to seek for definite and urgent solutions

and not to get indefinitely entangled in seeking ideal solutions spread over a number of years. It is really heartening to note that the call for the fund to implement the programme has already been responded to by some developing as well as developed countries. I am sure that the conscience of the other developed countries will also respond to the call befitting their economic ability. We have begun the charity at home sincerely hoping the rich and good international neighbours will help us and in the process help themselves.

MANUFACTURES

While action in the field of commodities enhances the export earnings and incomes of the developing countries, their development can not be placed on a self-sustained basis without a comprehensive strategy for trade in manufactures and semi-manufactures. The Lima declaration calls for major changes in the world industrial structures if the share of the developing countries in the world industrial production is to reach 25 per cent by the turn of this century. This target can hardly be attained unless access for the manufactures of developing countries is considerably liberalised by removing the tariff and non-tariff barriers. It will be sad if by evoking the concept of market disruption the manufactures of the developing countries are denied equitable treatment and the existing tariff structures continue to remain biased against them even in areas where they have comparative advantage. The Generalised System of Preferences which represents the positive step needs to be improved through widening its product coverage, deepening tariff cuts and removing restrictive ceilings.

The multilateral trade negotiations which are underway, should truly and adequately reflect the commitments of the Tokyo declaration to ensure additional benefits for the developing countries. It is necessary of this conference to reiterate this principle because the unfolding of the multilateral trade negotiations has revealed some inconsistencies in the approach of some developed market economy countries. Despite the acceptance of the principle of non-reciprocity,

reciprocal concessions are being insisted upon and there are indications that some products of particular interest to developing countries might be excluded from the negotiations. We attach particular importance to early agreement on differential measures in favour of developing countries in all priority areas, particularly safeguards, quantitative restrictions and subsidies and countervailing duties. Early attention will also have to be paid to improvements in part IV and other provisions of the general agreement to make them more responsive to the needs of developing countries. It is necessary to ensure that multi-lateral trade negotiations proceed speedily and the decisions reached are implemented in advance in favour of developing countries.

EAST-WEST TRADE

Diversification in the direction of trade and the extension of trade relations with the socialist countries provides an additional impetus to the process of industrialisation of the developing countries. The growing, trade and economic relations between the developing countries on the one hand, and the socialist countries, on the other have helped the developing countries in diversifying their export structure. The increasing possibilities of trade between the developed market economy countries and the socialist countries need not interfere with the trend. We hope that this

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conference will explore the possibilities of new dimensions of industrial cooperation and devise measures to strengthen such cooperation between socialist and the developing countries.

TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER

While the development of infrastructure and growth of trade are the hard-ware of the process of industrialisation, transfer of technology is the vital soft-wares. The process of growth essentially implies a continuing increase in productivity. This could be impossible to attain unless the developing countries acquire, adopt and absorb the right type of technology. The development of technolo-

gical capability is, therefore, the central piece of the process of industrialisation and appropriate institutional arrangements have to be evolved to facilitate the development of such capabilities. It is gratifying to note that the need for building up a net work of centres at selected sub-regional and regional levels to facilitate acquisition and transfer of technology has gained general recognition. The setting up of an advisory service on transfer of technology within UNCTAD has also received positive response. The emergence of consensus on this subject is a welcome development and should lead to positive decision at this Conference. Side by side, efforts are also necessary to evolve a code of conduct on transfer of technology. Considerable work has been done at the level of experts to evolve such a code. What is necessary for us, at this conference, is to take decisions on the nature and substance of the code so that we are able to bring about an order in the chaotic situation that currently prevails in this field. In doing this, the Conference will be taking an important step in furthering the process of development on the principles of equity and justice.

FLOW OF RESOURCES

The gains from trade would be neutralised by persistent adverse balance of payments created by external factors outside the control of the developing countries. Aid flows far from imparting growing impetus have been even failed to check the persistence of these large deficits. There is need to improve both the quantity and quality of aid. While we appreciate that some developed countries either have reached or are in the process of reaching the 0.7% target for official development assistance, others have yet to accept it and the performance of many is far from encouraging. In the context of the mounting debt burden of the developing countries, it is important that this target is reached as soon as possible before 1980. While we appreciate an improvement in the grant component of these flows of ODA, the performance in matters like increasing the proportion of grants of local costs and of untied aid is far from satisfactory. The emphasis we placed on the ODA is particularly relevant in the

context of the difficult situation in which the poorest and the most seriously affected countries find themselves for no fault of their own. The cumulative effects of rise in their imports, fall in the export earnings, sluggishness in real flows of ODA, mounting debt burden, placed them in an extremely difficult balance of payment situation. They were compelled to borrow substantial sums on commercial or near commercial terms, further aggravating their debt situation and compromising their growth rates. It is therefore of urgent importance to improve the quality and quantity of ODA flows and to provide immediate debt relief to the developing countries, especially to the poorest and the most seriously affected countries. Otherwise the future growth prospects of these countries will be in serious jeopardy. It is our hope that the fourth replenishment of the international development association will be fully appropriated and the fifth replenishment will be raised to the required level.

SPECIAL PROBLEMS OF LEAST DEVELOPED, LAND LOCKED AND ISLAND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

The requirements of development are not uniform, nor is the process of development replicative. Within the developing world, there are countries which face special problems and special handicaps. The principles of equity and interdependence demand that the countries with special problems such as the least developed, the land-locked and the island developing countries should receive special attention. We believe that the system of international cooperation should explicitly recognise this aspect and give sympathetic and special consideration to alleviate their problems. We, in India, have always recognised this principle and, within our limited resources, have initiated a number of programmes of technical and economic cooperation with those countries. We hope that the international community will lead further support to these initiatives. We have also been able to arrive at mutually satis-

factory arrangements on trade and transit with our land-locked neighbours.

Mr. President, the emergence of UNCTAD in 1964 added a new dimension to the International conscience. The years that followed witnessed a continuous dialogue on the issues of importance to developing countries as well as some concrete achievements such as the GSP, the Code of Conduct for Liner Conferences and the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States. The unique circumstances in which we now meet here cast upon us a special responsibility. The distinguished Secretary General of the United Nations said on the opening day of the Conference that "The revelation of global interdependence is probably one of the main features which historians will record when they write the chronicle of the first half of the 1970s. Let not the historians of the future say that we saw the truth but did not follow its light and use the power which lies within our means to solve the problems which confront mankind. We will be judged by the capacity that we show for taking the right decisions in right time."

INDIA KENYA USA PHILIPPINES CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC RUSSIA PERU JAPAN

Date : May 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

IRAN

Speech by Shrimati Indira Gandhi at Dinner in Honour of Iranian Prime Minister

Following is the text of the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi's speech (it a banquet in honour of Mr. Amir Abbas Hoveyda, Prime Minister of Iran, in New Delhi on May 10, 1976:

It is a pleasure to welcome Prime Minister Hoveyda and the other members of the delegation from Iran.

Two years ago, I was in that fabled country seeing for myself the progress it was making under the dynamic leadership of the Shahanshah. I had the privilege of exchanging views with His Imperial Majesty. I also had the pleasure of being better acquainted with His Excellency the Prime Minister and was impressed by his deep insight into national and international problems. He is a fine representative of the urbanity and refinement of Iranian civilisation. I am glad to have this opportunity to resume conversation with him.

The contact between Iran and India stretches over the centuries. Our two countries have evolved side by side absorbing influences from each other and from other sources, yet retaining our distinctiveness. The glory of Persipolis helped to embellish the splendour of Patliputra. In more recent times, the Persian element became a cherished part of the composite culture of India. Not a few Indians even today are proud of their familiarity with Iran's poetry, music and painting. Colonialism interrupted this exchange of culture and commerce. But I am glad that after retaining their political personalities Iran and India have once again sought each other's friendship. Both have a clearer awareness of the need for coming closer together in contemporary conditions.

No people can live by heritage alone. It must constantly be renewed and revitalised and used for further growth.

Today we are in an age of rapid, almost cataclysmic change. The ancient societies are engaged in casting off the old crushing burden of poverty. However, in this process we have to guard against the ills of modern industrial societies which seem to be exchanging tranquillity for tension. Should we not learn from the experience of others and work for an economic transformation which preserves the best in our tradition. A nation's enduring development can be achieved only through its own endeavour, by identifying and mobilising its natural and human resources.

Every country should aim at self-reliance though none can be self-sufficient. Initial

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technological know-how has to be acquired from other countries and the compulsions of living on this Spaceship Earth demand close and continuing cooperation amongst the people.

Iran is energetically engaged in introducing and modernising its rural economy. Excellency, you are familiar with India's struggle for development and the gains we have made in our 20 years of freedom. Our vast population and various natural and man-made challenges have rendered our task proportionately more exacting. When we last met, I informed you of the external and internal problems of my country, specially those arising out of the price crises in food, fertilizer and fuel. Subsequently, we had to launch an all-out campaign to control inflation and combat some of the evils that have crept into our society. Our success has been encouraging. Our people have cooperated splendidly in curbing indiscipline and in raising the level of efficiency in executing our programmes.

The habit of turning to advanced countries for every kind of guidance and help in training and technology has proved to be expensive and unwise. Recent years have shown welcome awareness of the ability of the developing countries to assist one another by the exchange of experience, skills and commodities. There has been steady enlargement of the area of economic and technological cooperation between Iran and India. The Shipping Agreement and the Kudremukh project are good examples of the complementarity of our economies and the mutual advantage we can derive by working together, I hope that our officials and technicians will strain every nerve to justify the trust we have placed in them and pave the way for even closer cooperation between our two countries. A stable and constructive relationship between Iran and India will benefit our entire region. Our friendship is not against any one. Exclusiveness is incompatible with

the dictates of our time. India seeks the friendship of all nations and specially of its neighbours. This is our objective in taking the recent initiatives to enlarge the area of goodwill and to mitigate distrust. India and Iran have cooperated in major international meetings such as the Conference on International Economic Cooperation in Paris and the current Session of UNCTAD-IV in Nairobi. We must not rest until not power but human needs become the prime determinant of international decisions. Deprivation and inequality within a nation undermine its unity and stability. Similarly, the widening economic gap between nations threatens peace. Only by bridging it can we ensure the well-being of mankind.

It is sometimes felt that the voice of the developing nations is raised against the developed ones or that we wish to have a confrontation. We have no such intention. We are against no country. In fact our attitude has always been one of cooperation, but we do feel that the pursuit of certain policies and the extension of military presences are bound to push the world towards conflict. .

Iran and India have consistently pointed out that the destinies of developed and developing countries are inter-linked. You have spoken of the inter-dependence of nations. The world itself assumes a basis of equality and mutuality of interests. Can developing countries remain silent and not speak up against policies and directions which run counter to interests of the majority of the human race? Each country, as each individual, must reach towards the development of the perfection of its own genius. Your mystic poet, Attar, wrote - and I quote:

"Every one's journey is towards his perfection.

Every one's proximity is according to his state"

For this each one must find his own way. Persian poets have spoken of the restlessness of creation. Although the reference is to the spiritual sphere, it is equally true of material development. Everything in nature

is intricately linked together and so perfectly balanced that in spite of the constant struggle for survival, each phase leads and each species contributes to the total harmony. Nations may have their differences but the destructive potential that is being built up should compel us to accept certain agreed codes so that knowledge and power are used to move towards harmony.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, I request you to drink to the health of Their Imperial Majesties, the Shahanshah Arya Meher and the Shahbanu, to His Excellency the Prime Minister of Iran, to the happiness and prosperity of the Iranian people and to Indo-Iranian friendship.

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IRAN INDIA USA UNITED KINGDOM FRANCE KENYA

Date : May 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

IRAN

Iranian Prime Minister's Reply

Replying, the Iranian prime Minister, Mr. Amir Abbas Hoveyda made the following speech:

I am most grateful, Madam Prime Minister, for your warm words of welcome and your gracious references to my August Sovereign and to my country. The sentiments of friendship and amity which you have expressed find a ready echo in the hearts of my compatriots.

For two peoples whose spiritual and cultural history over the centuries has been so intricately interwoven, this is indeed as it

should be. When the Shahanshah last visited India in 1974, he quoted a passage from "The Discovery of India" by your illustrious father, which it is fitting here to recall. The passage reads: "Among the many peoples and races that have come in contact with, and influenced India's life and culture, the oldest and the most persistent have been the Iranians". If only for this reason alone, no Iranian is ever a total stranger to India, and every Indian can feel to have a second home in Iran.

And yet it is infinitely gratifying that beyond the rich heritage of our historic association, our relations today have grown into a solid pattern of cooperation which is as varied in range as it is cordial in spirit.

The Madras Refinery, in which our two countries have a partnership, dates from many years now. The Irane-Hind Shipping Corporation has already commenced operation; our two countries are successfully co-operating in the development and utilisation of the Kudremukh mines in India; broad agreements on cooperation on the peaceful uses of atomic energy have already been reached; and within the last two years, the volume of our bilateral trade has registered a five fold increase.

Moreover, we have in Iran today a sizeable community of Indian nationals, living in our midst and contributing in a variety of fields to our economic development programmes. I wish to take this opportunity to say that we warmly welcome their presence in our country and appreciate their contributions to the progress of our economy.

And yet, as the Shahanshah has observed, the possibilities of strengthening our co-operation are so immense, that what has happened until now, has barely scratched the surface and is but a beginning.

It is for us a source of particular satisfaction to see our bilateral relations with your great country in so excellent a state. For a number of years now, our two countries have developed a deeper understanding of each other's respective aims and aspira-

tions, and no areas of misunderstanding exist between us. On the other hand, we have both undertaken to engage in a vast programme of economic cooperation and commercial exchange, which is I believe, unprecedented in the long history of our relations.

Madam Prime Minister, as you may have had occasion to witness during your memorable visit to my country in April of 1974, Iran today, under the enlightened leadership of the Shahanshah, is in the process of the most gigantic social and economic transformation in its long history. In that transformation, which aims to provide the Iranian people with a future compatible with their glorious past, your country and countrymen are welcome to participate.

As a nation that has always regarded your great country with interest and affection, we in Iran have viewed with respect and admiration the concerted endeavours of your Government to create a healthier and more equitable economic order for the vast majority of the Indian people. I have always believed that to attain the goals of economic progress and social advancement, obsessive attachment to semantics should be put aside. Instead, what is required is a firm and determined leadership that can realize the nation's highest objectives. The cause of true democracy could never be better served, than by a society that seeks to banish from its midst the spectre of poverty and underdevelopment.

In our international relations too, our two countries share similar objectives, the foremost amongst which is our respective commitments to the cause of peace. Both Iran and India have favoured Sri Lanka's

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United Nations resolution, designating the Indian ocean as a zone of peace. Both of us believe that the Persian Gulf and the Indian Ocean should be kept open to the unhindered flow of trade and navigation. We have always maintained that the safety and security of the Persian Gulf and the Indian Ocean should be the collective responsibility of the

nations that respectively border each waterway.

Moreover, at the United Nations Conference, on Trade and Development, meeting now in Nairobi, our two countries will speak with one voice, as they have done at the North-South Conference, on the need for the transfer of technology and a more equitable order in world trade. We both believe that producers of raw materials and primary commodities, through a variety of measures, should receive a better deal, and that their incomes should not be subject to the violent fluctuations that wreak havoc with their balance of payments and development programmes. Both of us also believe that the transfer of financial resources from the industrial countries should be such as to make possible the consolidation and strengthening of the economies of the developing countries, without imposing additional hardships on their burden of indebtedness.

While speaking on international affairs, may I add, Madam Prime Minister, that Iran warmly applauds the recent diplomatic moves of your government towards regional accommodation. We believe any conciliatory move towards the creation of an improved atmosphere in the subcontinent is an effective step in the direction of peace. Peace is the prerequisite for economic development, and economic development is greatly accelerated by the cooperation of nations that, with mutual respect, seek mutual benefits.

Madam Prime Minister, permit me to extend to you once again, on behalf of my companions and myself, our warmest thanks for the most cordial welcome you have accorded us. I recall with very great pleasure impressions of your last visit to Iran, and of the immensely fruitful discussions which you had with the Shahanshah. All who came in contact with you were enchanted by the warmth and the strength of your personality. May I say that we are looking forward with very great pleasure to welcoming to Iran soon the distinguished President of India.

I wish also to reiterate the sentiments of esteem and true friendship of the Iranian

People for your noble compatriots. I know that you share with us the conviction that the future economic and political cooperation of our two countries can be a most vital instrument in securing greater prosperity for our peoples and reinforcing the foundations of peace in Asia.

IRAN USA INDIA UNITED KINGDOM SRI LANKA KENYA

Date : May 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

IRAN

Indo-Iranian Joint Communiqué

Following is the text of the Indo-Iranian joint communiqué issued in New Delhi on May 14, 1976 at the conclusion of the official visit of Mr. Amir Abbas Hoveyda, Prime Minister of Iran to India:

At the invitation of Shrimati Indira Gandhi, Prime Minister of India, His Excellency Mr. Amir Abbas Hoveyda, Prime Minister of Iran, paid an official visit to India from May 10 to 14, 1976.

The Prime Minister of Iran called on the President of India, Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, and held talks with the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi. He received the Minister of External Affairs, Shri Y. B. Chavan, and the Minister of Finance, Shri C. Subramaniam.

The Prime Minister of Iran and his party visited places of historical, cultural and economic interest in Hardwar, Agra and Bombay. The warm and cordial welcome extended to them wherever they went reflected the traditionally close ties between the peoples of India and Iran.

The talks between the two Prime Ministers were held in an atmosphere of mutual trust and friendship. They covered matters of bilateral interest, regional concern and international importance and confirmed the close similarity of views on matters discussed.

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During the talks, the Prime Minister of India was assisted by the Foreign Minister, Y. B. Chavan, the Minister of Industries, Shri T. A. Pai, the Ambassador of India in Tehran, Shri R. D. Sathe, and other senior officials.

The Prime Minister of Iran was assisted by the Minister of Commerce, Dr. Manuchehr Taslimi, the Ambassador of Iran in New Delhi, Dr. Gholam Reza Tajbaksh, and other senior officials.

Both sides 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 two sides welcomed the trend towards détente. They urged that the process of détente should be extended to all parts of the world. The two sides emphasised the need for effective steps towards achieving and complete disarmament, including nuclear disarmament, under effective international control and supervision. They reaffirmed the importance of developing nuclear energy for peaceful purposes in order to promote economic development of all countries.

The two sides reiterated the significance of the dialogue initiated in the Conference of International Economic Cooperation in Paris. They hoped that an environment of cooperation and mutual accommodation would prevail in the deliberations of the Conference as well as in the Commissions

created by it. They urged all parties to come forward with concrete and constructive proposals on the issues before the Conference. They emphasised the need for urgent measures to ameliorate the economic situation of the most seriously affected countries. In this context, the Prime Minister of India expressed appreciation of the timely initiatives of His Imperial Majesty the Shahanshah Aryamehr for the establishment of an OPEC fund.

Both sides recalled the proposals embodied in the Manila declaration of the Group of 77 which have been placed before the current session of UNCTAD. They stressed the need for the transfer of technology and a more equitable order in world trade. They both believed that producers of raw materials and primary commodities, through a variety of measures, should receive a better deal, and that their incomes should not be subject to the violent fluctuations that had wrought havoc in their balance of payments and development programmes. Both sides reaffirmed their belief that the transfer of financial resources from the industrialised countries should be such as to make possible the consolidation and strengthening of the economies of the developing countries without imposing additional hardships on their burden of indebtedness.

The two sides stressed the value of co-operation among developing countries to accelerate their pace of growth. The agreement on the development of Kudremukh Iron-ore mines between Iran and India was both a nucleus and model of such cooperation. They agreed that there was considerable scope for further expansion of Indo-Iranian cooperation in other sectors of mutual interest.

The two sides reiterated their support for the declaration of the Indian ocean as a zone of peace free from great power rivalry, tension and military escalation. 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 the region should be the concern and responsibility of the littoral States, and that there should be full co-operation among them to achieve this objective.

The Prime Minister of Iran outlined the increasing importance of the security and stability of the Persian Gulf and the Straits of Hormuz. The two sides were in full agreement that peace and tranquillity of this region should be maintained and safeguarded by co-operation among the littoral States without interference from outside.

The two sides considered the situation in the Middle East and believed that continuation of the crisis in that important region 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 U.N. Security Council Resolution No. 242 of November 22, 1967, and ensuring resolutions in this regard, as well as for the

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realisation of the legitimate rights and aspirations of the Palestinian people.

The Prime Minister of Iran informed the Prime Minister of India of the successful conclusion of the agreements with Iraq leading to the solution of their differences. The Prime Minister of India reiterated the importance of this development which would contribute significantly to the maintenance of peace and stability in the area.

The Prime Minister of India apprised the Prime Minister of Iran about the current talks in Islamabad between India and Pakistan on the reopening of rail and road links, resumption of overflights, and restoration of diplomatic relations. The Prime Minister of Iran expressed his sincere pleasure at this development and hoped that the talks would make a further contribution to the normalisation of relations between India and Pakistan. The two Prime Ministers agreed that successful conclusion of these talks would greatly facilitate economic cooperation among all the countries in the region.

The Prime Minister of India explained to the Prime Minister of Iran the initiatives taken by India to normalise relations with its neighbours. The Prime Minister of Iran wel-

comed these initiatives.

The Prime Minister of It-an expressed his deep appreciation of the warm and friendly welcome extended to him and the members of his party by the Government and people of India. He extended a cordial invitation to the Prime Minister of India to visit Iran. The invitation was accepted with pleasure.

IRAN INDIA USA FRANCE PHILIPPINES UNITED KINGDOM ISRAEL IRAQ PAKISTAN MALI
Date : May 01, 1976

Volume No
1995
NON-ALIGNED BUREAU MEETING
Foreign Minister's Address to Non-Aligned Coordinating Bureau

Following is the text of the statement made by the External Affairs Minister, Mr. Y. B. Chavan at the meeting of the Non-aligned Coordinating Bureau at Algiers on May 31, 1976:

Mr. President and distinguished friends:
At the inaugural session yesterday I had the privilege of greeting you, Mr. President, on behalf of the Asian group. I should once again like to thank you and through you the Government and the people of Algeria for the warm hospitality extended to me and the members of my delegation. It is also a matter of great pleasure for me to greet the distinguished representatives of other fellow member countries of the non-aligned movement assembled here.

We who are gathered in this hall are bound by a common commitment. We are United in our faith in the abiding validity of the principles of non-alignment is representing our determination for independence in our political attitudes, economic policies and

safeguarding our sovereignty. We have come to Algiers to review the world situation, the progress achieved after the Lima meeting and to prepare for the forthcoming summit which is to be held for the first time in an Asian country, in our friendly neighbouring country, Sri Lanka.

Non-alignment is already a factor to reckon with in the contemporary international life. The non-aligned nations constitute a majority of the members of the United Nations and the combined population of the non-aligned countries is more than half of mankind. The impact of non-alignment has been a tonic and a blessing to the newly emerging independent nations. It has helped them to preserve and consolidate their hard won independence. We can look back with satisfaction that the philosophy of non-alignment was prophetic and we are confi-

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dent that even in this over-armed and turbulent world it represents the wave of the future. Since the Belgrade summit of 1961 we can catalogue an impressive record. Decolonisation is virtually complete. Liberation movements of yesterday now rightly wield the reigns of power. Non-alignment has made a principled and lasting contribution towards the maintenance of world peace and prevention of global and local conflicts. It has been in the vanguard of the continuing struggle against imperialism, colonialism and racism. It has focussed attention on the major economic issues facing the world and has made a constructive contribution in building up a consensus for the evolution of a new economic order based on the principles of justice and equality.

But there is no scope for complacency. It is not sufficient to dwell on the past. We have to understand the continuing challenges and threats. We must map out how non-alignment can help to steer in realising our aims of a world free of military bloc politics, a world with independent nations cooperating to safeguard peace, a world moving towards disarmament, a world in which the rich and the poor countries join hands in rectifying

economic disabilities, under-development and social imbalances. We are still far from a world without war, without want and without conflict of tension. It would, therefore, be unwise and premature for anyone to take a rosy view of the world and conclude that military alliances and their confrontation have become things of the past. In fact, we find that some of the military alliances which were so far dormant are being revived again. Besides economic dimension is being added to them so as to secure for the member countries of the alliances a lion's share of the non-renewable resources and raw materials.

India has welcomed the growing adherence to the policy of non-alignment by newly emerging independent countries in all parts of the world. The non-aligned family has steadily grown in size and strength. Our doors are open to all those countries who are prepared to adhere to its principles and who fully meet the criteria laid down by the non-aligned Heads of Government state at their first summit conference in Belgrade in 1961. I think it would be useful for the record if I were to recall these criteria which were:

I. The country should have adopted an independent policy based on the co-existence of states with different political and social system and on non-alignment or should be showing a trend in favour of such a policy.

II. The country concerned should be consistently supporting the movements for national independence,

III. The country should not be a member of a multilateral military alliance concluded in the context of Great Power conflicts.

IV. If a country has a bilateral military agreement with a great Power or is a member of a regional defence pact, the agreement or pact should not be one deliberately concluded in the context of Great Power conflicts.

V. If it has conceded military bases to a foreign power the concession should not have been made in the context of Great Power conflicts.

The hard core of non-alignment still re-

mains the commitment not to get involved in the rivalries of Great Powers, not to subserve the interests of their blocs and not to join their multilateral military alliances as well as the support for national liberation movements and the pursuit of an independent foreign policy.

These criteria have stood the test of time and served us well over the last 15 years. They have helped to preserve the unity and cohesion of our movement and our conferences. They need no modification or improvement. Indeed, I believe that on the eve of the Colombo summit it would be timely and desirable for this Bureau to reaffirm these criteria in unambiguous terms.

Such has been the success of the non-aligned movement that in recent years several non-member countries have expressed desire to join it in some capacity or the other. We appreciate their desire to seek closer association with our movement. However, this growing community of interests on the part of some countries does not yet extend to non-involvement in multilateral military alliances of Great Powers. This is an important element and is indeed vital for the integrity of nonalignment. We should welcome the participation in our movement of all the countries that have attained independence and that fulfil our criteria. The movement can ill afford any dilution of the established criteria for admission, whether as a member,

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observer or a guest, to the point where non-membership of a Great Power military bloc ceases to be regarded as essential for non-alignment. If we are not vigilant, the movement itself may face a serious crisis of identity. Strict adherence to the fundamental principles of non-alignment should not, therefore, be dismissed as a rigid approach. More than ever before it is necessary for the non-aligned movement to preserve its identity and integrity. Otherwise there would be loss of cohesion and consequent reduction in its effectiveness. In the name of flexibility we should not reduce non-alignment into a shapeless concept.

This reminds me of a certain incident that befell Alice in Wonderland. She found three gardeners painting white roses red and enquired why. She was told that some white roses had been planted by mistake in a garden of red roses and so the gardeners were painting them red. Well, let us be more careful than the gardeners in Alice in Wonderland. As a group the non-aligned countries have constituted a political reality tearing through the harsh din of armaments, cold war polemics and angry clash of alliances. The value of such a force can and must be enhanced through our unity and integrity of purpose. In order that the movement retains its value and validity as an instrument for achieving a more just and equitable system of international political and economic relations, it must remain a well-knit movement with a clearly defined positive policy.

In order that the 5th summit makes a major impact in the world affairs, while making preparations for it, it would be useful to concentrate on issues that unite us and the common ideals and objectives that we share. If we do not avoid undue projection of problems which divide us, we only present an image of a confused and divided movement. Our efforts should be to evolve a genuine and broad-based consensus on important questions.

Our task has been considerably facilitated by the timely preparation and circulation of the draft political and economic declarations by the Government of Sri Lanka, the host of the forthcoming 5th Summit. With still two months to go there is enough time for all of us to give a final shape to these important documents through consultations and in a spirit of constructive cooperation. It is hoped that similar advance preparations would be possible with regard to the draft resolutions as well.

In our deliberations we need to evolve a balanced and coordinated approach to problems of detente, disarmament and development. It is a welcome feature that interest in economic cooperation has been aroused in the last few years among the non-aligned

countries. The Lima declaration has rightly stressed the need for promoting collective self-reliance among the non-aligned countries. Economic issues, however, cannot be divorced from political issues and interest of development can be best served in an environment of peace and cooperation and not confrontation,

The accent at Colombo should be on implementation of decisions already taken, particularly in the action programme for economic cooperation. We have taken important decisions at various non-aligned conferences in the last five years or so. It should be the task of the Bureau to review their implementation and make appropriate recommendations for action so that by the time we meet at the summit level at Colombo we should be ready to decide the future course of action.

In this context we attach considerable importance to the forthcoming meeting at ministerial level in New Delhi in July, 1976 on the establishment of a non-aligned news agency pool. It is a very concrete, promising and highly desirable field of cooperation among non-aligned countries and it is our hope that all member countries of the movement would participate actively in this. We are heartened by the response already received. The meeting should help us in giving shape to a project which was conceived at the Algiers summit.

Non-aligned countries constitute a movement and not a bloc. We should avoid locking ourselves into a strait jacket of institutionalisation. It would bring in avoidable rigidities into the movement and may weaken its vigour, progressive orientation and dynamism. We need coordination of our efforts and our activities. This could be done without setting up any new institutions. The Coordinating Bureau has done well in the recent years not only as a preparatory committee for important non-aligned conferences but also, as its very name suggests, a coordinating body which has enabled non-aligned countries to act together at the United

to take joint stand and initiatives on emergent crises and problems.

Mr. President, if I have spoken at some length on matters concerning the non-aligned movement, it is because careful preparatory work is essential for the success of the Colombo summit and indeed for imparting a spirit of vigour and a sense of direction to our movement. The problem of preserving and consolidating world peace is still a live one. Even with all the silver linings of detente, crisis situation still persists in different parts of the world.

We welcome detente. The Helsinki conference on European Security and Cooperation has marked hopefully the beginning of an era of relaxation of tensions in that continent which had been the theatre of the two world wars. However, detente still remains to be established and made irreversible. Detente is still limited, confined and circumscribed. Detente in Europe can have real meaning for the rest of the world only if it is extended to other continents and its benefits accrue to all the countries, big and small, developed and developing.

Asia has not been able to rid itself of uncertainty and trouble, tension and conflicts. On the positive side we rejoice in the historic victory of the peoples of Indo-China in their struggle for re-assertion of their independence and sovereignty. Reunified Vietnam, subscribing to the policy of non-alignment, should be an important factor for peace, progress and understanding. The people of Indo-China are facing a gigantic task of national reconstruction. India stands ready to play its part in any collective effort in this direction by the non-aligned countries.

In our own part of the world we continue to strive with some results to overcome barriers to understanding, eliminate hostilities and build new bridges of understanding with neighbours, near and far. It is our effort as a non-aligned country to promote a climate of harmony and understanding which would usher in durable peace and growing cooperation among all.

West Asia has still to reach ... understanding and peace and the situation remains explosive. There can be no just and lasting solution to the Middle East crisis until Israel vacates the territory illegally occupied by it through aggression and force. The situation alternates between stray signs of hope and dangerous drift towards stagnation. It is our fervent hope that in this hour of trial our Arab brothers would maintain their solidarity, which is an important pre-requisite for the eventual attainment of their objectives. They can count on the full and unwavering support of the non-aligned world. We are confident that the decisions recommended by the United Nations Ad Hoc Committee on the question of Palestine would be unanimously adopted at the forthcoming session of the General Assembly and a phased programme implemented for enabling the Palestinian people to assert their inalienable rights and nationhood.

The stalemate in Cyprus unfortunately continues. The talks between the two communities to evolve a mutually acceptable solution have not yet yielded tangible results. The search for a solution must be intensified. The paramount concern of all of us must continue to be the safeguarding of the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and the non-aligned status of the Republic of Cyprus and the speedy implementation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations. We hope that the dialogue between the two communities would be resumed speedily and that both sides will approach it in a constructive spirit, with goodwill and mutual understanding of each other's legitimate rights and interests.

We rejoice in the emergence of erstwhile Portuguese colonies in Africa into sovereign, independent nations. The heroic people of Angola have triumphed and we welcome Angola as a full member of the non-aligned movement. Despite grave economic burdens Mozambique has acted with courage and determination by closing its borders with Zimbabwe. This has tightened the noose around the illegal Smith regime. We should offer the Zimbabwe Liberation Movements our complete moral and material support. Non-aligned countries need to extend help

immediately and in concrete forms. We on our part have already pledged a contribution equivalent to US \$ 100,000 in goods and services to Mozambique. The momentum of the national liberation struggle is increasing in its intensity and the day is not far off when the remaining citadels of colonialism, racism and apartheid will crumble in Southern Africa. Non-aligned countries should reiterate their firm and unwavering support to the

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people of Zimbabwe, Namibia and South Africa struggling for their liberation.

All those who care for peace and justice in the world, more specially the newly independent and nonaligned nations, should speak up against outside presence and adventures and forces of destabilisation. Whatever domestic changes that occur should be decided by the peoples themselves and not dictated by the global strategies and compulsions of others. Non-aligned countries should strongly repudiate any effort to extend presence and to put pressures. The resistance to pressures and infiltration is vital to the preservation of the independence of the newly emerging independent countries of the world. This is the reason for the determined opposition by all the littoral states to foreign bases like Diego Garcia and military presence in the Indian Ocean, which must be established as a zone of peace.

The success of non-alignment in the political field must be accompanied by steady progress towards the evolution of a new international economic order. The legacy of colonial exploitation and under-development has left a wide gap between the developed and the developing countries, a gap which unfortunately has only been widened by the economic crisis of recent years. Non-aligned and developing countries have still a very dismal share in world's trade, industry, finance and technology. As a logical corollary to the policy of peaceful co-existence they have sought cooperative solutions with the industrialised and affluent world to the pressing problems of economic development, reconstruction and transformation, but the

response has almost always been ... inadequate. Although the moderate success of UNCTAD IV has been a dim ray of hope in the otherwise deepening economic gloom, there is notable absence of any significant and meaningful advance in the sphere of restructuring of international economic relations on the basis of equality, justice and mutuality of interests. But no viable alternative to the policy of cooperation has yet emerged. This policy of cooperation should not, however, be mistaken as a sign of weakness. The question is not whether the developed countries can afford to help the developing countries.

The question is whether they can afford not to do so in this highly interdependent world of today.

Even more important for non-aligned and developing countries is to increase cooperation among ourselves. For the first time in modern history, developing countries possess unparalleled opportunities to rid themselves of crushing burden of poverty, stagnation and under-development through collective self-reliance. We have within our reach global resources, both human and material, which can enable us to meet the legitimate expectations of our people. To give only one example, if the balance of payments deficits of some oil importing countries amounted to US \$ 45 billion in 1975, our oil exporting partners from developing countries earned surplus of almost the same amount. Amongst ourselves we have the financial, industrial, technological and natural resources which can meet much of each other's needs. We ought to give the highest priority to pooling our own resources.

Mr. Chairman, I have listened with great attention and respect to the views expressed by my distinguished colleagues and have benefited much by exchange of views with them. My delegation is motivated by the sole desire to strengthen non-alignment, to maintain its unity, strengthen its solidarity and cohesiveness. Even in the small forum of the Coordinating Bureau we have representatives from four continents and indeed from all corners of the world. This is what makes even this limited gathering a representative non-

aligned forum. The movement is at a critical juncture today. Let us rise to the challenge and fulfil the expectations of the movement by working together in a spirit of close and constructive cooperation and understanding. As Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi observed at the Algiers Summit: The past will inspire us but it is the needs of the present and the challenge of the future which are the driving force for our united action. We are responsible not to our individual countries alone but to the peace and prosperity of the whole world. Let this bind us anew to the ideal of active non-alignment. Let this be the message of Algiers.

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ALGERIA PERU SRI LANKA YUGOSLAVIA USA INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC FINLAND
CHINA VIETNAM ISRAEL CYPRUS ANGOLA MOZAMBIQUE ZIMBABWE NAMIBIA

Date : May 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

PAKISTAN

India-Pakistan Joint Statement

Following is the text of the India-Pakistan joint statement issued in Islamabad on May 14, 1976 at the conclusion of the Indo-Pakistan talks on normalization of relations between the two countries:

Pursuant to the letter written by Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto on March 27, and the reply of Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi of April 11, the delegations of India and Pakistan met in Islamabad from May 12 to 14, 1976, with the objective of resuming normalization of relations between the two countries as envisaged in the Simla Agreement. The discussions were held in a frank and friendly atmosphere.

His Excellency Shri J. S. Mehta, Foreign Secretary led the Indian delegation. He was assisted by representatives of the Ministries of External Affairs, Tourism and Civil Aviation, Finance, Home Affairs, Railways, Shipping and Transport and Commerce. The Pakistani delegation was led by Mr. Agha Shahi, Foreign Secretary. He was assisted by the representatives of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Railways, Finance, Communications, Commerce, Interior, Information and Broadcasting, Law, Aviation Division, the Departments of Civil Aviation, Ports and Shipping and Pakistan International Airlines Corporation.

In regard to matters relating to civil aviation, the two delegations discussed the modality of withdrawing the cases and counter claim pending before the Council of the International Civil Aviation Organisation and agreed to send a joint letter to the Council for the purpose. They further agreed to the resumption of overflights and the restoration of airlinks between the two countries. It was decided that expert delegations from the two countries will meet to work out the necessary details.

The two delegations agreed to resume goods and passenger traffic by rail through the Wagah Attari border. In this connection the Pakistan delegation stated that the rail track on its side was already functional. The Indian delegation undertook to carry out the necessary repairs on its side as soon as possible.

The two sides recognised the advantage that would accrue to trade between the two countries with the resumption of freighting of goods by rail.

It was decided that the experts of the two countries should meet urgently to work out a detailed agreement regarding interchange, freight rating, compensation claims, custom formalities, the creation of a wagon pool, etc. for the goods and passenger traffic between the two countries.

The two sides agreed to grant multiple journey visas valid for one year to the mem-

bers of the railway staff operating on scheduled services along the specified route.

The two delegations agreed that goods meant for the other country could also be transported by road upto the Wagah Attari border. For this purpose, they undertook to make necessary arrangements for the transshipment, warehousing, bonding and customs clearance, etc.

The two delegations discussed the question of early re-establishment of diplomatic relations between their countries. They agreed that each country should be represented by an Ambassador with supporting staff in the capital of the other country. In view of the problems which had been faced in the past in the functioning of their respective diplomatic missions, the two delegations reaffirmed their adherence to the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations 1961 to which they were party and agreed on a basis of reciprocity, to grant each other's Missions all facilities and courtesies for their normal functioning.

The two delegations reviewed the working of the Indo-Pakistan Trade Agreement of January 23, 1975, and the Shipping Protocol of January 15, 1975. They agreed that in

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terms of Article 3 of the Trade Agreement, in addition to state trading organisations, the private sector be also enabled, with effect from July 15, 1976, to participate in the trade between the two countries subject to the laws, rules, regulations and procedures in force in their respective countries from time to time.

The two delegations also agreed that the Joint Committee envisaged under Article 9 of Trade Agreement should be constituted immediately to review the working of that Agreement and that the first meeting of the Joint Committee should be held at the Commerce Secretaries' level as soon as possible and, in any case, before the end of 1976.

The two sides decided that a further meeting of the respective shipping experts

should be held, as early as possible, to review the Protocol on Shipping as provided in Article 22 of that Protocol.

The two delegations reviewed the existing visa agreement for regulating travel between the two countries. They noted that the arrangements envisaged in that agreement were working satisfactorily and required no change.

The two delegations discussed measures for promoting cultural and scientific exchanges as envisaged in the Simla Agreement. They agreed that further discussions on these measures could be undertaken in due course.

The two sides held discussions on the question of the detainees and agreed that this humanitarian issue needed to be resolved expeditiously. They also agreed to make efforts to locate persons still untraced and repatriate them with all possible dispatch in accordance with the existing working arrangements.

The leader of the Indian delegation, His Excellency Shri J. S. Mehta, was received by the President of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan.

The Indian delegation warmly thanked the delegation of Pakistan for its hospitality.

PAKISTAN INDIA USA MALI CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC AUSTRIA

Date : May 01, 1976

Volume No

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PAKISTAN

Shri Chavan's Statement in Parliament on Talks between India and Pakistan

The Minister of External Affairs, Shri Y. B. Chavan, made the following statement in Parliament on may 18 1976 on the talks

between India and Pakistan held in Islamabad from May 12 to 14, 1976:

As the House is aware, ever since the Simla Agreement was signed in July 1972, it has been the Government of India's policy that, in keeping with the Agreement, the severed links between India and Pakistan should be restored and the relationship between the two countries normalised. During this period, many problems have indeed been resolved. The telecommunications and postal services between the two countries were re-established and a visa agreement was signed to facilitate travel from Pakistan to India and vice-versa. In January 1975, agreements were also reached between the two Governments on shipping and trade. However, some other items from the Simla Agreement remained unresolved; these were air and land communications and the restoration of diplomatic relations. Two meetings between official delegations were held in November 1974 and May 1975 to discuss questions arising out of Pakistan's complaints with the International Civil Aviation Organisation but no agreement could be reached.

On March 27, Prime Minister of Pakistan, in a letter to our Prime Minister, indicated that Pakistan would be prepared to withdraw its case from the International Civil Aviation Organisation. As the House is aware, India had previously urged such a course in order that the process of normalisation could maintain its momentum and the Simla Agreement could be fulfilled. Consistent with our firm belief that the Simla Agreement enjoins us to work for the establishment of durable peace and harmonious bilateral relations, our Prime Minister, in her reply of April 11, suggested that the Foreign Secretaries of the two countries should meet and discuss pending matters such as air-links, over-flights, resumption of rail and road communications and also the restoration of the severed diplomatic relations between India and Pakistan. The Prime Minister of Pakistan accepted these suggestion in his letter

Secretaries arranged for the delegations to meet in Islamabad between May 12 and May 14.

After the meetings, a Joint Statement was issued, which was simultaneously released to the press in the two capitals. The two governments have also agreed to make public the three letters exchanged between the two Prime Ministers. I am placing texts of the Joint Statement and letters on the Table of the House.

The Members will observe that the Joint Statement embodies an agreement to restore all the severed links between the two countries. In respect of some of these items, further technical level contacts may be necessary to work out the detailed arrangements for the resumption of the links. It has subsequently been agreed that this entire package embodied in the Joint Statement would be put into effect more or less simultaneously between the July 17 and July 24, 1976.

I am confident that these positive developments will be welcomed by the House, the people of our two countries as also the friends of our two countries in the region and the world at large. Both countries must recognise the logic of their interdependence and the need for cooperative relations as between neighbours. If peace and mutual confidence prevail in the subcontinent, our nations could more fully bend their talents and energies to resolve the gigantic problems which confront us and play an even more effective role in the international sphere where we have so many interests in common.

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Date : May 01, 1976

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ROMANIA

The Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, made the following speech at the banquet given in New Delhi on May 21, 1976 in honour of His Excellency Mr. Manea Manescu, the Prime Minister of Romania:

On behalf of the Government and people of India, I am happy to welcome you once again on our soil. You are known to the Indian people as a friend. Your visit is not an isolated event, but is part of a tradition of the continuing contact between India and your great country.

My reference to Romania as a great country is not directed by mere protocol. The sons and daughters of Romania occupy a worthy place in the history of Europe and European civilisation. The memory of the legendary national figures of Mircea the Old, Stephen the Great and others is cherished by all lovers of freedom.

Romanian artists and writers have found a niche in the hearts of people. The great sculptor Constantin Brancusi, amongst some others, has been chosen by UNESCO to be honoured this year. This famous Romanian's visit left an impression on our arts. Some of his works adorn our collections.

Our people have been victim of many aggressions in the past, and unfortunately even in our times. While determined to defend the freedom and territorial integrity of our land, we have constantly advocated the peaceful method for the resolution of differences. The field of negotiations, and not that of battle, can bring lasting benefits to the people of India and to those countries which have, on various occasions in the past, been tempted to use force to settle their differences with us. That is why we believe in solving all issues which may arise between us and our neighbours, strictly on a bilateral basis and through patient dialogue. I am glad that we have had some successes in this direction.

Peace and harmony, between nations, as in a society, are necessary pre-requisites of

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creativity and growth. An atmosphere of confrontation and conflict leads to stultification and waste. If there must be rivalry, let it be peaceful rivalry and peaceful competition. On the Indian sub-continent as elsewhere, we are trying to supplant prevailing suspicions, confrontation and aloofness with trust, co-operation and mutual involvement.

No one of us can limit the horizons of his vision to the boundaries of his nation. Even as an individual belongs at the same time to his family and to his nation, so does he belong simultaneously to his nation and the world. There is an ancient Tamil saying of the 1st century A.D. "The world is my village and all men my brothers". Some countries tend to think that the rest of the world exists for them. They would like other nations to conform to their pattern. But the more perceptive realise that intolerance and exploitation spell danger. India has been working unremittingly for the general acceptance of coexistence and the conscious reduction of economic disparities in the international community. This is the guiding principle of our policy of non-alignment.

The origin of this philosophy of peace and co-existence go deep into Indian history. In our own times, it was reiterated in the concept of non-violence, adopted by the Father of our Nation in our struggle for freedom from colonial rule. On attaining independence, we rejected the psychology of fear, which is the reason for military alliances. Our faith in non-alignment remains as firm as ever, for its relevance has been demonstrated time and again. Hence we adhere to the non-aligned movement and to the continuing validity of its basic principles. We are strengthened by the knowledge that in this urge for universal peace and peaceful cooperation, we have the support of the progressive peoples of the socialist countries, including Romania.

An essential factor in the world's search for peace and harmony is the development of nations which became economically weak either because of colonialism or being side-tracked by the march of science. Poverty must end, not only because it is ugly, and warps the human personality but because the future of the human race is imperilled if a large number of nations are condemned to deprivation, while a few continue to increase their affluence.

We in India are engaged in a gigantic task of national construction. To provide the ingredients of material sufficiency to a nation of 600 million people is no small undertaking. Neither right vision and right policies nor even monetary resources and technological capability are enough without the direct and willing participation of the people. This has grown in the last twenty-five years, during which we have laid the foundations of self-reliance. Yet, as my father remarked, "Our aim is not merely material well-being but the equality and depth of our people. For while power is necessary, wisdom is essential. We have to be true to those principles for which India has stood throughout the ages." This many-sided growth must be achieved mainly through our own efforts but it also needs the increasing economic and cultural co-operation with other peoples.

Between Romania, a member of the socialist fraternity, and India, which belongs to the non-aligned world, growing co-operation is natural. We are both interested in using our entire energies for peaceful construction at home. Goodwill between friends is measured by concrete results in agriculture, industry and science. Your visit takes place against the background of the recently concluded second meeting of the Indo-Romanian Joint Commission on Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation. The sentiment, we entertain towards each other will, I hope, find further expression in the realisation of the decisions of the Joint Commission.

Ladies and gentlemen, I request you to join me in a toast to the health and long life

of the leader of the great Romanian people, His Excellency President Ceausescu, to the health, happiness and success of His Excellency Manescu, the Prime Minister of Romania, to the well-being and prosperity of the Romanian people and to the further strengthening of Indo-Romanian friendship.

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Date : May 01, 1976

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ROMANIA

Romanian Prime Minister's Reply

Replying, the Romanian Prime Minister, Mr. Manea Manescu, made the following speech:

Please allow me to express our warmest thanks for the very kind words addressed to us, together with our deep satisfaction caused by the amiable invitation of the distinguished Prime Minister of the Republic of India, Her Excellency Mrs. Indira Gandhi, to pay a visit to your great and beautiful country.

My collaborators and I myself are deeply impressed by the particular cordial reception and by the warm hospitality extended to us a proof of the good relations existing between our two friendly countries and 'peoples.

Although I have come back now to India after a relatively short period of time I entertain again the same feeling of admiration for everything that the Indian people have achieved during the course of their multimillenary history.

Notwithstanding the fact that Romania and India are in different continents, separated by large geographical distances, a fruitful cooperation was established between our two peoples many years ago.

An essential part in the expansion of the bonds of friendship between our countries was played by the visit to India of the President of the Socialist Republic of Romania, Nicolae Ceausescu, as well as by Your Excellency's own visit to Romania, distinguished Mrs. Gandhi. The high-level dialogue occasioned by those visits opened up particularly favourable prospects to Romanian-Indian cooperation in the political, economic, technological, scientific and cultural fields.

The President of Romania, Dear Mrs. Gandhi, emphasised in the message conveyed to you in November 1975:

". . . I would like to take this opportunity to reassert that we highly rate our relations with India, the particular importance we attach to the strengthening of the Romanian-Indian friendship, to the development of our economic, technical-scientific and cultural cooperation, and to the collaboration of our two States in the world arena for peace, security and detente".

The recent conclusion of many bilateral agreements - among which the Long-Term Agreement on Trade and Payments, the Agreement on collaboration between the two Ministries of Agriculture, the Programme for the application of the Agreement on scientific and technological cooperation for 1976-1980 - have marked important steps in the expansion and diversification of the Romanian-Indian relations.

We are pleased that at the recent session of the Governmental Joint Commission fresh concrete opportunities have been identified for further collaboration and cooperation, especially in the following domains: chemical and oil industries engineering and metallurgy. As far as we are concerned. I would like to assure you that the Romanian Government is ready to do its utmost in order to materialize the numerous possibilities of coope-

ration offered by the Romanian and Indian economies that are in full swing.

Our visit to India is taking place at a time when the Romanian people have started with all their energy and creative capacity the implementation of a new five-year plan designed to bring about an ever stronger advancement of Romania on the path of progress and to bridge the gap that separate it from the economically advanced countries.

The essential directions in the economic and social development of Romania at the present stage are the continuation - at high rates - of the processes of industrialization, the intensive growth of the agriculture, the expansion of international economic relations, the raising of the well-being of our socialist nation.

Our whole people, in a complete unity of will and action, under the leadership of president Nicolae Ceausescu, is firmly determined to act unswervingly for the implementation of the programmes of economic and social development - the solid basis of the homeland's prosperity and of the continuous raising of the living standards, of the consolidation of our national independence and sovereignty.

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The Romanian people follow with great interest the remarkable achievements scored by your country in its endeavours for the liquidation of the consequences of the long colonial domination, for the development of the decisive sectors of the national economy, for creating necessary conditions for the speeding of the economic and social development of the entire country, for the well-being and happiness of the friendly Indian people.

The achievements you have scored in the upbuilding of national industry in the development of power resources, iron and steel, engineering, chemical industry, transports and mining are, indeed highly commendable.

We are pleased to note your results on the line of the technical and scientific activities. We know that India has powerful research centres in the fields of industry, chemistry, medicine, nuclear energy, outer space, agriculture and in other scientific field

Please allow me - on behalf of the Romanian Government - to congratulate the Indian people on the achievements scored in the development of their country and to extend to you our sincere and warm wishes for further successes in the fulfilment of your programmes.

We see in the achievements that the friendly Indian people have obtained a fulfilment of the ideals, of the noble ideals to which the entire life of Mahatma Gandhi, Father of the Indian nation who fought for the liberation of his fatherland, was consecrated to liberate the country from the colonial yoke and also of the life of Jawaharlal Nehru, the continuator of the work of Mahatma Gandhi for the consolidation of the economic and political independence of India.

Ladies and Gentlemen, Dear Mrs. Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi, it is with satisfaction that we note the fact that Romania and India - developing countries, equally aiming at building up a modern economy - have converging preoccupations in their activity in the world arena as well. Interested as they are to the highest degree in the furtherance of their economic construction, our countries militate steadfastly for the safeguarding and consolidation of peace, for the abolition of the imperialist, colonialist and neo-colonialist policies of domination, aggression and dictate, for the triumph of the principles of equity and justice in international affairs.

Now-a-days it becomes even more obvious that the development of fruitful cooperation among peoples and the pursuit of peace itself can be secured only through the strict observance in the relations among states of the principles of sovereignty and independence, non-interference in internal affairs, full equality of rights, renunciation of the use

and threat of force, cooperation and mutual advantage. That is why Romania has placed these principles at the foundation of her foreign policy, permanently following their promotion on the world plane.

Romania, like India, attaches priority attention to the problems of liquidating under-development, removing the division of the world into rich countries and poor countries, bridging the existing gaps, placing on fair bases the international economic exchanges and the world financial and monetary system, establishing a fair balance between the prices of raw materials and those of industrial products as well as of food products, ensuring the access of all states to the achievement of modern science and technology.

These steps should secure the advancement of all states and, first and foremost, of the developing countries, they should create the favourable climate for wide international cooperation for the establishment of a new world economic order.

Particular attention is paid by Romania, a socialist country a developing country to the expansion and diversification of the relations of mutually beneficial cooperation with the developing countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America, with the non-aligned countries, with the states of the Third world, actively supporting at the same time, the struggle for national liberation of the peoples that are still under colonial domination for the liquidation of racism and apartheid policies.

Within the framework of our relations with these countries we emphasise the economic and technical-scientific cooperation capable to score the rapid development of each and every people, the promotion of a policy

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of independence of every nation, their ever stronger assertion in international life.

The President of the Socialist Republic of Romania, Nicolae Ceausescu, paid official visits to more than 30 developing and non-

aligned States and received as guests in Romania many heads of State or Government from those countries. On those occasions important political documents, treaties of friendship, solemn joint declarations, joint communiques were concluded which emphasised the identity of views between Romania and those States concerning the establishment of new relations among States, the setting up of a new international economic and political order, of a better world, a world with more justice.

More than 70 agreements and understandings at government level were signed, on economic cooperation with the developing countries; with non-aligned countries; Romania's trade exchange with the States of the Third World increased five times between 1970-1975. We are participating in the building of about 100 economic projects in developing countries where about 7000 Romanian specialists are working at present.

In the institutions of higher education in our country 8000 foreign students are trained, of whom about 6000 young people are coming from developing countries and from non-aligned countries.

We will take further action to intensify our country's relations with the non-aligned countries, with the developing countries, because Romania is linked to those States by common aspirations for progress and prosperity, by a determination to act for the abolition of the old imperialist policies of inequity for the setting up of new relations of complete equality and mutually beneficial cooperation among nations.

That is the reason Dear Mrs. Prime Minister Indira Gandhi for Romania's desire and interest to participate as an observer in the activity of the non-aligned countries.

This desire is natural because, as shown by the President of the Socialist Republic of Romania, Nicolae Ceausescu, ".... This policy does not at all run counter to Romania's membership in the Warsaw Treaty Organisation - as long as it will exist - and it perfectly corresponds to the general

policy of our country - a socialist country and, at the same time, a developing one --, a policy aimed at strengthening the solidarity with all progressive forces, at promoting the principle of peaceful coexistence and the expansion of cooperation with all states, irrespective of their social system, with a view to overcoming bloc policies, to achieving detente and international security".

I am particularly pleased to underline the important role India has played in strengthening the non-aligned movement, the contribution your country has made - alongside with the other founder States of the movement - to the establishment of the principles that now lie at the foundation of non-alignment. In the assertion of the non-aligned movement a remarkable contribution was made by the eminent Indian statesman Jawaharlal Nehru, when I had the happiness to know in person and to collaborate with him at the United Nations and an important contribution has been made by you in person.

Dear Mrs. Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.

Our country highly appreciates the fact that it was invited to the Ministerial Conference of the Non-aligned States in Lima. We also highly appreciate Romania's admission to the "Group of 77" at the recent Manila Conference. I take this opportunity to express once again to the Indian Government our thanks for the support extended to Romania both in Lima and at Manila.

We are confident that the meeting of the Heads of State or Government scheduled to take place this summer - will be an event of particular importance in the struggle for the establishment of new relations among States on the basis of full equality and mutual esteem.

Your Excellency Mrs. Prime Minister, Ladies and Gentlemen, as an European country, Romania firmly militates in the spirit of the decisions sanctioned by the Final Act of the Helsinki Conference, for concrete measures on military disengagement in Europe, for the intensification of cooperation among states, for further normalisation of inter-European

relations. Starting from the principle that world peace is indivisible, we believe that the achievement of security and the development of wide cooperation in Europe are of such nature as to influence favourably the consoli-

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dation of peace and security the world over.

We welcome with much joy the positive developments that have taken place recently in the Indian sub-continent, developments that are meant to conduce to the normalisation, full normalisation of the relations between the countries of this region, to the promotion of a durable cooperation on the basis of mutual esteem, in the interests of peoples in this area and in the interests of peace and cooperation all over the world.

Romania consistently stands for the liquidation of any hotbeds of tension and conflict by means of negotiations, for the settlement in this way - of the Middle East conflict, of the situation in Cyprus, for the establishment of a lasting and fair peace in the area.

The achievement of general and total disarmament is a vital problem that should be given due consideration. In this respect we stand for real measures aimed at disarmament, at stopping the production of nuclear weapons, at destroying the existing stockpiles, at dissolving the mutually opposed military blocs and at dismantling the military bases on the territories of other states. We support the endeavours for the setting up of peaceful nuclear-free zones on a regional plane, in the Balkans, in the Indian Ocean as well as in other areas of the world.

In our opinion, a particularly important role in the achievement of real security, free collaboration and cooperation among the countries and peoples of the world devolves upon the United Nations. Romania militates for enhancing the role of the UN, for the improvement and democratisation of the activity of that international organisation.

Your Excellency Mrs. Prime Minister.
Ladies and Gentlemen, in conclusion I would like to express once more my firm belief that the visit we are paying to your country, the fruitful talks occasioned by this visit will provide us with new possibilities, to identify and agree on concrete actions designed to lead to an ever deeper cooperation between Romania and India in the economic, scientific, technical and cultural fields, that will make one more contribution to the ascending course of the relations of esteem, friendship and mutually advantageous cooperation between our two countries and peoples, to the cause of peace and cooperation among nations.

With these thoughts in mind I invite you to raise a toast:

- to the health of His Excellency, Mr. Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, President of the Republic of India;
- to the health of Your Excellency Dear Mrs. Prime Minister Indira Gandhi;

- to the prosperity and happiness of the Indian people;

- to the strengthening of the friendship and cooperation between Romania and India;

- to the health of everybody present here.

OMAN ROMANIA USA INDIA PERU POLAND PHILIPPINES FINLAND MALI CYPRUS

Date : May 01, 1976

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ROMANIA

Indo-Romanian Protocol on Economic Cooperation

The following press note an Indo-

Romanian protocol on economic cooperation was issued in New Delhi on May 24, 1976:

During the visit of H.E. Mr. Manea Manescu, Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Romania, to India from May 21-24, 1976, he had held discussions with the Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi. During these discussions Indo-Romanian economic relations were also reviewed. It was agreed that both sides would consider various ways to further increase and diversify economic cooperation between the two countries. In pursuance of this, specific measures were identified in discussions between Shri K. D. Malaviya, Minister of Petroleum and Co-Chairman of the Indo-Romanian Joint Commission and H.E. Mr. Nicolae Ionescu, Minister-Secretary of State in the Ministry of Foreign Trade and International Economic Cooperation. A Protocol was signed on May 24, 1976, between the two Ministers in the presence of the Prime Ministers of the two countries.

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In the light of the decisions taken by both sides during the second meeting of the Indo-Romanian Joint Commission held in New Delhi from April 21 to 28, 1976, the two Ministers agreed that further momentum should be given in the field of industrial co-operation, particularly in areas of processing of leather, ships, drilling equipment, drugs, machine tools, equipment and structural materials for expansion of metallurgical industry in Romania, beneficiation of China-Clay and Dolomite, natural gas processing oil exploration etc. In addition to these, cooperation in third countries and technology, planning and trade exchanges will also be further intensified. Both sides hoped that effective measures will be taken to increase and diversify trade so that by end of 1980, the trade between the two countries may exceed Rs. 2 billion.

OMAN ROMANIA INDIA USA CHINA

Date : May 01, 1976

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ROMANIA

Indo-Romanian Joint Communiqué

Following is the text of the Indo-Romanian joint communiqué issued in New Delhi on May 24, 1976 at the conclusion of the visit of the Romanian Prime Minister to India:

At the invitation of the Prime Minister of the Republic of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister of the Government of the Socialist Republic of Romania, His Excellency Mr. Manea Manescu, paid a visit to the Republic of India from May 21 to 24, 1976.

The Prime Minister of the Government of the Socialist Republic of Romania Mr. Manea Manescu was received by the President of India with whom he had a cordial exchange of views.

Mr. Manea Manescu conveyed to the President and Prime Minister of India from the President of the Socialist Republic of Romania, Nicolae Ceausescu and Madam Elena Ceausescu warm greetings of friendship and good wishes for personal health and happiness as well as for the progress and prosperity of the friendly Indian people.

The President of India, Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, and the Prime Minister of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, conveyed to the President of the Socialist Republic of Romania, Nicolae Ceausescu and Madam Elena Ceausescu, cordial greetings and a warm message of friendship and good wishes for personal health and happiness as well as for the progress and prosperity of the friendly Romanian people.

The two Prime Ministers held talks on

bilateral relations and current international problems, which were conducted in an atmosphere of cordiality and mutual understanding in conformity with the traditional friendly relations between the two countries and revealed an identity or similarity of views on the subjects discussed.

Within the framework of the exchange of views on current international issues, the two Prime Ministers stressed the need for the strict observance of the principles of national independence and sovereignty, equality among states, non-interference, territorial integrity and peaceful settlement of disputes.

The two sides while taking note of the welcome developments on the world scene, expressed concern at the unresolved international problems and crisis situations that still persist. The two Prime Ministers reiterated the determination of their Governments to work for preserving and consolidating world peace and promoting the early establishment of a new international economic order.

The two Prime Ministers noted with satisfaction the favourable evolution of cooperation between the two countries and expressed their desire to develop it further in various fields on a long term and stable basis. They agreed that constant development and diversification of the economies of the two countries had opened up new possibilities for expansion of Indo-Romanian economic cooperation. They welcomed the conclusion of the long-term Trade and Payments Agreement (1976-80) in December 1975 and the substantial increase in the volume of bilateral trade in recent years as well as the prog-

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ramme for implementation of the Agreement on Scientific and Technological Cooperation for 1976-80.

While noting with satisfaction the conclusions of the Second Session of the Indo-Romanian Joint Commission held in New Delhi in April, 1976, the two Prime Ministers

welcomed its decisions for further development of bilateral trade and cooperation in the fields of petrochemicals, machine building metallurgy, agriculture, and light industries. At the same time they underlined the importance of strengthening contacts at various levels and exploring the possibility of joint ventures in third countries.

The following documents were signed during the visit:

- (i) Protocol on Economic, Commercial, Scientific and technological Cooperation.
- (ii) The Indo-Romanian Cultural Exchange Programme (1976-78).

The Prime Minister of Romania, Mr. Manea Manescu, received the Minister for External Affairs, Shri Y. B. Chavan, and Minister of Petroleum Shri K. D. Malaviya, and had a useful exchange of views with them.

The Prime Minister of the Government of the Socialist Republic of Romania, Mr. Manea Manescu, was accompanied by Mr. Nicolae Ionescu, Minister, Secretary of State in the Ministry of Foreign Trade and International Economic Cooperation, Mr. Cornel Paeoste, Deputy Minister for External Affairs, Mr. Ion Ion St. Ion, Secretary to the Council of Ministers and other high officials.

The visit to India of the Prime Minister of the Government of the Socialist Republic of Romania, and the wide ranging and fruitful talks held between the two sides, had greatly contributed to the further strengthening of their friendly relations and cooperation.

The Prime Minister of the Government of Romania, Mr. Manea Moneanu expressed his thanks to the Prime Minister of the Republic of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi and to the Indian people for the warm hospitality and friendly reception accorded to him and to his associates during their stay in India.

The Prime Minister of the Government of Romania, Mr. Manea Manescu renewed to the Prime Minister of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, a cordial invitation to visit the Socialist Republic of Romania for which the Prime Minister of India expressed her thanks. The date of the visit will be fixed through diplomatic channels,

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SRI LANKA

Indo-Sri Lanka Loan Agreement

The following press release on the Indo-Sri Lanka loan agreement was issued in New Delhi on May 28, 1976:

According to an agreement signed here today India will provide an interest-free loan of Rs. 10 lakhs to Sri Lanka. The loan will be utilized for the purchase of various items from India which are required by the Government of Sri Lanka in connection with the Non-aligned Summit Conference to be held in Colombo in August, this year.

The agreement was signed by Shri M. Narasimham, Additional Secretary in the Department of Economic Affairs on behalf of the Government of India and His Excellency Mr. Justin Siriwardane, High Commissioner for Sri Lanka, on behalf of the Government of Sri Lanka.

The Government of India have also given a grant of Rs. 10 lakhs to the Government of Sri Lanka for the same purpose.

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SWEDEN

Indo-Swedish Aid Agreement

The following press release on the Indo-Swedish aid agreement was issued in New Delhi on May 21, 1976:

The Agreement on Development Cooperation providing Swedish aid of Rs. 47.61 crores (Skr. 230 million) to India for 1976-77 has been signed in Stockholm by Shri M. G. Kaul, Secretary, Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance and Mr. L. Klackenberg, Under Secretary of State in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Sweden, on behalf of their respective Governments.

Out of the assistance of Rs. 47.61 crores (Skr. 230 million), an amount of Rs. 21.74 crores (Skr. 105 million) will be available for General Imports by India. This portion of the aid is untied and can be used for financing imports from any part of the world to India's best advantage.

A provision of Rs. 16.56 crores (Skr. 80 million) has been made in the Agreement to finance imports of goods and services from Sweden. As in the past this amount is expected to be utilised for import of bulk commodities such as paper, special steel etc. as also for capital goods and services from Sweden.

The agreement also provides for technical assistance to the extent of Rs. 9.31 crores (Skr. 45 million). This amount will be utilised for implementation of several projects

in the fields of family planning, health, fishing, forestry, export promotion etc.

A noteworthy feature of the Development Assistance from Sweden for 1976-77 is that for the first time the entire assistance will be on a grant basis. Till last year, a part of the Swedish aid was extended in the form of grant and a part as a soft term loan. The Agreement also provides for remission in full of payments on principal, interest and service charges on earlier credits falling due in the financial year 1976-77.

SWEDEN INDIA USA

Date : May 01, 1976

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TRIPARTITE MINISTERIAL MEETING

Text of Communique

Following is the text of the communique issued at the conclusion of the fourth ministerial tripartite meeting between Egypt, India and Yugoslavia held on May 2 and 3, 1976 in Cairo:

The fourth tripartite meeting of the Ministers of the Arab Republic of Egypt, the Republic of India and the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia on economic cooperation was held in Cairo on the 2nd and 3rd May, 1976. The Arab Republic of Egypt was represented by His Excellency Mr. Zakaria Tawfik Abdel Fattah, Minister of Trade and Supply, the Republic of India by His Excellency Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma, Minister of Communications, and the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia by His Excellency Dr. Anton Vratusa, Vice President of the Federal Executive Council.

The Ministers stressed the need to develop self-reliance of developing countries through closer economic cooperation among

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them and reaffirmed their conviction that the programme for tripartite economic cooperation constitutes a significant contribution towards attainment of the objectives of the developing countries and the programmes of action adopted by the summit meetings of the non-aligned countries.

The discussions between the Ministers took place in the traditional atmosphere of warmth and cordiality and manifested their determination to further promote the effectiveness of tripartite economic cooperation.

The Ministers noted that there have been considerable changes in the economies of the three participating states and in the modalities of trade between them and agreed that it would be necessary to undertake a review of the commodities and preferences to be exchanged between the three countries with a view to considering suitable change on the basis of the principle of mutuality of advantage and with a view to the expansion of their mutual trade.

The Ministers agreed that there was considerable scope for long-term tripartite industrial cooperation in such fields as tractor components, railway rolling stock and electronics and also agreed that tripartite joint ventures could be promoted through the extension of preferential tariff to the products of such projects.

The Ministers stressed the importance of cooperation in agriculture, agro-industries, food production and fisheries in the participating states and agreed to consider appropriate measures to promote such cooperation.

The Ministers agreed that the three countries might consider jointly undertaking Suitable projects in other countries.

The Ministers agreed to intensify tripartite cooperation in the fields of science and

technology and to conclude a tripartite agreement on this subject.

The Ministers recognized the need for closer cooperation in the fields of banking, payments and insurance as a means of promoting commercial and economic exchanges among the three countries and agreed to initiate measures of cooperation between their respective banking institutions.

The Ministers reviewed tripartite cooperation in the field of tourism and agreed that fresh measures should be considered to augment the advantages gained through bilateral cooperation in this area between the three countries.

The Ministers reviewed the progress in the multilateral trade negotiations being conducted in Geneva and expressed the hope that favourable decisions from the point of view of developing countries would be expedited. It was agreed that the delegations of the three countries would continue to act in close cooperation with a view to the attainment of the objectives of the negotiations.

The Ministers reaffirmed the support of their countries for the establishment of the new international economic order and for the implementation of the decision of the VII special session of the United Nations General Assembly and they expressed the readiness of their countries to act in concert with other developing countries, members of the Group of '77', with a view to ensuring that UNCTAD IV and the Paris conference on International Economic Cooperation contribute satisfactorily to the implementation of these objectives.

The Ministers stressed the special importance of the forthcoming fifth conference of Heads of State or Government of the non-aligned countries to be held in Colombo for strengthening the role of non-aligned countries as a significant force in the struggle for peace, independence, progress and security and in the establishment of an equitable world economic order.

The next tripartite meeting of the Minis-

ters will be held in India on mutually convenient dates in the first half of 1977.

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USA EGYPT INDIA YUGOSLAVIA SWITZERLAND FRANCE SRI LANKA

Date : May 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Foreign Minister's Speech at Dinner in Honour of Mr. Arkhipov

Following is the text of the Minister of External Affairs, Shri Y. B. Chavan's speech at a dinner in honour of His Excellency Mr. Iran Vasilyevich Arkhipov, Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R., in New Delhi on May 4, 1976:

I am truly happy to welcome you in our midst today. The first day of May is always a very significant day since it is devoted to the workers of the world. It is a happy and fitting coincidence that the inauguration of the Hot Strip Mill at Bokaro this morning, which is a monument to the devoted and selfless labour of the Indian and Soviet workers should have taken place on this day. It is also a matter of great pleasure to all of us, both Soviet and Indian friends, that you should be in our midst this evening on the occasion of your, birthday. May I offer you my warmest felicitations and sincere good wishes on this occasion and wish you many more years of dedication service for the welfare of the great and friendly Soviet people and in the promotion of Indo-Soviet friendship and cooperation.

We are glad that Your Excellency found it possible to accept our Government's invitation to visit India at this time. You are

visiting India after a long interval. The industrial face of India has changed dramatically in this period and I am glad that you are taking this opportunity to visit not only our artistic, religious and cultural monuments, but also shining industrial projects of Indo-Soviet collaboration also.

Your visit, Excellency, is symbolic of the Indo-Soviet friendship and traditionally close and friendly ties that have been steadily developing over the years. It provides fresh evidence - if such evidence were needed - of the abiding nature of mutually beneficial Indo-Soviet economic cooperation, of the Soviet Union's interest in the development of the Indian economy, of the feelings of genuine sympathy and rejoicing with which the Soviet leaders, the Soviet Government and the Soviet people regard the successes and achievements of the Indian people.

Relations between India and the Soviet Union are not based on transient factors but on a commonality of interests, shared values and principles and the desire to promote peace through friendship and cooperation. Indo-Soviet relations at present embrace a wide variety of fields-political, economic, commercial, cultural, scientific, technological; and more and more fields of cooperation like space, communications, electronics are constantly being added to the impressive range of Indo-Soviet cooperation. The Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation signed between our two countries in August 1971 was a logical culmination of steadily developing Indo-Soviet relations. Since the Treaty was signed, important steps have been taken to further strengthen Indo-Soviet economic relations such as the setting up of an Indo-Soviet Joint Commission for Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation and the conclusion of the long-term 15 year Agreement for the further development of trade and economic cooperation, during His Excellency Brezhnev's visit to India in November 1973.

The significance of Indo-Soviet economic cooperation is rendered even more so by the fact that the Soviet Union has provided us assistance in the key sectors of our economy, such as steel, machine-building, power, oil

production and refining. Pride of place among this naturally goes to the cooperation in metallurgy. The Agreement, more than two decades ago, on the setting up of the Bhilai Steel Plant was the first Indo-Soviet economic collaboration agreement. Bhilai has continued since then to be a symbol of Indo-Soviet friendship and now Bokaro has become a symbol of the fruitful Indo-Soviet economic cooperation of the 1970's. The inauguration of the Hot Strip Mill at Bokaro today is an important milestone in the history of Indo-Soviet economic cooperation.

Other projects in India built with Soviet collaboration are also progressing well and have achieved impressive results. Our trade has greatly expanded over the years so that today the Soviet Union is among India's largest trading partners. The new Trade

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Agreement signed recently when the Foreign Trade Minister of U.S.S.R., Mr. Patolichev, was in New Delhi a few weeks ago, aims at increasing the Indo-Soviet trade turnover by 1 to 2 times by 1980 in accordance with the targets set during Mr. Brezhnev's visit to India. Therefore, much has been achieved in the development of Indo-Soviet trade and economic relations. But more still remains to be done.

The pattern of Indo-Soviet collaboration has been gradually changing over the last two decades. In this period, the Soviet Union and the Soviet people have made tremendous all round progress in the economic, scientific technological and other fields. India's economy too has been transformed from a basically agrarian one in the early fifties to one which has a strong industrial infrastructure, and today India is manufacturing a wide variety of industrial products, some of them sophisticated. The requirements of both India and the Soviet Union have changed. It is no longer enough to adhere to the traditional patterns of trade and economic cooperation. It is, therefore, encouraging that the third meeting of the Joint Commission held in April in Moscow broke fresh ground in identifying areas of coope-

ration in third country projects as well as in the field of production cooperation. I am confident about its success and the enduring nature of its prospects which will help maintain the accelerated growth of Indo-Soviet economic relations.

Friends, may I request you to join me in raising your glasses in a toast to the health, happiness and prosperity of the leaders of the Soviet Union, Their Excellencies, Messrs. Brezhnev, Podgorny and Kosygin, to the health of H.E. Mr. Arkhipov, Deputy Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, to the growing friendship between the Soviet and the Indian people, to the fruitful development of all round Indo-Soviet relations in the interests of peace and friendship among nations.

IRAN USA INDIA RUSSIA

Date : May 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

UNITED KINGDOM

Shri Chavan's Statement in Parliament on Reported Move by U. K. on Question of Nationality

The Minister of External Affairs, Shri Y. B. Chavan, made the following statement in the Lok Sabha on May 14, 1976 in response to the Calling Attention Notice regarding the reported move by the U.K. Government to compel thousands of Indian nationals permanently residing in Britain either to accept British nationality or to face expulsion from that country. A similar statement was made by the Deputy Minister for External Affairs, Shri Bipinpal Das in the Pajya Sabha:

Government has seen a newspaper report to the effect that the authorities in Britain were asking Indian nationals in Britain

to adopt British nationality or face expulsion. On informal enquiry the British Foreign Office denied that the British Government had decided to compel Indians to adopt British citizenship or leave the country.

The House is aware that there is a sizeable population of Indian origin living in Britain. While precise figures are not available, the total is estimated at around 500,000. Most of them went to Britain in the early years after independence until the beginning of the 1960's when the British Government enacted the Commonwealth Immigration Act (1962) and thereafter gradually tightened immigration restrictions. We do not have precise figures as to how many persons of Indian origin have acquired British nationality, but it is estimated that about 50% may have done so. The people of Indian origin in Britain have made an important contribution to the social, economic and political life of that country.

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The grant of British citizenship is regulated by the British Nationality Act of 1948 which has been amended from time to time. Under this Act, Commonwealth citizens who entered Britain prior to January 1, 1973, are entitled to be registered as British citizens after completing 5 years' ordinary residence without any other requirement. Moreover, the Immigration Act of 1971 provides that Commonwealth citizens settled in the U.K. on 1.1.73 are to be treated as having been given indefinite leave to remain in the U.K. It is understood that a review of the Nationality Act is in progress at present in order to remove certain ambiguities regarding British citizenship, but no decisions have yet been taken nor any legislation drafted.

If and when legislation of the kind mentioned in the newspaper reports is introduced, it would presumably apply not only to people of Indian origin but also to all other immigrants including those from other parts of Asia, Africa and the Caribbean. The question should therefore be looked at in its totality in proper perspective and not in isolation. Government would however like to

take this opportunity to underline the importance it attaches to just and humane treatment being accorded to all those Indian citizens who are resident in Britain and are playing their due part in the life of the community and express the hope that the British Government would give due consideration to avoiding any action that might cause suffering or hardship to these people.

UNITED KINGDOM INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : May 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Indo-US Food Agreement

The following press release on Indo-us food agreement was issued in New Delhi on May 3, 1976:

An Agreement for the import of 400,000 tonnes of wheat and 100,000 tonnes of rice from U.S.A. was signed here today by Shri M. G. Kaul, Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs and Mr. William B. Saxbe, Ambassador of the United States of America.

The total value of the import is \$ 83.0 million. Five Per cent of the price will be paid as down-payment by India and 95 per cent will be a long-term loan repayable in dollars.

The loan is repayable in 31 annual instalments, commencing 10 years after the delivery of the commodities. The loan carries interest at 2 per cent during the first 10 years and 3 per cent during the next 30 years.

The import is intended to add to the

buffer stocks of the country.

USA INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : May 01, 1976

Volume No

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Indo-US Agreement on Double Taxation on Profits from Aircraft Operations

The following press release on Indo-US agreement on avoidance of double taxation on profits from aircraft operations was issued in New Delhi on May 28, 1976:

Talks between India and the United States for the conclusion of a comprehensive Convention for the avoidance of double taxation of income and, the prevention of fiscal evasion with respect to taxes on income concluded here today after five days deliberations.

Pending finalisation of the comprehensive Convention, the two countries have

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agreed on the avoidance of double taxation in respect of profits derived by enterprises of India and U.S.A. from operation of aircraft in international traffic. The agreement was initialled here today by Shri S. R. Mehta, Chairman, Central Board of Direct Taxes, who was the leader of the Indian delegation and Mr. Robert J. Patrick Jr., International Tax Counsel, U.S. Treasury Department who led his country's delegation to the talks.

The negotiations which were held in a friendly atmosphere of utmost cordiality led to mutual understanding on most of the Articles comprising the Convention. A few

points have, however, been reserved for further consideration.

USA INDIA

Date : May 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

VIETNAM

Foreign Minister's Speech at Dinner in Honour of Madame Binh

Following is the text of the Minister of External Affairs, Shri Y. B. Chavan's speech at a dinner in honour of Her Excellency Madame Nguyen Thi Binh, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Vietnam, in New Delhi on May 20, 1976:

It gives me great pleasure today to extend a most hearty and cordial welcome to Your Excellency and your colleagues on your visit to India. We welcome you, Your Excellency, as the Representative of a brave and courageous nation; of a people whose spirit of freedom and independence remained unvanquished throughout some of the severest tribulations of recorded history. We welcome you as a diplomatist of great skill, and international repute, as a friend of India who is no stranger to India. We fondly recall your visit to India about 6 years ago. Due to your various preoccupations we are denied the pleasure of having you amidst us for a longer period. However, we are certain that you yourself will have observed the unmistakable signs of change and progress recorded during these years. I can say with confidence the people of India are determined to accelerate the pace of change and to achieve further progress.

Your Excellency, the friendship between our two countries owes its origin to the wide

ranging contacts between India and Vietnam going back to the earliest period of recorded history. During the medieval period of history both our countries were victims of colonialism and imperialist machinations. But even during that period of the history of our countries we derived comfort in the sympathy and support extended to each other. Your arrival in India on the birth anniversary of that outstanding personality of our time; Ho Chi-Minh, serves to underline the regard and affection that the two great leaders of our time, Jawaharlal Nehru and Ho Chi-Minh had for each other from which the establishment of cordial relations between our two countries and peoples was a logical outcome. Both the leaders fore-saw a great future for our continent and for our peoples. The Government and people of India, as heirs to the prophetic vision of Jawaharlal Nehru, are deeply conscious of their responsibilities in this regard and I can assure you, Your Excellency, that no effort will be spared to further strengthen the ties of friendship between our two countries. We are aware of the long dark night that has preceded the dawn of hope in your land and will consider it a great honour and, within the limits of our capabilities, will be privileged to participate in the valiant task of economic reconstruction of your country, upon which you have embarked and which has already evoked the admiration of peoples everywhere.

We are convinced that Vietnam has a most important role to play not only in

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its region but in Asia as a whole. We look forward to your country's presence at the Non-Aligned Summit in Colombo in less than three months' time, and beyond that to assuming your rightful place in the United Nations itself, thereby, giving your country an opportunity to make its presence felt even more greatly in the international arena.

I have referred to the forthcoming Colombo Summit of the Non-Aligned where, I am certain, both our countries will underscore the imperative need to strengthen the

unity, solidarity and cohesiveness of the Non-Aligned movement. As you are aware, Your Excellency, the Non-Aligned countries of Asia are greatly looking forward to the first ever summit in this continent. We are confident that the meeting will impart a further progressive direction to the movement and reinforce its positive orientation. We also hope that the various measures of importance agreed upon at Algiers and Lima will find successful implementation as a result of the Conference.

Mme. Foreign Minister, before long India will be completing three decades as an independent and sovereign nation. While we have attained political freedom we are acutely aware of the fact that freedom is not complete till the success of our ceaseless struggle for social and economic justice and economic progress particularly for the weaker sections of our people has been ensured. Our concern with the task of economic and social development of our country leads us to the firm conviction that peace and stability are indispensable factors for their realisation. We value peace for its munificence. We value it because it forms an inalienable component of our heritage of the teachings of our wise ancestors. We are confident, therefore, that India and Vietnam, both peace-loving countries, concerned with building up progressive societies in their respective countries have to play a very important and meaningful role.

Ladies and Gentlemen, may I now request you all to join in proposing a toast to the President of the Advisory Council of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Vietnam His Excellency Mr. Nguyen Huu Tho, to the President of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Vietnam His Excellency Mr. Huynh Tan Phat, to Her Excellency Mme. Binh, to the Government and people of the Republic of South Vietnam and to everlasting friendship between India and Vietnam.

VIETNAM INDIA USA CHINA SRI LANKA ALGERIA PERU

Date : May 01, 1976

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UNITED KINGDOM

Date : Jun 01, 1976

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ALGERIA

Indo-Algerian Cultural Agreement

Following is the text of the Indo-
Algerian cultural agreement signed in Algiers
by Shri Y. B. Chavan (Foreign Minister of
India) and Mr. Abdelaziz Bouteflika (Foreign
Minister of Algeria) on June 1, 1976:

The Government of the Republic of India
and

The Government of the Democratic and
Popular Republic of Algeria,

INSPIRED BY a common desire to es-
tablish and develop closer cultural relations,

AND DESIROUS of promoting and deve-
loping in every possible manner such relations
in the fields of culture, art, education includ-
ing academic activity in the field of science
and technology, sports, public health and
mass media, with due regard to their sover-
eign equality and to the principle of non-
interference in the internal affairs of the
other country,

HAVE DECIDED to conclude an Agree-
ment on Cultural Cooperation and have
agreed on the following:

ARTICLE I

The Contracting Parties shall facilitate
and encourage cooperation between the two
countries in the fields of education including
academic activity in the field of science and
technology, art and culture, mass media and
sports in order to contribute to a better
knowledge of their respective cultures and
their intellectual activities.

ARTICLE II

Each of the Contracting Parties shall
encourage and facilitate:

1. Exchange:

- I) of visits of specialists professors for
delivering lectures and conducting
special courses;
- II) of books, publications and other
materials in the fields of education,
art and culture and translation of
literary and other publications of
each other's country;
- III) of artistes and performing groups;
- iv) of art exhibitions;

2. Collaboration between educational and

cultural organisations of each other's country;

3. Cooperation between Youth organizations;

4. Participation of the representatives of the other country in conferences, symposia and seminars in the field of education, art and culture held in each of the two countries.

ARTICLE III

Each of the Contracting Parties shall endeavour to provide facilities and scholarships for study and specialization to the nationals of the other country in its institutions of higher and specialized education. The beneficiaries of scholarships shall be selected by competent authorities of the two Governments and shall be governed by the regulations in force of the host country.

ARTICLE IV

The Contracting Parties shall encourage cooperation in the fields of radio, television, press and films.

Details of such cooperation shall be worked out through a special protocol between the concerned organizations of the two countries.

ARTICLE V

The Contracting Parties shall encourage and facilitate in the spirit of the present Agreement, cooperation between their national organizations dealing with cultural activities.

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ARTICLE VI

The Contracting Parties shall examine all the possibilities for mutual recognition and equivalence of degrees, diplomas and certificates awarded by the universities and other educational institutions in the two countries in accordance with the laws prevailing in each other's country.

ARTICLE VII

Each of the Contracting Parties shall encourage and support, to the extent possible, the study of history, culture and languages of the other country.

ARTICLE VIII

Each Contracting Party shall facilitate, to the extent possible, the inclusion of exact and precise information about the civilization of the other country in the text books of history and geography prescribed in the educational institutions.

Each Contracting Party shall consider any suggestion made by the other Contracting Party trying to rectify errors of facts or of judgement which such text books may contain.

ARTICLE IX

Each of the Contracting Parties undertakes to promote an adequate and effective protection of the rights of authors and other copyright proprietors of literary, scientific and artistic works of the other country, in accordance with the laws in force in their respective countries.

ARTICLE X

Each Contracting Party shall facilitate the setting up by the other Contracting Party or by the two Parties in its territory, of cultural institutes or friendship associations devoted to educational and cultural pursuits in accordance with its laws, regulations and general policy in this regard.

it is understood by both the Contracting Parties that a prior clearance of the Government concerned would be obtained before any such institutions are established in pursuance of this Agreement.

ARTICLE XI

The Contracting Parties shall promote mutual collaboration in the field of public health and examine the possibilities of exchange of experience and information.

Details of cooperation shall be worked out through a Special Protocol.

ARTICLE XII

For the implementation of the present Agreement, a Joint Committee shall be set up. This Committee shall comprise an equal

number of representatives from both the countries and it shall meet at least once in every two years, alternately at Algiers and New Delhi.

The Joint Committee shall be responsible for keeping under periodical review the working of the Agreement in the two countries and formulating educational and cultural exchange programmes. It shall advise the Governments concerned as to the manner in which the working of the Agreement could be improved upon.

ARTICLE XIII

Any difference arising from the interpretation of this Agreement shall be settled through diplomatic channels.

ARTICLE XIV

The present Agreement shall be subject to approval by the Contracting Parties in accordance with their procedures. It shall come into force on the date of exchange of diplomatic notes concerning such approval.

The present Agreement shall remain in force for a period of five years. It shall be automatically renewed thereafter for every subsequent five year period, unless either of the Contracting Parties gives at least six months notice in writing to the other Party of its intention to terminate the Agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the representatives of the two countries duly authorised by their respective Governments have signed this Agreement and affixed thereto their seals.

DONE (in duplicate) at Algiers on this the 11th day of Jyaistha 1898 (Saka) corresponding to the 3rd day of Jumada 1396 (H) and the 1st day of June 1976 (A.D.) in Hindi, Arabic, English and French Languages, the four texts being equally authentic.

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ALGERIA INDIA USA

Date : Jun 01, 1976

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FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

Indo-FRG Aid Agreement

The following press release on the Indo-FRG aid agreement was issued in New Delhi on June 25, 1976:

The Federal Republic of Germany has agreed to extend to India financial assistance amounting to Rs. 132.13 crores (DM 362 million) for the current financial year.

The agreement for the assistance was signed in Bonn yesterday by Dr. Lothar Lahn, Ministerial Director in the Federal Foreign Office and Dr. Franz Klamser of the Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation on behalf of the Government of Federal Republic of Germany, and Shri M. Narasimham, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Finance, on behalf of the Government of India.

The assistance has been provided for the following purposes:

- (1) Commodity aid of Rs. 16.42 crores (DM 45 million) to be utilised for financing India's current civilian import requirements.
- (2) Project assistance of Rs. 34.68 crores (DM 95 million) for financing the foreign exchange costs of mutually selected projects.
- (3) Loan to Indian Development Banks to the extent of Rs. 9.12 crores (DM 25 million). These will be extended to the Industrial Finance Corporation of India Rs. 5.48 crores (DM 15 million) and the Industrial Credit and investment Corporation of India Rs. 3.65 crores (DM 1.0

million to enable the imports of capital goods for the small and medium enterprises assisted by these financial institutions.

- (4) Capital goods assistance of Rs. 9.13 crores (DM 25 million).
- (5) Liquidity assistance of Rs. 10.95 crores (DM 30 million) toward debt relief.
- (6) A prolongation loan of Rs. 51.10 crores (DM 140 million) towards debt relief.
- (7) A grant of Rs. 0.73 crore (DM 2 million) for the Tawa Rural Development programme.

The assistance at S.No. 1 to 5 above, will be extended as a credit on IDA conditions, viz. maturity 50 years including a grace period of 10 years and a rate of interest of 0.75 per cent. These terms are significantly softer than the terms for such loans in the previous years.

The loan at S.No. 6 will have, as in the previous year, a maturity of 30 years including a grace period of 10 years and a rate of interest of 2.5 per cent.

All loans extended by the Federal Republic of Germany are united and enable India to procure goods and services on the most competitive basis. The grant for Rural Development Programme can also be used for meeting the expenditure incurred in India.

The two delegations reviewed the various proposals under consideration for project assistance. Apart from making further provisions for the extension projects of the Gujarat State Fertiliser Company and the Neyveli Lignite Corporation, an agreement in principle was reached regarding the financing of the High Speed Turbine and the Seamless Steel Tube Projects of the Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd. Matters relating to the Tawa Programme were also reviewed. It will be recalled that the Tawa Rural Development Programme is the first large agri-

cultural project being taken up on a bilateral basis.

The discussions on technical assistance covered a review of the progress of the ongoing Indo-German Projects in various fields including agriculture, family planning, technical education and training and science and technology. It was agreed that there was further scope for expanding Indo-German Technical Co-operation and that steps should be taken to formulate suitable projects in areas of mutual benefit to both sides.

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GERMANY INDIA USA

Date : Jun 01, 1976

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INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Shri Chavan's Speech on United Nations Charter

Following is the text of speech of Shri Y. B. Chavan, Minister for External Affairs, delivered on the occasion of UN Charter Day in New, Delhi on June 26, 1976:

I am very happy to be here today and to join in celebrating "UN Charter Day". The Indian Federation of UN Associations and the National Federation of UNESCO Associations in India deserve to be complimented for taking the initiative in organising this function. Such non-governmental organisations have an important role to play in carrying the message and ideals of the United Nations to the masses.

In its three decades of existence, the United Nations has kept pace with the ever changing world situation and structure of international relations. It has become increas-

ingly universal and representative of the vast segment of humanity, It has not only survived but has emerged as a forum for preserving and consolidating world peace, promoting decolonisation, reaffirming faith in fundamental human rights and promoting cooperation among nations.

India was one of the original signatories of the UN Charter when it was adopted in San Francisco 31 years ago, today, despite this passage of time, the purposes and the principles of the Charter continue to be of abiding value and continuing relevance. The Charter contains all the ingredients necessary for establishing and maintaining conditions under which men and women can live in peace, freedom and dignity. UN Charter Day provides a fitting occasion for rededication and recommitment by all its member-states to the principles and purposes enshrined in it.

Over the years, the UN system has amply demonstrated its indispensability. Its effectiveness, however, depends on what the member-States make of it in the pursuit of the common cherished goals of peace, justice and progress. Our late Prime Minister Shri Jawaharlal Nehru said while addressing the UN General Assembly in 1960 and I quote: "The United Nations has played a great role and it is a little difficult now to think of this troubled world without the UN. If it had defects, they lay in the world situation itself which inevitably it mirrored. If there had been no United Nations today, our first task would be to create something of that King,".

The United Nations provides a forum where member-States can have a free and frank exchange of views. Such discussions focus attention on important international issues and generate the necessary political will to find solutions for them. With the United Nations becoming increasingly universal, we have to work collectively and in a spirit of cooperation so that it becomes a more effective instrument for the establishment of world peace and a new international economic and social order based on equality and justice.

Today is the 31st anniversary of the

signing of the UN Charter. Anniversaries provide a useful occasion for reflection and stock-taking and I would like to say a few words on the achievements of the UN over the years and the areas on which attention needs to be focussed in the future.

The UN can claim considerable credit in the process of decolonisation. Indeed the majority of the members of the UN today are erstwhile colonies that have been liberated over the years. It is our earnest hope that the last vestiges of colonialism would be speedily eradicated and that the determined efforts of the liberation movements fighting for their freedom and independence would meet with success.

The recent wave of repression and killings in South Africa and the last-ditch struggle of the racist regimes all over Southern Africa is a reminder to us that the momentum of the struggle for liberation needs to be mounted up so that Southern Africa could be freed from the scourge of colonialism, racism and apartheid.

A principal aim of the UN has been the maintenance of international peace and secu-

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rity. We, in India, have always repudiated the concept of the cold war and, along with the growing majority of newly independent nations, followed the path of non-alignment and peaceful coexistence. In the UN, non-aligned countries have consistently worked to move away from confrontation to cooperation and dialogue. We therefore welcome the detente between the super powers, as exemplified by the Helsinki Agreement, though it still seems to be limited and rather tenuous. Detente can have real meaning for the rest of us only if its benefits accrue to all continents and countries, big or small, developed or developing.

Peace has come to the Indo-Chinese people after many years of their valient struggle and suffering. But the situation remains critical. There can be no just and lasting solution until Israel vacates all the terri-

territories occupied by aggression and the national rights of the Palestinian people are restored. The UNT has played a significant role in this area by securing greater international recognition for the P.L.O.

The stalemate in Cyprus continues. The search for a solution must be intensified in terms of the relevant UN resolutions on the subject and the independence, non-alignment, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus safeguarded.

A major step towards peace has been the UN Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace. It is unfortunate, in this context, that the expansion of the Diego Garcia base continues against the declared wishes of the littoral States of the Indian Ocean.

India has consistently supported the cause of disarmament and we hope that meaningful steps would be taken towards disarmament including nuclear disarmament.

Perhaps the most significant achievement of the UN over the years has been to focus increasing attention on economic cooperation and the problems that face developing countries. The adoption of the UN Charter on Economic Rights and Duties and the Resolutions adopted at the Sixth and the Seventh Sessions of the UN General Assembly are important landmarks in this context. We hope that actual implementation will not fall short of expectations and continuing efforts will be made towards the establishment of the new international economic order.

The United Nations has grown from its original 50 members to 144 today, of whom the vast majority are developing countries. This fundamental change in the character of the membership of the UN must reflect itself in the priorities and activities of the organisation. The UN system today concerns itself not merely with "saving succeeding generations from the scourge of war" but equally with economic and social questions that vitally concern the interest of the vast majority of the world's countries and peoples. The success of the UN Organisation will be

related to the extent to which it succeeds in creating a new world order which is not only free from war but also free from want.

The UN is at a crucial point of its history. There is a growing awareness today of the inter-dependence between peoples and nations. But the problems posed by this realisation are only just beginning to be tackled.

India has a firm and abiding faith in the UN system. We have always extended our fullest cooperation to it and we shall continue to do so. We shall always be active in the furtherance of the objectives of the United Nations and to its success in achieving the unity of man and of upholding the destiny of man. As our Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi said to the UN General Assembly some years ago and I quote: "All these years, we have strived to make the United Nations stronger and to defend it from the corrosive effects of cynicism. We have borne burden on its behalf undertaking missions of peace to Korea, the Gaza strip and Congo. We have endeavoured to serve the cause of peace in Indo-China. We have sought to reconcile conflicting viewpoints in this forum. And we have resisted attempts to subordinate the UN to powerful national wills".

In cooperation with other countries, we will continue to seek the genuine fulfilment of our hopes and aspirations through the more effective functioning of the UN. Let us all today rededicate ourselves to the ideals enshrined in the UN Charter and reaffirm our determination to work, at the UN and elsewhere, towards the goals of universal peace and economic and social betterment.

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INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC USA SOUTH AFRICA FINLAND ISRAEL CYPRUS KOREA
CONGO CHINA

Date : Jun 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

IRAN

Speech by the Shahanshah of Iran at Banquet in Honour of President Ahmed

His Imperial Majesty the Shahanshah Aryamehr of Iran made the following speech at the banquet in honour of Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, President of the Republic of India, in Tehran on June 26, 1976:

It gives the Shahbanou and myself great pleasure to welcome you in Iran. We greet you not only as the Head of State of a great country, but also recognise you as a distinguished representative of a nation that, as Jawaharlal Nehru, the late leader of India, stated: its ties of a few thousand years with Iran are the deepest and most profound relations that could be traced between two countries of the world.

During all this period, the history, civilisation and culture of Iran and India had been linked together almost inseparably and have influenced one another. Your country is the largest repository of the past cultural relics of Iran and presently, with departments of Persian language and literature studies at more than 50 universities holds the foremost position in the world. The presence of a few thousand students of the two countries studying at universities and other institutions in each country, is one of the factors guaranteeing the continuity of this cultural relation in the future.

Your trip to Iran is in continuation of the tradition, which has been in existence between the two countries for many years. Twenty years ago, I visited your country for the first time. Ever since then I have had numerous opportunities of visiting India and its various provinces. During the same period of time my country has had the pleasure of entertaining the former Presidents of India, His Excellency Radha Krish-

nan and His Excellency Giri. Naturally, in parallel with these visits, there were numerous and regular meetings between high officials of the two States in the political, economic and cultural fields. The visits of His Excellency Jawaharlal Nehru and Her Excellency Mrs. Gandhi to Iran and the recent visit of the Iranian Prime Minister to India are the most important of these.

Therefore, our two countries could link together the old friendships with the new ties and combine the ancient historical and cultural relations more actively and extensively with the new fruitful economic, industrial, technical and scientific cooperation. This cooperation presently exists in the various fields of industry, commerce, mineral and chemical products, oil, navigation, and many other fields; and the Joint Committee of Iran and India for Economic, Commercial and Technical Cooperation has constituted a more constant and regular system.

Your present trip to Iran is taking place at a time when positive and noteworthy evolutions in various fields are currently in process in your country. The definite successes of the Indian Government in maintaining order in the social and economic affairs, in campaigns against profiteering, inflation and corruption, improvement and growth of agricultural products and other consumer goods, raising the standards of skill of economic organisations and elevation of the standards of national, material and spiritual welfare and the initiatives of the Indian Government in strengthening regional and international peace and understanding, by re-opening diplomatic relations with China and Pakistan and its efforts in creating an atmosphere for understanding and cooperation at the world level are the evolutions, which naturally are welcomed and confirmed by us.

The unprecedented economic growth in the last fiscal year and allocation of vast funds for implementation of development projects in the current fiscal year, which is one of the direct results of internal stability and international understanding, will naturally herald the ever-increasing progress for your country in light of these successes.

In order to successfully continue all these programmes, your country, like other countries, which are in the process of implementation of constructive programmes and national progress, has vital need for peace, stability and security. These are the legiti-

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mate requirements and rights which have caused our two countries to follow mutual policies in the necessity of making the Indian Ocean a peaceful zone, free from the ever-increasing rivalry and presence of the super powers, and monopolising the maintenance of security in the Persian Gulf and the Indian Ocean by the littoral States, and establishing a nuclear weapon free zone in South Asia. We also have full concurrence in the establishment of a new universal economic and just system, to replace the old unjust system and adjustments in the deep gap between the industrial and developing countries.

For our country, as a historical friend of India and based on the friendly ties that have matured in the course of centuries, it is a great pleasure to note that the great nation of India is staunchly attempting to follow a path that will lead to the strengthening of world peace and understanding, and regional security and stability. We sincerely wish all success for you, Mr. President, for your active and efficient Prime Minister and for all the people of India.

I toast my glass to the health and happiness of you, Mr. President, and that of Mrs. Ahmed, to the ever-increasing progress of the Indian nation, the further strengthening and expansion of cooperation and friendship between Iran and India, and for international peace, understanding and cooperation.

IRAN INDIA USA CHINA PAKISTAN

Date : Jun 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

IRAN

President Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed's Reply

Replying, Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, President of India, delivered the following speech:

I thank Your Majesty for the gracious words of welcome you have just spoken. My wife and I have been overwhelmed by the warm and affectionate welcome given to us since we set foot on this friendly land. I have been looking forward to this visit as it gives us a most welcome opportunity to further strengthen the bonds of friendship existing between our two countries. Your Majesties visit to India two years ago is still vivid in our memory. It is remembered for having opened new avenues of cooperation in diverse fields.

Iran has been a cradle of human civilisation. Her contribution to common heritage of mankind can hardly be over-emphasised. This glorious country has been responsible for many an illustrious chapter in the history of human endeavour in the field of government, art, culture, music and poetry. For millions of my countrymen, even for those who have not been fortunate enough like us to have visited this great country, Iran is not a strange land. The aroma of Iranian culture and civilisation has permeated Indian literature and philosophy since many a century.

This visit thus provides us an opportunity to reaffirm the links of history and culture which bind our two peoples and provide an unshakable foundation for a multi-dimensional relationship of friendship and cooperation between India and Iran of today. The ancient civilisations to which we are heirs, mould our responses to the challenges we face in the present era. They enable us to make our distinctive contribution to the

world community. It is our common endeavour to modernise our economies without the disadvantages accompanying the processes of industrialisation and technological change. This we hope to achieve by stressing the importance of a balance between man - whose welfare is our prime concern - and his environment.

It is only appropriate for me to say that our present visit is but one in a chain of visits undertaken by the leaders of our two nations in recent years. We had the privilege and honour to welcome Your Majesties nearly two years ago in India. Our Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi's visit to Iran in 1974 was a most memorable one. It was a great pleasure for us to receive Prime Minister Hoveyda only last month. Fruits of these visits are now for everyone to see. New vistas of cooperation between India and Iran have been opened up as indicated by the Kudremukh Iron Ore Project and the joint ventures in the field of shipping. This co-operation is based on our own technological capacities and physical and financial resour-

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ces. We are maintaining a continuing dialogue between our two countries on issues of common concern and in finding new ways of augmenting and deepening the range of our industrial and scientific collaboration. Indo-Iran economic cooperation already provides a model for other developing countries. We in India will do our utmost to promote and develop this mutually beneficial relationship and raise it to new heights. My Government is convinced that a constructive relationship between India and Iran based on close cooperation and political understanding has made and will continue to make a signal contribution to the stability and tranquillity of our region.

Our cooperation is not limited to bilateral relationships alone. In the international arena, we are engaged in creating an environment of peace and cooperation. Both our countries are parties to the declaration of the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace free from foreign military presence and rivalry.

Both are working together in various international institutions to bring about a new world economic order, based on inter-dependence, equality and justice.

Great changes are taking place throughout the world, both in the political and economic spheres, throwing up new challenges and responsibilities. At this juncture, Iran is fortunate in having Your Majesty's wise and far-sighted leadership. We have watched with satisfaction and happiness the phenomenal progress made by Iran over the last few years. Your profound comprehension of the world forces and of the inter-connection between world peace and the reduction and elimination of the glaring economic disparities among nations, has made Iran play an important role in the struggle to bring about a more just international economic order. We welcome Iran's emphasis on regional cooperation in trade and development and share your vision that such cooperation will lead to a peaceful and secure regional environment which will deny any possibility of interference by outside forces. We fully support your efforts to gain complete control over your national resources and to avail of the limitless opportunities in advances in science and technology for raising the living standards of all your peoples.

I had visited your beautiful country nearly eight years ago. Within the few hours I have been here, I have seen unmistakable proof of the great progress made by Iran under your statesmanship. During the next few days, I hope to acquaint myself more with this remarkable progress made by Iran in social, economic and technological fields as much as to visit a few famous centres of learning which have inspired countless generations all over the world. My wife will be seeing the developments in social, health and educational fields - especially as they relate to welfare of women and children. In this vital sector of national development we pay tribute to the tireless effort and unbounded interest of Her Imperial Majesty, the Shahbanou, which have opened up a new and a better life for millions of men and women in this country.

This is a time of unity, discipline and

achievement in India. With the overwhelming support of the Indian people, the decisive action by the Government on a wide political and economic front has had a dramatic effect on the life of the nation. With industrial peace and harmony, production and export of manufactured goods have significantly increased. We have had a record grain harvest. I believe we can take justifiable pride in being a major country in the world where the spiral of rising prices has not only been checked; it has actually been reversed. Simultaneously, the 20-Point Economic Programme launched by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, is carrying forward the battle against poverty and for vigorous economic growth with social justice. We missed the Industrial Revolution but are determined not to miss the Technological Revolution. With this new spirit in the country and with hard work, perseverance and discipline. India is poised today for a major step forward in her quest for dynamic and just society.

We remain firm in our conviction that friendly relations and cooperation, on the basis of equality and mutual respect between all the countries of the sub-continent, are essential for the progress of our peoples. Moved by this faith, we have taken a series of initiatives especially during the last year to normalise and improve our relations with our neighbours. During the talks in Islamabad in May 1976 between India and Pakistan, we arrived at a wide-ranging agreement on resumption of direct road, rail and air communications, overflights and trade and the re-establishment of diplomatic relations. Since then, official delegations of both coun-

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tries have met at New Delhi and have signed an agreed memorandum on the mechanics of restoring the air link between India and Pakistan in resuming overflights across each other's territory. Another official delegation from Pakistan is currently in New Delhi for finalising arrangements for the resumption of rail traffic. The Ambassadors of India and Pakistan have been appointed and will be taking up their posts very shortly. A high-level Indian goodwill mission has just return-

ed from a visit to Bangladesh where the delegation reaffirmed India's desire for relations of good neighbourliness, trust and willingness to resolve differences through direct talks and negotiations. Our relations with other neighbours namely, Nepal, Bhutan, Burma and Sri Lanka are marked by extreme cordiality and trust. It remains our endeavour to promote an environment of peace and friendship in the whole of South Asian region, so that all our energies in manpower and resources are bent towards increasing the common welfare of our peoples.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, may I request you to join me in a toast to the health of Their Imperial Majesties, the Shahanshah Aryamehr and the Shahbanou, to the continued prosperity of the people of Iran and to the everlasting friendship between India and Iran.

IRAN INDIA USA UNITED KINGDOM RUSSIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC MALI PAKISTAN
BANGLADESH BHUTAN NEPAL BURMA SRI LANKA

Date : Jun 01, 1976

Volume No

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IRAN

India Iran Joint Communique

Following is the text of the joint communique issued in Tehran on June 30, 1976 at the conclusion of the state visit of Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, President of India' to Iran:

At the invitation of His Imperial Majesty Mohammad Reza Pahlavi Aryamehr, the Shahanshah of Iran and Her Imperial Majesty Farah Pahlavi, the Shahbanou of Iran, His Excellency Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, the President of India and Begum

Abida Ahmed paid a state visit to Iran from June 26 to 30, 1976. The President and Begum Abida Ahmed visited places of historical, cultural and social interest. They were warmly received wherever they went. The cordial welcome extended to them during their visit was a manifestation of the very close and friendly relations existing between the two countries and of the common will of the two peoples to expand and deepen further their cooperation in all fields.

His Imperial Majesty, the Shahanshah Aryamehr and the President of India held detailed discussions on matters of international significance, mutual interest and matters relating to bilateral cooperation. The President received the Prime Minister and the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Iran. During the talks were present, from the Iranian side:

1. H.E. Mr. A. A. Khalatbary - Minister of Foreign Affairs,
2. H.E. Mr. M. Taslimi - Minister of Commerce,
3. H.E. Mr. Gh. Tadjbakhsh - Ambassador of Iran to India,
4. H.E. Mr. S. Sadrieh - Director General for Political Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs;

And from the Indian side:

1. H.E. Dr. V. A. Seyid Muhammad - Minister of State in the Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs,
2. H.E. Shri R. D. Sathe - Ambassador of India in Iran,
3. H.E. Shri K. Balachandran - Secretary to the President,
4. H.E. Shri K. L. Dalal - Additional Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs,
5. H.E. Shri S. K. Bhutani - Joint Secretary, Ministry of External

Affairs.

The talks between the two Heads of State confirmed the very close similarity of views of the two countries on all matters discussed.

The two Heads of State reviewed the international situation and noted with satisfaction the global trend towards relaxation of tensions through negotiations. However, they observed with regret that there conti-

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nued to exist explosive situation of conflict in certain parts of the world, such as the Middle-East and the southern part of Africa, which posed threats of international conflict.

They re-affirmed their conviction that a peaceful and secure world order can only be achieved by strict adherence by all countries to the principles of the United Nations Charter, non-interference in the internal affairs of other countries, 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 two Heads of State stressed the necessity for the establishment of a new international economic order based on interdependence, equity and justice at the earliest and the special need to reform international trade on these principles. In this respect the two leaders called upon the developed industrial nations to fully cooperate in the cause of the development of the developing countries and in honouring the rights of those countries to fair and equitable prices for their export commodities and raw materials as well as to the access to technology for their development. They also stressed the full sovereign rights of all states with regard to their natural wealth and resources.

The two Heads of State agreed on the necessity of achieving complete and universal disarmament including nuclear disarmament under effective international control. While reviewing the question of peaceful uses of

nuclear energy they stressed the importance of harnessing nuclear power for human welfare, ensuring that access to nuclear technology for peaceful purposes does not remain confined to a few countries only.

The two Heads of State felt that the situation in the Middle-East continued to pose a serious threat to world peace. They reaffirmed the necessity to urgently move towards a just settlement of the Middle East problem on the basis of the total withdrawal of Israel from all the territories occupied by it since 1967 and the restoration of the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people. In this respect they called for the early re-convening of the Geneva Peace Conference with the participation of all parties concerned including the Palestine Liberation Organisation on equal footing with other participants. The two Heads of State condemned the Israeli policy and practice in the occupied territories designed to change the demographic composition of those territories. They considered such policies a serious violation of the Geneva conventions as well as a grave threat to peace in the Middle East.

The two Heads of State expressed great concern over the tragic crisis in Lebanon. They welcomed the joint action taken by the Arab League which was accepted by the Lebanese Government and expressed the hope that this joint action would soon lead to the establishment of normalcy and stability in that country.

The two Heads of State reviewed the grave situation in southern part of Africa as a result of policies of racial discrimination and apartheid. They hoped that the last vestiges of colonialism in any form as well as all types of racial discrimination would be ended without the least delay.

His Imperial Majesty and the President of India discussed developments in the Indian Ocean area. They reiterated their support for the declaration of the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace free from great power rivalry, tension and military escalation. They called upon the great Powers to extend their fullest

cooperation in bringing about a zone of peace in the Indian Ocean. The two Heads of State further agreed that the peace and security of the region should be the sole responsibility of the littoral states, and that there should be full cooperation among them to achieve this objective. They reiterated their deep conviction in positive cooperation in the political, economic and cultural fields amongst the nations situated in the Indian Ocean region.

His Imperial Majesty outlined the increasing importance of the security and stability of the Persian Gulf and the Straits of Hormuz. The two sides were in full agreement that peace and tranquillity of this region should be maintained and safeguarded by cooperation among the littoral states without any outside interference.

His Imperial Majesty explained the recent developments which had taken place between Iran and Iraq and the final contractual settlement of all differences in their

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relations on the basis of mutual benefit. The President of India expressed deep satisfaction that the initiatives taken by the two countries had contributed to the full normalisation of relations and promotion of the atmosphere of friendship between the two countries.

The President of India explained recent developments towards normalisation of relations among the countries of the sub-continent, especially the restoration of diplomatic relations and of communication links as well as the resumption of private trade between India and Pakistan. His Imperial Majesty welcomed these developments. The two Heads of State reiterated their conviction that the success of such measures would contribute not only to the friendship and cooperation in the sub-continent but also to the stability of the region and towards peace.

The two Heads of State expressed satisfaction at the pace at which the traditionally

close relations between Iran and India had progressed during the last few years. They noted that a number of agreements in the economic, industrial and cultural fields had been signed and were being Implemented. They expressed the view that these agreements would make a great contribution to the friendship and cooperation between the two peoples. They emphasised the importance of developing still further contacts at official as well as non-official levels in order to deepen the understanding between the two countries. In a broad review of the programme of economic cooperation, the two Heads of State felt that considerable scope existed, especially in the field of exchange of technical and scientific knowledge.

The President of India and Begum Abida Ahmed expressed their deep appreciation for the warm and friendly welcome extended to them and to the members of their party by Their Imperial Majesties, the Government and people of Iran. The President and Begum Ahmed extended an invitation to Their Imperial Majesties to visit India. The invitation was accepted with great pleasure.

IRAN INDIA USA BHUTAN ISRAEL SWITZERLAND LEBANON IRAQ MALI PAKISTAN

Date : Jun 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

JAPAN

Indo-Japanese Agreement on Scientific Exchanges

The following press release on the Indo-Japanese agreement on scientific exchanges was issued in New Delhi on June 28, 1976:

An agreement on scientific exchanges between the Indian National Science Academy and the Japan Society for Promotion

of Science was signed in Tokyo on June 28. Under the agreement, science cooperation will be initiated by exchange of scientists between India and Japan. The exchanges will be at post-doctoral and higher levels and will include exchange visits for lectures, joint research, etc., by senior and junior scientists. In addition, the agreement envisages collaborative research activities and seminars.

Speaking on the occasion the Indian Ambassador, Mr. Eric Gonsalves said that with the signing of the agreement, the existing close contacts between India and Japan in the field of sciences will be further strengthened.

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JAPAN INDIA

Date : Jun 01, 1976

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NAMIBIA

Official Statement on Death Sentences Awarded in Namibia

Following is the text of statement made by the official spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on June 4, 1976:

The Government of India are shocked to learn of the report according to which two members of the South West African People's Organisation (SWAPO), Aaron Mushimba and Hendrik Shikongo, have been sentenced to death by the illegal and racist South African regime in Namibia, and two women, Rauna Namibga and Anna Nghihoundjwa, have been sentenced to seven and five years imprisonment respectively.

The Government of India joins the United Nations Council for Namibia in its

strong condemnation of these sentences of death and imprisonment of the brave freedom fighters of Namibia.

The Government of India reaffirm its full support to the freedom fighters of Namibia fighting under the banner of South West African People's Organisation and has no doubt that before long the heroic struggle of the freedom fighter will be rewarded by the complete independence, territorial integrity and sovereignty of Namibia.

NAMIBIA INDIA USA

Date : Jun 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

PAKISTAN

Official Statement on Mr. Bhutto's Peking Banquet Speech

The official spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs made the following statement in New Delhi on June 1, 1976:

We have studied with care the references to India in Prime Minister Bhutto's speeches and press conference in Peking. The gesture of protest by our Charge d'Affaires at Prime Minister Bhutto's statement during the banquet given by him was legitimate and justified. It should moreover have been entirely expected by Prime Minister Bhutto, as it had taken place once before in similar circumstances two years ago. Our representative could not but protest and express our concern if the Prime Minister of Pakistan chose once more to introduce discordant notes when the process of normalisation between our two countries through direct, peaceful and bilateral contacts have just started. On India's part, we will continue to strive sincerely for friendship and cooperation in

the sub-continent which we believe can best be achieved without outside interference.

PAKISTAN INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC USA MALI

Date : Jun 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

PAKISTAN

Indo-Pakistan Agreement On Airlines

The following Press Note on the Indo-Pakistan agreement on airlines was issued in New Delhi on June 17, 1976:

The Civil Aviation Delegations of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and the Government of India met in New Delhi from 14th to 17th June, 1976 to work out the necessary details for the resumption of overflights and the establishment of air-links between the two countries. The Delegation of Pakistan was led by Mr. Mohsin Kamal, Joint Secretary, Aviation Division and the Delegation of India was led by Mr.

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A. S. Bhatnagar, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation. The discussions were held in a frank and friendly atmosphere.

The two Delegations agreed upon the draft of a joint letter to be sent to the I.C.A.O. Council for discontinuance of the 1971 cases and the Counter-Memorial thereto as well as the air services agreement to be signed at a mutually convenient date. They also agreed on the steps needed for improvement of air traffic and communication services. The need for shorter air routes between the two countries was also discussed.

The leaders of the two delegations signed a Memorandum of Understanding regarding the modalities of the discontinuance of the 1971 cases and the Counter-Memorial before the I.C.A.O. Council, the resumption of over-flights and the restoration of airlinks between the two countries.

PAKISTAN INDIA USA

Date : Jun 01, 1976

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PAKISTAN

Indo-Pakistan Agreement on Resumption of Rail Traffic

The following press release on the Indo-Pakistan agreement on resumption of rail traffic was issued in New Delhi on June 28 1976:

The leaders of the Railway Delegations of India and Pakistan signed here today an agreement on resumption of rail traffic between the two countries across Attari-Wagah border.

It has been agreed that the traffic will be restored on a suitable date between July 17 and 24, 1976. The exact date between July 17 and July 24, 1976, will be fixed through technical experts' mutual consultation.

A six-member delegation led by Sheikh Anwar Hussain arrived here from Pakistan on June 22 to work out the details for the restoration of rail communication between the two countries. The delegation held talks with the Indian delegation led by Shri R. Srinivasan between June 23 and 28.

The two delegations held talks in pur-

suance of the objective of normalising relations between the two countries as envisaged in the Simla Agreement and in the joint statement signed by the Foreign Secretaries of India and Pakistan at Islamabad on May 14, 1976. The discussions were held in a friendly and cordial atmosphere.

In a joint statement, both the leaders of the delegations said that an Express Passenger train between Amritsar and Lahore will be introduced from a mutually agreed date.

This Express train will cater to through international traffic only. Both the countries will contribute to the rake composition on a 50:50 basis. The question of affording through passenger coach services beyond Lahore and beyond Amritsar stations has been kept open for consideration at a later stage. It was agreed that each country will collect the fares for the journeys of passengers, etc. on the respective systems upto the international border. The timings for trains both-ways have also been agreed upon. These trains will be worked by Pakistan locomotives and staff between Lahore and Attari and by the Indian Railways locomotives and staff between Amritsar and Attari. On the Indian side customs, immigration and health checks will be conducted at Attari Station. On the Pakistan side, these checks will be conducted at Lahore Station.

GOODS TRAFFIC: Goods traffic between India and Pakistan will be inter-changed at the border of the two countries and Attari station on the Indian side will be the junction station for purposes of inter-change. All goods traffic between India and Pakistan will be freighted on 'Paid-To-Pay' basis. Each country will collect the freight charges upto the international border on its system. Goods trains between Attari and Lahore will be worked by Pakistan Railway locomotives and staff. Goods trains between Attari and Amritsar will be worked by Indian Railways locomotives and Staff.

INTERCHANGE OF ROLLING STOCK: The technical rules for the interchange of rolling stock and the wagon pool between Indian Railways and Pakistan Railways have been

mutually agreed upon. The mechanical interchange of goods stock will be carried out

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on a dual control system. The Indian Railways will carry out mechanical examination of goods stock offered by Pakistan Railways at Wagah Station and the Pakistan Railways will carry out mechanical examination of goods stock offered by the Indian Railways at Attari Station.

Hire and penalty and other related charges have also been mutually agreed upon.

Technical and operational aspects have been agreed to between the two Delegations and detailed rules have been jointly formulated and appended to the agreement signed on 28th June, 1976 on restoration of Rail Communication. These relate to the interchange of coaching and goods traffic, settlement of compensation claims, booking and accountal of India-Pakistan 'Paid-To-Pay' goods and parcel traffic, mechanical interchange of rolling stock and for payment of Balance of Accounts. These would come into force simultaneously with the resumption of Rail communications.

Multiple Entry visas to railway staff on duty will be granted on a reciprocal basis.

PAKISTAN INDIA USA MALI CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Jun 01, 1976

Volume No

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POLAND

Indo-Polish Protocol on Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation

The following press release on the Indo-Polish protocol on economic, scientific and technical cooperation was issued in New Delhi on June 8, 1976:

The third session of the Indo-Polish Joint Commission for Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation concluded at Warsaw yesterday with the signing of the final protocol. The protocol was signed on behalf of Government of India by Shri K. C. Pant, the Minister for Energy and by Mr. Josef Tejchma, Deputy Premier, on behalf of the Government of Polish People's Republic.

Shri K. C. Pant met first Secretary of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers Party, Edward Gierek in Warsaw yesterday. Shri Pant was accompanied by the Indian Ambassador, Shri Kamtekar. On the Polish side, the Deputy Premier, Mr. Tejchma and the Polish Ambassador to India, Mr. Czapla, also attended the meeting which lasted 45 minutes. At the meeting, bilateral relations especially economic cooperation in the context of the Joint Commission meeting were discussed.

Shri K. C. Pant acquainted Mr. Gierek with the progress achieved, under the emergency, on all fronts especially the rapid rise in industrial and agricultural production and the great benefits brought by the 20-Point Programme. Mr. Pant further said that the Government of India was also looking forward to his visit to India and expressed the confidence that the visit would be a success. The First Secretary, Mr. Edward Gierek expressed his understanding of the measures taken by Shrimati Indira Gandhi and said that he was looking forward to visiting India.

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POLAND INDIA USA

Date : Jun 01, 1976

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SOUTH AFRICA

Official Statement on Killing of Innocent Africans in Soweto

Following is the text of statement made by the official spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on June 19, 1976:

Government of India is deeply shocked to learn of the killing of many innocent Africans and wounding of hundreds by the South African racist regime in Soweto. According to reports, the death-toll, injury and damage caused at the Sharpeville massacre in the year 1960, have been exceeded by the present excesses of the South African racist regime. The fact that many of the wounded and killed are children and students exposes further the inhuman and racist character of the South African regime which has long denounced the calls of the United Nations and the civilised world to do away with apartheid and racism.

Government of India expresses its deep concern at this bloodshed and sends its sympathies to the affected families. Government of India reaffirms its full support to South African freedom fighters and hope that before long Southern Africa would be free from the scourge of colonialism, racism and apartheid.

SOUTH AFRICA INDIA USA

Date : Jun 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Following is the text of the speech of the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, Mr. Leonid Brezhnev, at the dinner in the Kremlin in honour of the Prime Minister of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, on June 8, 1976:

We are happy to welcome again on Soviet soil the Prime Minister of friendly India and the personages accompanying her. This visit and the Soviet-Indian talks that have started in the Kremlin will become, as we are convinced, a new important stage in the development of Soviet-Indian relations.

We highly value the constantly strengthening Soviet-Indian friendship and attach to it, I would say, a principled significance. We regard it as an embodiment of the inviolable friendship and unity of two great forces of our times - the world of socialism and the countries which have freed themselves from the colonial yoke and have embarked on the road of independent progressive development.

That is why the strengthening of Soviet-Indian relations, as it was stated at the 25th CPSU Congress, is an important aim of Soviet foreign policy.

Esteemed Madam Prime Minister, not so much time has passed since our last meeting in Delhi, but political time, as is known, is measured not by the number of leaves in the calendar, but by the events filling it. The past years were very eventful. Big positive changes took place both in the international arena and in relations between our countries.

Speaking of Soviet-Indian relations, we believe they have become still stronger and were filled with new content. The important

agreements and arrangements reached during our previous meeting in Delhi are being implemented in a planned manner. The fields

of our cooperation have been substantially expanded. Friendship between our peoples has become still closer.

The Soviet-Indian Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation has withstood its test of strength and effectiveness. It expresses well the cardinal interests of our peoples and facilitates the strengthening of peace and stability in Asia, and not only in Asia.

As to the prospects of Soviet-Indian cooperation, it can be boldly stated that all possibilities exist for its further deepening and perfection. Precisely this is being discussed at the current talks.

We highly appreciate your government's efforts, the efforts of all democratic and progressive forces in India consistently coming out for the strengthening of friendship and all-round Soviet-Indian cooperation. On our part, we have done and will do everything possible in this direction.

If we glance at the political changes in the world in recent years, note can be made of the considerable successes of the peace-loving forces. A number of hotbeds of war poisoning the international situation have been extinguished. Important interstate acts have resulted in the political and legal consolidation of borders formed in Europe as a result of the second world war.

The principles of the peaceful coexistence of states with different social systems are increasingly entering the practice of international relations. A number of agreements exerting a restricting influence on the arms race have been concluded. The last colonial empire has collapsed. The friendship and cooperation of socialist states with the independent, freedom-loving countries of the third world have been strengthened and further developed.

All this was scored at the price of tremendous effort, of stubborn and tireless struggle by the planet's peaceloving forces. The Republic of India has made a worthy contribution to the attainment of these re-

sults, by its policy directed in defence of peace and peaceful coexistence, against imperialism and reaction, against colonialism and racism your country has won a high international prestige.

The relaxation of tension now is a tangible reality. Without doubt, it has struck deep roots. Preconditions exist or the relaxation of tension to acquire a really irreversible nature. But we cannot fail to see another thing: lately there has been a noticeable increase in the activity of the opponents of the relaxation of tension. They appear to have sprung to activity on seeing that their game is up. In an attempt to frustrate the relaxation of tension they slander in every way the policy of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries. They are using such charges as "aggressive intentions", "striving for hegemony", etc. That has been worn thin already during the times of the cold war.

Our answer to them is simple: we do not strive for hegemony. We do not need it. It is precisely those who struggle so zealously against the strengthening of peace and the deepening of the relaxation of tension that strive for hegemony and interfere into the affairs of other countries and peoples, attempting to impose their will on them. Is it not known who are rejecting our persistent proposals to really limit the arms race, who are inflating military budgets and stepping up the development of ever more destructive types of weapons. All this is well known.

We clearly see these negative phenomena and are fully determined to oppose them. The development and deepening of the relaxation of tension is the call of the time, this is a demand of all peoples prompted by their vital interests in durable peace, and those, who connive at the campaign of the opponents of the relaxation of tension and those who succumb to their pressure for these or those temporary considerations.?

Adherence to peace is being measured now in concrete deeds more than ever before, by the daily work for the sake of that lofty goal. At its 25th Congress our party has

put forward a clear-cut, realistic programme of the further struggle for peace and international cooperation, for the freedom and independence of the peoples. We note with satisfaction that it has been met with broad support of the world public.

Esteemed Madame Prime Minister!
There is no need to prove what great signi-

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ficance the assertion of the principles of peaceful coexistence in Asia, the continent where more than one half of mankind lives, would have for universal peace.

In our view, good prerequisites toward relaxation of tension are emerging here too. Guns became silent in Indo-China, and the political arena is witnessing the emergence of such a peace force as united Vietnam. Certain positive changes are taking place in southern Asia. We have learnt with satisfaction about the results of the recent Indo-Pakistan talks which will, in our opinion, contribute to the further normalization of the situation in that region.

At the same time we realize that the situation in Asia still remains complex enough. There are forces in Asia, which, ignoring the rights and sovereignty of the states, are striving to subordinate other peoples to their rule. They sabotage the efforts aimed at ensuring peace and security of Asian peoples on a bilateral and collective basis. Acting in alliance with the internal reaction, imperialism does not abandon its attempts to set off one against the other the countries of that continent.

Let us take, for instance, the problem of the Indian Ocean. As is known, certain powers, despite their remote location from that region, are building up their military forces here, and are building new military bases. The question arises - why do they act so? All this arouses well-founded concern of the coastal countries. They justly see in such a policy a threat to their independence and security. This also causes concern for us.

The Soviet Union is far from being indifferent whether the Indian Ocean will be a zone of peace or whether the existing foreign military bases will remain here or and will be built. Our position is clear. We have unambiguously stated that the Soviet Union has not had and does not have intention to build military bases in the Indian ocean. We have called upon the United States to act likewise and expect its clear answer.

The Soviet Union intends to further actively participate in searching for the ways to solve the urgent problems of the Asian Continent. We will support any proposals prompted by the concern for peace and security in Asia, including their ensurance through the joint efforts of Asian States.

The Soviet Union welcomes the growing role of the developing countries in world politics, steadily supports their struggle for equal political and economic relations, for social progress. Already today they are making a tangible contribution to the normalization of the international climate. In this context we give our due to the positive role of the non-alignment movement in which the Republic of India occupies an outstanding place. The principles, on which this movement rests - strengthening peace and peaceful coexistence, independence of states, struggle against imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism - have successfully withstood the test of time. We wish every success to the forthcoming conference of the non-aligned countries in Colombo.

Life confirms the farsightedness of the course of the Indian National Congress party led by you, esteemed Mrs. Gandhi, the course aimed at industrialization of the country, construction of independent economy and creation of a strong public sector, it is thanks to that course that India has emerged as a powerful state, playing an important role in world politics. And today the prophetic words of Vladimir Ilyich Lenin, the founder of the Soviet State, who predicted the great future for a free India, come true.

Soviet people realise what efforts are

required for advance along the road of progress by such a huge country as India with her complex and diverse problems. The more so that new India remains a target of attacks by external forces which to this day cannot reconcile themselves with the independent and progressive course of this great state.

Your Government's actions against internal and external reaction met full understanding in the USSR. The reaction's attempts to launch an offensive encountered a resolute rebuff by all democratic forces of India.

We wish your Government, the entire industrious and talented people of India new successes. In this connection may I repeat again: the Soviet Union was, is and remains a reliable friend of India and the Indian people. We are convinced that through the common efforts of the peoples of our coun-

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tries much, very much can be done for mankind's peace and progress.

May the tree of Soviet-Indian friendship strengthen and blossom.

May I propose a toast to the health of Prime Minister Madame Indira Gandhi and all the guests from friendly India present here, to the great Indian people.

INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC CHINA VIETNAM PAKISTAN MALI PERU SRI LANKA

Date : Jun 01, 1976

Volume No

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UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi's Reply

Replying, the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi delivered the following speech:

Thank you for your invitation which has enabled me to be amongst you all. I am only sorry that I was not able to respond earlier. I am moved by the cordiality of the welcome given to me as also by the warm-hearted words which Your Excellency has addressed to me and to the people of India.

The birth and development of socialism in the Soviet Union has been a major factor in shaping the course of world history. Ideas generated in the revolution have influenced men's minds in the building of a new social order. The spectacular progress made by the Soviet Union in industrial development, science and technology and conquest of space brilliantly demonstrated what a people can achieve by their own efforts inspired by high ideals and great leadership. To many of us in the developing countries engaged in the tremendous task of consolidating political and economic freedom, your experience and success have been a stimulous.

The Soviet Union has had to overcome many obstacles to meet challenges and repulse invasions. The sacrifices of the Soviet people in defence of their ideals have conditioned them towards peace. Having known the full horrors of war they naturally abhor it. How apt are the words of Kaisyn Kuliev: "Every bullet fired in a war finds its mark in a mother's heart." War is destructive of human values while peace enhances life. Lenin's first decree after the October Revolution was to seek peace with all peoples. The single most important value which the Soviet Union and India cherish in common is our desire for peace and peaceful construction. To the Indian people peace and serenity are the highest state which the human spirit can attain.

The acceptance of the right of other countries to live as they choose is the first essential of peace. Hence the close inter-relationship between peace and coexistence. The idea of tolerance and coexistence was

well known in Indian philosophy before it became a political concept and imperative in our times. As Jawaharlal Nehru said: "Truth is not confined to one country or one people it has far too many aspects for anyone to presume that he knows all. And each country and each people, if they are true to themselves, have to find out their path themselves through trial and error, through suffering and experience. Only then do they grow. If they merely copy others the result is likely to be that they will never grow."

This determination to be ourselves and to preserve our identity also predisposed us towards non-alignment. India was the biggest and first non-white colony to reach out to freedom. Our independence marked the beginning of the end of the colonial epoch. How could we accept any new limitations on our freedom of decision and action? We had to avoid military entanglements and concentrate on construction. International experience of the last thirty years confirms the continuing validity of non-alignment.

The Soviet Union showed great foresight in accepting India's non-alignment in our Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation. The Soviet Union has explicitly declared its respect for our policy of non-alignment and reaffirmed that it constitutes an important factor in the maintenance of universal peace.

The Soviet Union has unfailingly extended principled support to the national struggle of Asian, African and Latin American peoples and has upheld the right of nations to follow their own policies. The world is large enough for people of different beliefs and ideologies to live together and flourish, but it is too small to survive a confrontation which might result in a holocaust.

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We have watched with admiration the various moves for peace and cooperation initiated personally by General Secretary Brezhnev and by Soviet leaders in recent years. These have culminated in the Helsinki Declaration and are reflected even more in the climate of cooperation evident in

Europe today. India welcomes and appreciates detente even though currently it seems to be under strain. The need is to stabilise, strengthen and extend this process to other parts of the globe so that it becomes irreversible. Isolated bases of tranquillity cannot by themselves ensure stability when there are other areas where confrontation prevails and threatens a break-down of peace.

So long plagued with colonialism and its aftermath and now tormented by conflict and mistrust, Asia most urgently needs an atmosphere of sympathy and cooperation. It has ideological, ethnic and religious diversity and its deprivation is deeper than anywhere else. So is the magnitude of its multitudinous problems.

Darkness is not dispelled by cursing, but by lighting lamps. Along with international efforts for peace each country must act on its own to reduce areas of suspicion and to enlarge areas of goodwill. My Government has worked and is working consistently to improve relations with all our neighbours. We hope that the international community will support rather than hinder these healthy developments.

The Soviet Union genuinely wants peace-fill cooperation, mutual understanding and good neighbourliness between the countries of Asia. The Soviet Union is not only a great power but one with a large Asian component in its personality. Both our countries thus have a common interest in promoting stability and harmony in Asia. This relaxation of tension is important in itself. It is also essential for detente in Europe.

We rejoice at the emergence of an independent and unified Vietnam free of conflict. It is the fulfilment of the life work of the great and indomitable, though gentle leader, Ho Chi Minh. The termination of hostilities in Indo-China has been a major victory for freedom and for peace and a great event in the history of Asia. We look forward to forging closer ties with the Vietnamese people and we wish them success in their endeavour to build their nation.

War and hunger are two of the most

ancient and persistent scourges of mankind. Those who have suffered the ravages of war seek peace through disarmament and development.

Cooperation between our two countries is a striking example of how two peoples with different political ideologies and socio-economic structures can work together for mutual welfare and progress. An UNCTAD report describes it as a model for other countries to emulate. For our part we specially appreciate the quantum and scope of assistance from the Soviet Union for it has enabled us to establish heavy industries in our public sector and has reinforced our self-reliance. There has been steady increase in the volume and range of our economic and commercial exchanges. We have to search constantly for new areas and methods of cooperation to expand our economic relations. Our detractors who have frequently predicted limits of growth of this cooperation have proved to be false.

Our friendship has withstood the test of time. The Indian people value the comprehension you have shown in our most difficult moments. The clear declaration by His Excellency General Secretary Brezhnev at the 25th Party Congress that political and economic cooperation with India is the Soviet Union's constant policy has drawn warm response from the Indian people. The foundations on which the edifice of Indo-Soviet cooperation is built remain solid and stable. We shall continue to strengthen it. We wish the Soviet people further success in their forward march under the dynamic and far-sighted leadership of their party and Government.

Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, I request you to drink to the health of the outstanding leader of the Soviet people, His Excellency General Secretary Leonid Ilyich Brezhnev, Their Excellencies President Podgorny and Chairman Kosygin, to the health of other distinguished Soviet citizens present in this hall, to the continued progress, well-being and prosperity of the great Soviet people and the further development of Indo-Soviet friendship.

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UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Shrimati Indira Gandhi's Address at Civic Reception in Moscow

Following is the text of the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi's speech at the meeting of Soviet scholars and Soviet public at the Hall of Columns in Moscow on June 10, 1976, on which occasion the degree of Doctor of Science (honoris causa) of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR was conferred upon her:

Thank you very much for the honour you have done me. I was taken entirely by surprise.

I am happy to be back amongst the friendly Soviet people, I bring to His Excellency General Secretary Brezhnev, the leaders of the Soviet Union and to all of you the greetings and good wishes of your 600 million brothers and sisters of India.

The saga of Moscow's heroic resistance to invaders is a constant reminder that freedom, peace and national values need to be defended with ceaseless vigil. The Soviet revolution, as Jawaharlal Nehru wrote, has advanced human society and lit a bright flame. You have built a multi-racial, multi-lingual state, drawing upon many ethnic and cultural strands and sources of strength. India is a blend of races, languages, religions and regional traditions, all of which have contributed to As values. But it is the future which engages our energies and endeavour.

Under the inspiration of Marx and Lenin you have already succeeded in building a powerful new social order. We in India achieved national independence under the guidance of Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru and are now in the midst of the adventure and experiment of reconstructing an India where justice will reach out to all and poverty be relegated to the past.

Friendship between the Soviet Union and India is not new or superficial. Its roots go back to the work of Russian scholars who studied our ancient classics. The giants of 19th century Russian literature made a profound impression. Between Tolstoy and Gandhi there was a sharing of philosophical experiences which transcended the barrier of geography and language. Gorky and Mayakovsky stimulated Indian creative writers. Nor was this influence and interest confined to the cultural field. At the time of your Revolution in 1905 Mahatma Gandhi, then leading a fight against racialism in South Africa, wrote in his journal: "In the caption to this article we have put Russia and India together... We have therefore to justify it by showing how India is concerned with events in Russia... The power of the Viceroy is in no way less than that of the Czar. We too can resort to the Russian remedy against tyranny... Our shackles will break the very day if the people of India become united and patient, love their country and think of the well-being of their motherland, disregarding their self-interest... We also can show the same strength that the Russian people have shown."

The Great October Revolution coincided with the advent of Mahatma Gandhi on our national scene and the transformation of a moderate middle class activity into a mass movement which involved our rural and urban millions and unflinchingly adhered to the concept of equality that our movement was wedded to. Non-violence in no way detracted from its revolutionary nature. On the contrary, it enabled even the unarmed peasantry to participate in it fully. The great Lenin evinced keen interest in our fight and pointed out the crucial importance of India to the world struggle against colonialism. We

in turn recognised the Soviet Union to be an ally, sensing the significance and scope of her policies.

This mutual understanding became a matter of state policy for both countries when India became independent. Today we are cooperating in many fields of endeavour, internationally and bilaterally. In so doing we are fulfilling the intentions of the founding fathers of our two nations.

By the vision of its leaders and the labour and dedication of its people the Soviet Union has built enormous economic and technological strength to improve the lives of its own people and also to help mankind in its quest for peace and freedom from want. The peoples of Asia and Africa have found the Soviet Union to be a reliable friend and consistent supporter in their own struggle for national freedom, racial equality and technological development.

As friends you are interested in India's endeavor. Deep-rooted poverty and other vestiges of colonialism and feudalism will

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take time to eradicate. The change in India is gradual, not dramatic, for as my father said: "A country, especially one with an old civilisation, has deep roots in the past which cannot be pulled out without great harm, even though many weeds in the form of harmful or out-of-date customs and institutions can and should be pulled out."

We are working for a society in which the people will have fuller opportunity of participating in political decision-making and in economic development. We should like to consider each person not as a statistic but as an individual with a distinctive personality. Some outdated customs have gone. The remaining superstitions and hierarchies are being combated. Indian socialism is being shaped in response to our own special needs and conditions. Equality of opportunity is the driving force of our policies. Economic power has to be subordinated to social benefit. We now have a strong base of heavy

industry in the state sector and I should like to acknowledge the immense help given by the Soviet Union in its strengthening.

We have been victims of military aggressions and natural calamities - two major drought cycles within the last decade. We have been hit hard by the world-wide escalation of the prices of cereals, fertiliser and fuel. But the quality of our people has enabled us to meet these challenges. A renewed sense of national purpose and discipline, a redoubled determination to succeed is evident.

Our stock of technologists is today next only to that of the Soviet Union and the United States. We have increased the area of irrigation, which was 22.5 million hectares in 1950, by 25.1 million more hectares and of this 16.7 million hectares was brought under irrigation in the last ten years. Through scientific management of water and other agricultural inputs we have more than doubled our grain production. This year's harvest is 116 million tonnes compared to 54 million tonnes in the fifties. Twenty-five years ago electricity reached only 3,000 of our half million villages. Today 200,000 are electrified.

However, our achievements are dwarfed by the increase in our population, which in the last three decades has gone up by 250 million - the total population of the Soviet Union. This is due not to rise in the birth rate, but to control of epidemics and improvement in public health. It is obvious that the people's living standards can improve only when we are able, to control our population and plan our families.

Self-reliance is not, easy. No nation in history has achieved a better life for the ordinary people without sacrifice, hard work and perseverance. Firm objectives must be combined with flexibility of approach. I remember Lenin's words about institutional changes and superior human effort: "In order to renovate our state apparatus we must at all costs set out, first, to learn, secondly, to learn and thirdly, to learn then see to it that learning shall not remain a dead letter or a fashionable catch-phrase,

that learning shall really become part of our very being..."

India is learning from its own experience and from that of others. Along with other Asian and African countries we have come late on the world scene. We must beware of repeating the mistakes of industrialised societies, of avoiding the frustrations of affluence, the fashion for mere speed and obsolescence and the squandering of natural resources. If the exploitation of another country is evil, so is the reckless exploitation of the non-renewable resources of nature. How can man develop if forests, lakes and rare fauna die or the deposits which were accumulated over the millennia are depleted. Here is a new battle for widening man's awareness.

The Soviet Union has a huge geographical area and vast mineral resources, but is conscious of the need to safeguard the future. India has a larger population, a smaller land surface and an old crushing burden of economic backwardness. We are, therefore, predisposed towards simplicity by choice as well as compulsion. It, is an economic necessity and a moral value. Needless accretion of consumption articles can lead only to waste, and interference with the balance of nature. To achieve a new harmony we must strive for an inner reconciliation of old insights and new perceptions. Much of the old is valuable, much of the new could be ugly. Again we should listen to Lenin: "The beautiful must be preserved, taken as an example, as the point of departure. Even if it is old, why turn our backs on what is truly beautiful, abandon it as the point of departure for further development solely because it is old? Why worship the new as a good compelling submission merely because it is 'new'?"

Our aims are modest, but the scale of effort in a nation of our size has to be huge.

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Solutions are possible only in conditions of peace and international cooperation. War and war-like preparations obstruct development. Confrontation does not add to mate-

rial well-being or emotional balance. Development is linked with disarmament. It is a tragic paradox that nations spend 25 times more, i.e. 250 billion dollars on armaments, than on developmental assistance to weaker nations. The Soviet Union and India have cooperated for peace in the United Nations and other international forums and are working together to establish a more equitable economic order in the world. We wish success to the Soviet Union's efforts to promote disarmament.

We have warmly welcomed the steps towards detente taken by the Soviet Union during the last five years which have led to the Helsinki conference. Tension in Europe has somewhat abated. Detente should be viewed not in terms of old rivalries and distrust but as a positive contribution to human welfare. It must grow into a purposeful programme of peaceful cooperation and extend its scope to other regions and continents. A climate of peace is important for the people of the great industrialised countries but even more so for the millions inhabiting developing countries.

I am privileged to be here so soon after your 25th Party Congress. We have noted with satisfaction the warm references made by General Secretary Brezhnev to the importance of Soviet-Indian friendship and co-operation. Mr. Brezhnev and Mr. Kosygin are known as good friends of India and have often visited us. During his visit soon after Goa was liberated Mr. Brezhnev forthrightly supported India's action at a time when some countries were slandering us. We were privileged to have him again in 1973 and that visit marked a further stage in Indo-Soviet relations. Our cooperation is expanding in the spirit of our Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation. I am sure that Soviet-Indian friendship will continue to grow and to make important contribution to the great cause of maintaining and advancing peace.

Ours is not a mere Governmental relationship or even mere political and economic cooperation, but the mutual involvement of two warm-hearted and creative peoples.

Wherever they go in India the citizens of the Soviet Union are greeted with special sense of brotherhood. The projects which have come - up with Soviet aid - Bhilai and Bokaro - are household names in our country and reminders of a people who have stood by us in times good and bad. We have many exchange programmes of which students and academicians take advantage. We are glad that so many Soviet students and scholars are interested in Indian studies. There are a number of Indian students here.

The Soviet Union is a major factor for peace and development in the contemporary world. We in India feel confident that its power and wisdom will always be devoted to making the world a better and more harmonious place to live in. I hope that we shall continue to march side by side and in step with history. Once again I give you the greetings and good wishes of the people of India for success of your endeavours.

RUSSIA USA INDIA SOUTH AFRICA LATVIA FINLAND PERU

Date : Jun 01, 1976

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UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Shrimati Indira Gandhi's Message on Soviet TV

Following is the text of the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi's message telecast on Soviet TV on June 10, 1976:

I am delighted to be in this great country once again and to be able to speak to my Soviet friends. I bring you the greetings of the 600 million men, women and children of India who value your friendship and wish you well.

May I tell you something about India, its history and its present endeavours? India is important not only because of its population, but because its heritage stretches back thousands of years without break, throughout which the recurring theme has been compassion and tolerance. Many races from various parts of the world came to conquer or to seek refuge, bringing their own beliefs, their social customs and form of speech, their habits of food and dress. The Indian civilisation is the composite creation of all these various elements. It is because of our close contact with other peoples that ancient sages insisted that the earth is one family. Two thousand years ago a Tamil poet declared: "The world is my village".

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But, because there were individuals and sections who were more concerned with self-interest than with the unity of the country or meeting the external threat, foreigners were able to gain control over our country. Our resources were exploited for the profit of others. Colonial rule perpetuated orthodoxy and narrowness and prevented us from deriving the benefits of modern industry and science. But the spirit of a country cannot be enslaved. Ideas of liberty, democracy and modernisation found eloquent exponents in every region. Reformers worked to cleanse our society of accumulated evils. Finally, in our own times, Mahatma Gandhi led a mass movement in which millions upon millions participated - not only the educated, the articulate, but peasants, craftsmen, people of suppressed groups, the illiterate, the propertyless and women of all classes. They were unarmed, but their political activism led to independence in 1947.

Like the French, American and Soviet Revolutions, the Indian Revolution is an event in world history, for it was the beginning of the break-up of European empires. Even during our freedom struggle we realized that freedom did not mean merely exchanging foreign masters for domestic exploiters, but a far-reaching process of social and economic reconstruction. We also developed the

international links and attitudes which later became the foreign policy of free India.

The experiment and experience of the Soviet Union influenced us. My father, Jawaharlal Nehru, first visited the Soviet Union in 1927 and spoke of the significance of the emergence of the Soviet Union in these words: "For the first time in history the representatives of the poorest classes, and especially the industrial workers, were at the head of a country... Essentially it was a victory of the self-confidence, the faith, the self-sacrifice and the unflinching determination of the Russian people." His own view of the system to be adopted by independent India was outlined in his address in 1929 to the plenary session of the Indian National Congress, our party which won freedom for the country: "The philosophy of socialism has gradually permeated the entire structure of society the world over... India will have to go that way too if she seeks to end her poverty and inequality, though she may evolve her own methods and may adapt the ideal to the genius of her race.

After independence, we have struggled to build a new society. We were not content to follow the social ethics of capitalist democracies. In 1947 we had hardly any industry. Today, the range is wide - steel mills, aeronautical factories, ship-building yards. We even export machinery. Our agricultural production has doubled. We have over ninety million children in school, and some three million more in college. The life-span has lengthened by 20 years. In a single generation, our scientists and technologists have brought the country within sight of technological self-reliance. The task of development is exciting but also back-breaking. It was made more difficult by invasions from outside and frequent failure of rains over vast tracts of our land. In recent years, the world-wide escalation of prices of grain, fertiliser, fuel and industrial equipment imposed a heavier burden. But our people have overcome all challenges and gone ahead.

Fundamentally, development has to be the result of a people's own labour, skills

and savings. But cooperation with friendly countries, which are more advanced, help us to avoid waste and expedite certain modern techniques. Technological cooperation is inevitable in the modern world and we are anxious to learn all we can from others. The Soviet Union has given us valuable assistance in our effort to build basic industries and machine-building capacity in the State sector. This is appreciated by our people. It is concrete and eloquent proof of the Soviet Union's own consistent support and sympathy for the struggles of colonies to attain not only political but economic independence. The development of trade and cooperation with us has in turn helped the diversification of your economic relations.

On my first visit here, I sensed the warmth and vigour of the Soviet people, their concern for children and women, their love of literature, music and dance. Even at that time your technological achievements were impressive. In the last decades you have made spectacular advance in many branches of scientific discovery and, application.

Space travel is a magnificent tribute to man's quest for adventure, but a greater, if mellowed, achievement would be to remove want and hunger wherever it exists on our planet. The glory of contemporary civilisation should be measured not in terms of the steel consumed and petrol burnt per capita, but in terms of the feeling of har-

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mony and repose achieved, and the material and mental anxiety overcome. This effort at human betterment must be a world-wide enterprise. Each of us is directly concerned with the people of our own country. But our view must encompass other peoples also. Just as inequalities within a nation weaken it, disparities between nations will weaken the world and make all countries vulnerable. International disparities are as big a danger to peace as armaments of destruction.

Under the leadership of General Secretary Brezhnev, the Soviet Union has taken many initiatives for reducing tensions and

strengthening the forces of peace. We in India have wholeheartedly welcomed them. The personal experience of war of almost every-Soviet family. however heroic, also involved indescribable suffering and sacrifice, Hence love of peace is an integral component of your outlook. We in India, who follow a non-aligned path to peace and seek friendship with all, will be with you in the quest for peace,

My best wishes for the well-being and happiness of the Soviet people.

INDIA USA RUSSIA

Date : Jun 01, 1976

Volume No

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UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Indo-Soviet Joint Declaration

Following is the text of the Indo-Soviet Joint Declaration signed in Moscow on June 11, 1976 by Shrimati Indira Gandhi and Mr. L. I. Brezhnev, and issued on June 13, 1976:

DECLARATION

ON THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION BETWEEN INDIA AND THE SOVIET UNION

India and the Soviet Union,

Convinced that the strengthening of peace, international security and co-operation among states is the only sound basis for the development of friendly relations between states consistent with the vital interest of all peoples of the world,

Stressing again the importance of the Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Co-operation between the Republic of India and the USSR

signed in New Delhi on August 9, 1971, and the Joint Indo-Soviet Declaration of November 29, 1973, which reflected the historically established traditional friendship of the peoples of the two countries and their desire to make a substantial contribution to the common struggle for the peace and security of the peoples of the world,

Noting the great importance of these interstate documents for the development of wide-ranging Indo-Soviet co-operation and as a factor for stability in South Asia, on the Asian continent and in the world as a whole,

Noting with deep satisfaction the fruitful results brought about by Indo-Soviet co-operation, which has now risen to a new level of development in the political, economic, trade, scientific, technological, cultural and other fields,

Noting the existence of favourable prospects for the further expansion and deepening of close political and economic co-operation between them,

Expressing satisfaction over the significant progress achieved in the world in recent years on the path to the relaxation of international tensions, strengthening of international peace and security, elimination of the vestiges of colonialism, opposition to any form of aggression and domination as well as to interference in internal affairs and to exploitation of one country by another,

Declare the following:

India and the Soviet Union are determined to unswervingly pursue in relations with each other the course of strengthening friendship and co-operation in every way and to do all in their power for the further improvement of the international climate particularly through augmenting their joint contribution to the solution of fundamental international problems in the interests of strengthening peace and security of the Peoples of the world,

India and the Soviet Union note with satisfaction a broad coincidence of their

views on topical international questions of common interest as well as on ways of further strengthening the bilateral co-operation between them. Both sides solemnly reiterate the resolve of the two countries to strengthen in every way Indo-Soviet friendship

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which is a valuable asset of the peoples of the two countries.

I

In the course of the exchange of views, held in an atmosphere of trust, friendship and mutual understanding, Mr. L. I. Brezhnev informed the Prime Minister of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, of the results of the 25th Congress of the CPSU, the successes in the development of the national economy of the USSR, the life and creative activities of the Soviet people and the foreign policy of the Soviet state aimed at consolidating peace.

Prime Minister of India highly appreciated the successes of the Soviet people in developing and strengthening their country and the foreign policy of the Soviet Union which has been conducting a consistent struggle for peace and international co-operation, for the freedom and independence of the peoples of the world and against Colonialism, neocolonialism and racism.

Prime Minister of India informed Mr. L. I. Brezhnev of the progress made by Indian people through the implementation of the socioeconomic measures taken by the Government of India for developing the country's economy and for improving the living standards of the Indian people and of the foreign policy, based on the principles of non-alignment and peaceful co-existence, pursued by India.

The Soviet side expressed its full understanding of the efforts of the Government and people of India aimed at solving the complicated socioeconomic tasks facing the country and highly appreciated the peace-loving foreign policy of India, its important

positive role in the non-alignment movement and its great contribution to the struggle for peace, against colonialism, neocolonialism and racism, the policy which has won for India a well-deserved and high prestige in the international arena.

In the course of the talks, both sides stressed the special significance they attach to strengthening the traditionally friendly relations between India and the USSR on the basis of the Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Co-operation of August 1971, which has been exerting an ever-increasing positive influence on the further expansion of Indo-Soviet co-operation in the political, economic, scientific, technological, cultural and other fields and is an important factor of strengthening peace and stability in Asia and throughout the world

II

India and the Soviet Union view with satisfaction the noticeable improvement in the international situation and the positive changes that have taken place in recent years on the international scene.

The two sides welcomed the successful conclusion of the all-European Conference on Security and Co-operation and they believe that the changes affected in Europe towards the relaxation of tensions and the strengthening of peace create favourable conditions for maintaining and consolidating peace on the European continent. Prime Minister of India highly appreciated the contribution made by the Soviet Union, and personally by Mr. L. I. Brezhnev in this process. Both sides are convinced that the relaxation of tensions is vital for all the countries of the world, large and small, developed and developing.

The two sides declare their determination to increase efforts in order to facilitate the deepening of detente and to spread it to other regions of the world.

India and the Soviet Union reaffirm that they attach particular significance to a broad development of mutually beneficial co-operation and the strengthening of peace

and stability in Asia through common efforts by all the states of this largest and most populated area of the world. India and the Soviet Union agree on the need to create such conditions as would permit the peoples to live in peace and good-neighbourliness, and for their manpower and material resources to be channelled to solve social and economic problems which are of primary importance for the improvement of the living standards of the peoples and the uplift of their economy and culture.

Both sides believe that interstate relations should be based on such principles as the renunciation of the use of force in relations among states, respect for sovereignty and inviolability of borders, non-interference in internal affairs of countries and peoples and broad development of co-operation in economic and other fields on the basis of full equality and mutual benefit.

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They consistently come out in favour of the right of each people to be the master of their own destiny, the inadmissibility of territorial annexation through aggression, the inalienable right of each state to exercise sovereignty over its natural resources and to implement progressive socioeconomic, transformations and in favour of the settlement of all international disputes by peaceful means.

The transformation of Asia into a continent of durable peace will, in the opinion of both sides, undoubtedly facilitate further normalisation of relations between countries and strengthen universal peace.

India and the Soviet Union fully agree in their appraisal of the positive contribution made by the non-alignment movement to the common struggle for peace and security of nations, against the policy of aggression and interference of imperialism, for the elimination of the vestiges of colonialism, neo-colonialism, racial discrimination and the policy of apartheid, in defence of independence and freedom of all peoples and for the establishment of international economic

norms of interstate relations on the basis of respect for national sovereignty, equality and mutual benefit.

India and the Soviet Union reaffirm their support for all governments and peoples fighting against the forces of reaction and imperialism. They declare the determination of the two states to make every effort to eliminate the remaining hotbeds of tension which threaten international security and mutually beneficial co-operation among nations.

The two sides express serious concern at the unsettled situation persisting for a long time in the Middle East. They resolutely support the struggle of the peoples of Arab countries and express themselves in favour of a just political settlement of the Middle East crisis based on the speedy withdrawal of Israeli troops from all the Arab territories occupied by Israel in 1967, on meeting the legitimate demands of the Arab people of Palestine, including the right to establish their own state, and on ensuring the right of all states of the Middle East to independent existence and development. India and the USSR come out in favour of resuming for these purposes the work of the Geneva peace conference with the participation of all parties concerned, including representatives of the Arab people of Palestine represented by the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

India and the Soviet Union note the identity of their views concerning the need for a settlement of the Cyprus problem based on absolute respect for the independent, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus. They come out in favour of the full implementation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations Organization on Cyprus.

The two sides exchanged views on the situation in the Indian sub-continent. Prime Minister of India informed the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU of India's consistent efforts to normalise the situation in the Indian sub-continent. The Agreement concluded on May 14, 1976 in Islamabad between India and Pakistan

creates favourable conditions for promoting understanding and mutual cooperation between the two countries.

India and the Soviet Union are in favour of promoting good-neighbourly relations between the states of the sub-continent and they resolutely pronounce themselves against any instigation from outside and against any attempts by external forces aimed at aggravating the situation, in this region. They welcome the recent steps towards further normalisation of the situation, restoration of confidence, mutual understanding and good-neighbourly relations between all states in the sub-continent. The General Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU, Mr. L. I. Bhezhnev, welcomed the efforts of Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi in this regard.

India and the Soviet Union note with satisfaction that the victory of the cause of freedom and independence in Indochina and the restoration of peace on the Indochina peninsula have opened up new vistas for improving the situation in South East Asia and in the whole world. In this connection, the two sides expressed the hope that the peace-loving and progressive people of Vietnam will soon take their rightful place in the United Nations. Both sides fully support the desire of the peoples of the countries of South East Asia to live in conditions of peace, independence and co-operation between these states and come out against external interference in the affairs of these countries and

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for the withdrawal of foreign troops and liquidation of foreign military bases in the region.

India and the Soviet Union pronounce themselves in favour of the termination of foreign interference in the internal affairs of the Korean people. They believe that there is an urgent need for creating conditions to establish lasting peace in the Korean peninsula and to meet the aspirations of the Korean people for a peaceful reunification of the country. The two sides are convinced that

easing of tension in the Korean peninsula will make an important contribution to the strengthening of peace and security in Asia.

Both sides welcome the emergence of sovereign states on the territories of Angola, Mozambique, Guinea-Bissau, San Tome and Principe after many centuries of colonial domination and exploitation. They particularly noted the importance of the victory of the progressive national forces under the leadership of MPLA in Angola in the struggle against armed intervention and for the establishment of the sovereign state of the People's Republic of Angola. Both sides affirm that the victory of the progressive and patriotic forces in the former Portuguese Colonies has made a significant contribution to the strengthening of democratic and national liberation movements in the countries which are still under racial domination. Both sides declare their support to the peoples fighting against colonialism, neocolonialism, racial discrimination and the policy of apartheid. They express their conviction that the peoples of Zimbabwe and Namibia will soon shake off the yoke of colonialism and racial domination and will take lawful place in the comity of nations.

India and the Soviet Union agree that the supplementing of political detente with military detente and the cessation of the arms race are of primary importance for the maintenance and strengthening of peace. The two sides reaffirm their determination to facilitate the achievement of general and complete disarmament including nuclear disarmament under effective international control. They come out in favour of taking measures with a view to convening at an early date a World Disarmament Conference which will make a substantial contribution to advancing towards general and complete disarmament, saving mankind from the burden of armaments and releasing enormous material resources for peaceful and creative purposes.

India and the Soviet Union note with satisfaction the adoption in recent years by the UN General Assembly of a number of important decisions on the questions of res-

training the arms race and the talking of a series of practical steps towards general and complete disarmament, including decisions on the reduction of the military budgets of states permanent members of the Security Council by 10 per cent and the use of a part of the funds thus saved for providing assistance to developing countries, the conclusion of an international convention on the prohibition of military or any other hostile use of environmental modification techniques, the conclusion of a treaty on the complete and general prohibition of nuclear weapon tests and an agreement on the prohibition of the development and manufacture of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons. The two sides are convinced that it is necessary to take all steps to put these decisions into effect and declare their readiness to combine their efforts with the efforts of other peace-loving states to achieve this aim.

India and the Soviet Union support the desire of the peoples of the Indian Ocean area to prevent it from becoming an arena for the setting up of foreign military bases. The two sides reaffirm their readiness to participate, together with all states concerned, on an equal basis and in conformity with generally recognized rules of international law, in finding a favourable solution to the question of making the Indian Ocean a zone of peace.

India and the Soviet Union agree that the renunciation of the use or threat of force for solving controversial issues between states should become a law of international life. Noting with satisfaction the reaffirmation of this principle in the decisions of the United Nations and the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, India and the Soviet Union call upon all states to facilitate the adoption of measures aimed at concluding a world treaty on the non-use of force in international relations.

Loyal to the purposes and principles of the UN Charter, India and the Soviet Union are of the same view on the importance of

the role this international organization is called upon to play in maintaining peace and international security and in developing peaceful co-operation between states. Recognizing the positive contribution of the United Nations to easing international tensions, the two sides reaffirm their resolve to work for the further strengthening of the United Nations and the enhancing of its effectiveness in maintaining universal peace and security of peoples on the basis of strict observance of the purposes and principles of the UN Charter.

The two sides discussed the state of affairs at the UN Conference on the Law of the Sea and confirmed their intention to facilitate the achievement of agreement on a new convention on the law of the sea which would be on the whole acceptable to all states.

India and the Soviet Union reaffirm their readiness to promote the restructuring of international economic relations on an equitable basis taking into account the legitimate rights of developing countries to dispose of their national wealth and their desire to raise the level of socioeconomic and cultural development of their peoples. They emphasized in this connection the urgent need to eliminate discrimination and other obstacles in international trade and to put an end to inequality and exploitation in international economic relations

III

India and the Soviet Union note with satisfaction that Indo-Soviet co-operation which, as a result of the signing in 1971 of the Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Co-operation, has been provided a solid political and legal basis in accordance with the long-term interests of the peoples of both countries, has been successfully developing and deepening in all spheres during the past five years. The desire of both sides for broad all-round co-operation between India and the USSR reflects their deep interest in ensuring economic and social progress, peace and security of peoples of the world.

The two sides attach great importance to the practice of Indo-Soviet political consultations which has proven its value. They decided to develop this practice making these consultations systematic and substantive and paying special attention to using them in assisting the implementation of agreed measures to strengthen peace, international security and co-operation on the basis of equality between states.

Noting the special importance of meetings at the highest level as a factor promoting effectively the development and deepening of interstate relations between India and the USSR, the two sides agreed to hold regular meetings between leaders of India and the Soviet Union.

Having examined the state and prospects of bilateral co-operation in the economic, commercial and scientific and technical fields, the two sides note with satisfaction that such co-operation is developing and strengthening steadily as defined by the accords reached during the summit meeting in Delhi in November 1973 and by the statement of objectives and commitments of the two countries as set forth in the Joint Indo-Soviet Declaration.

In accordance with the desire of the Government of India to strengthen the country's economic independence and the readiness expressed by the USSR Government to render appropriate assistance to India in achieving this objective, Indo-Soviet economic and technical co-operation has been further developed and diversified, inter alia, in such key branches of economy as ferrous and non-ferrous metallurgy, engineering, power generation, extraction and refining of oil and natural gas, coal and mining industry, agriculture as well as in other fields. As a result of broad economic and technical co-operation a number of big industrial enterprises and other projects have been built, are under construction and are being expanded in India in the public sector thus contributing to the strengthening of the economy and independence of the country.

India and the Soviet Union express their

firm intention to continue developing and strengthening economic and technical co-operation between the two countries.

The two sides will seek to expand in every way their production co-operation, particularly in the fields of non-ferrous metallurgy, textile industry, electronics, agricultural production and in other branches of the economy, regarding such cooperation as a promising and effective form of their mutually beneficial bilateral economic co-operation, including co-operation in assisting economic development in third countries.

India and the Soviet Union express their unanimous opinion on the usefulness of the

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many-faceted ties existing between them in the field of scientific and technical co-operation including fundamental research, applied sciences and technology, medicine agriculture and other fields. A new chapter has been added to scientific and technological collaboration between the two countries with the launching of India's first artificial earth satellite Aryabhata into orbit by a Soviet launcher from Soviet territory and the conclusion of another agreement for the launching of a second Indian satellite. Both sides intend to develop and expand scientific and technical co-operation in every possible way in the interests of accelerating scientific and technological progress which facilitates the elevation of the living standards of broad masses of the population.

The two sides carried out a review of the long-term Agreement on Further Development of Economic and Trade Cooperation between India and the USSR concluded on November 29, 1973 in New Delhi. They noted with satisfaction that Indo-Soviet trade has been developing steadily. They affirm that in order to reach the target for the growth of trade laid down in the Indo-Soviet Declaration of November 29, 1973, it is essential for the two countries to explore new areas and new modes of cooperation. It was also decided to take measures aimed at expanding the list of commodities for trade.

Both sides noted that the recently concluded third session of the Inter-governmental Indo-Soviet Commission on Economic, Scientific and Technological Cooperation has broken new round in such areas as production collaboration and cooperation and that the two sides are actively examining a number of other specific proposals in this regard.

The two sides welcome the development of Indo-Soviet ties in the spheres of science, culture, art, literature, education, health, mass media, tourism and sports and express their desire to deepen and enrich these ties.

Both sides express their confidence that the visit of the Prime Minister of India to the Soviet Union and the talks held constitute a new major contribution to the further development of friendship and all-round cooperation between India and the USSR and will promote the consolidation of peace in Asia and throughout the world.

RUSSIA INDIA USA PERU MALI ISRAEL SWITZERLAND CYPRUS PAKISTAN CHINA VIETNAM
KOREA ANGOLA GUINEA GUINEA-BISSAU MOZAMBIQUE NAMIBIA ZIMBABWE
CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Jun 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

UNITED KINGDOM

Official Statement on Recent Developments in Race Relations in U.K.

In response to press queries, the official spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs made the following statement in New Delhi on June 15, 1976:

We are following with close attention the recent developments in race relations in the United Kingdom. We have been in touch with the British Government, both through

our High Commission in London, and their High Commission here. Our High Commission has also been in touch with the Indian community in the UK.

The representatives of India, Pakistan and Bangladesh in London have also been in contact with each other and had issued a joint statement after their meeting at India House.

The Foreign Secretary had told the British High Commissioner that we hoped that efforts and effective lead at the political level would continue to calm the racial tension.

A number of Ministers of the Government of India, who have recently visited Britain in other connections have also been meeting responsible leaders of the Indian community and also telling their own counterparts in the British Government, about India's concern at the current racial tensions.

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Date : Jun 01, 1976

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Date : Jul 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

AFGHANISTAN

Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi's Banquet Speech in Kabul

Following its the text of the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi's speech at a banquet held in her honour bit the Head of State and Prime Minister of Afghanistan, Mohammad Daoud in Kabul on July 4, 1976:

It is a pleasure to be in Afghanistan again. I am grateful for the generous welcome which you and the people of Kabul have given to me and my delegation. I bring to you all the greetings of the Indian people to the Republic of Afghanistan and to its pre-eminent leader, President Mohammad Daoud, who symbolises Afghanistan's spirit of independence.

Your Excellency, you have mentioned our old friendship. We meet as old and proven friends. From the dawn of history the peoples of our two lands have had close links. Earlier this century, in resistance to foreign domination, we were once again drawn to each other. India's independence marked the beginning of a deep friendship between our two proud and sovereign countries. A consistent cordial relationship has become even warmer since President Daoud assumed office three years ago.

Our aims are common, our endeavours are similar. We are engaged in liberating our people from their thralldom to poverty. We are remedying the ill effects of centuries of neglect, attempting to give our people the benefits of modern knowledge and of new technology, without uprooting them from the spiritual moorings which over the ages have given them sustenance and the strength to endure.

Development involves the uncovering and training of latent skills and, with scientific knowledge, surveying and harnessing

our natural resources. As my father often said, a country does not mean soil, it means its people. The development of a country's human resources is the first step in modernisation. Factories can be constructed with foreign help and guidance. But real progress and strength comes only if a nation builds its own technological and managerial capacities.

This is what we have been doing in India. As soon as we were free, we established along with our major irrigation projects and basic industries advanced scientific research and training institutions. Now, some twenty-five years later, we have scientists and design engineers who can confidently undertake the most complex technological challenges. Be it the manufacture of sophisticated machine tools or the building of nuclear power stations our stock of engineers, the third largest in the world (after the United States of America and the Soviet Union) is availed of by many members of our Afro-Asian family of nations.

The smooth progress of economic development needs certain conditions. Firstly, we are all affected by natural calamities. The Government and people of India sympathise with the people of Afghanistan for the suffering caused by the earthquake and flood ravage earlier this year. In the last decade and again for two successive years recently, we in India experienced devastating drought when all our energies had to be concentrated on feeding people. Secondly, we cannot escape the adverse influence of unforeseen crises on the international economic scene. In recent years all developing nations have had to bear special burdens because of the steep rise in the international prices of foodgrains, of industrial machinery, fertilizer and oil. These set back our own efforts, from which we are only now slowly recuperating. A third important factor is peace in the neighbourhood. India has had to bear the brunt of several attacks in the last 25 years.

A fourth and equally important condition of development is a sense of common

purpose within the nation. Unfortunately, there have been parties and groups within India who did not hesitate to obstruct production and Governmental functioning, thus adding to the people's difficulties. Desire for power often makes for strange combinations of reactionary and religious sections with extremist political elements. Such alliances and voices of dissidence received support from some foreign elements. We have had to take action not merely to safeguard our chosen economic path, but to defend the very unity and democratic integrity of the country. A nation like India, which is composed of numerous religious and linguistic groups, must be ever-vigilant to see that every constituent part receives fairplay and equal treatment.

It has been India's constant effort to strengthen its internal unity and economic capability and to extend and deepen its friendship and cooperation with others. Afghanistan and India subscribe to the concept of co-existence. As members of the non-aligned community we have eschewed exclusive alliances. We do not belong to any camp. There are, fortunately, no problems between our two countries, although differences between neighbours are not unusual. But our experience has shown that bilateral political matters are best solved bilaterally. The effort to remove misunderstandings and create conditions for greater cultural exchange and economic cooperation must be a continuous one. This is the underlying spirit of some of our recent initiatives. However, we do want it to be clearly understood that friendship with one country cannot be at the cost of another's. Indeed, this is the crux of non-alignment.

India has consistently supported the just cause of Arab people and rights of the people of Palestine. I entirely agree with what you have said about Lebanon. We believe peace is indivisible and imbalance in one region cannot but affect the other. That is why it is important that we should all endeavour for peace in our region and in the world.

Apart from coming with my father in 1959, I visited Afghanistan in 1969. During this short period I have witnessed the pro-

gress made by Afghanistan. Under President Daoud's clear-sighted leadership Afghanistan is strengthening itself, accelerating its economic development and improving its friendship with all, so as to open a new era of hope and fulfilment for its people. We appreciate your endeavour and I should like to assure you that India will be with you in this, as it has always been since our independence.

Our relationship is centuries old. The benign Buddha stands in Bamiyan as witness to the earlier phase of this association. There are carvings of exquisite beauty in your National Museum which betoken the brotherhood between our craftsmen. There are saints and pirs who are revered by our two peoples. I have been told of the Pushto saying: "We are well familiar with each other, and if all goes well we shall keep this brotherhood alive till the end." To the people of India the very name Kabul recalls pictures of fruit and friendship. May our friendship be fruitful for ever.

May I thank Your Excellency for the kind words You have said about myself and my father.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, I request You to join me in a toast to the health of His Excellency President Mohammad Daoud, to the success of his endeavours to build a Prosperous Afghanistan and to the prosperity of the people of Afghanistan.

AFGHANISTAN USA INDIA LATVIA RUSSIA LEBANON CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Jul 01, 1976

Volume No

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AFGHANISTAN

President Daoud's Banquet Speech Welcoming Shrimati Indira Gandhi

Following is the text of the speech by the Head of State and Prime Minister of Afghanistan, Mohammad Daoud at the banquet held in honour of the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, in Kabul on July 4 1976:

It is a great pleasure indeed to greet Your Excellency once again in Afghanistan and to welcome you and Your companions in this gathering arranged in your honour and to mark the cordial friendship between Afghanistan and India. Your present visit to Afghanistan refreshes the memory of your first visit to our country in 1959 when you were accompanying your illustrious father, the great leader of India, Jawaharlal Nehru. I would like to particularly mention here the

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positive and effective role of that visit in consolidating and expanding Indo-Afghan relations and cooperation.

Friendship between Afghanistan and India is neither a new phenomenon, nor is it born out of the compulsions of time. This friendship existed between our two countries and peoples centuries before the advent of colonialism. In this region great intellectual movements have spread shining civilizations from one country to another and thus helped the process for scientific, cultural and commercial exchanges which in turn have contributed to our efforts for progress and prosperity of our societies. Although colonialism and its sinister impacts halted progress and development in our countries and our two nations were forced to employ all their efforts and resources to combat this great evil, but colonialism did not succeed to divide the Afghan and Indian nation's. On the contrary, our two peoples joined their efforts and supported each other in their struggles against colonialism until they achieved full independence. So it was natural that with the elimination of colonial rule, friendship and cooperation between independent Afghanistan and free India be re-

sumed. Similarity of our economic and social problems and our determination to solve them as well as our adherence to non-alignment have led to the further consolidation of friendship and to the expansion of cooperation between us.

We note with satisfaction that friendly relations and wide cooperation between Afghanistan and India have grown to the benefit of our two peoples in the interest of peace and security of the region and in the world and are bearing fruitful results. This friendship and cooperation, which has risen to a new level with the establishment of the Republican regime in Afghanistan, has afforded our peoples the opportunity to benefit from each other's experiences and assistance in different fields of economic and social development as well as to endeavour to build a new and prosperous life for present and future generations.

During my friendly visit to your beautiful country last year I witnessed that the hard-working and energetic people of India under an able and enlightened leadership headed by Your Excellency are engaged in an enormous struggle for the construction of a decent and prosperous life with great enthusiasm. The Indian nation today are successfully pursuing the goal set by Your Excellency and your colleagues in the context of a reasonable and realistic policy and programme and in conformity with the high interests of Indian society. The people of Afghanistan are admiring your untiring efforts for truly serving your people and country and wish the friendly nation of India ever greater success and triumphs under your wise leadership.

I am confident that Your Excellency and your distinguished companions in the course of this friendly visit to our country will witness that since the establishment of the Republican regime in Afghanistan the patriotic and hard-working people of Afghanistan, too, are endeavouring to build a new life, ensuring happiness and prosperity for the present and future of the country. The draft of the seven-year Economic and Social Development Plan of the country which was undertaken after

close assessment of the present conditions and determining the possibilities and available resources as well as our needs and priorities, affords us the opportunity to launch its implementation from the start of the year 1355 with a view to lay a firm and reasonable foundation for the development of the living conditions of our people in all fields. A number of basic reforms which have been introduced for preserving the interest of the public and providing favourable conditions of progress and just and balanced development will facilitate the successful implementation of the plan.

Esteemed Excellency, Afghanistan as one of the co-sponsors of non-aligned movement has always followed with sincerity this policy and has based its foreign policy on the principles of active neutrality, free judgement of international issues, positive friendship and fruitful cooperation with all peace loving countries and non-adherence to political and military alliances. We have also determined that in today's chaotic world situation our present policy is the best means to secure tranquillity and to maintain peace and security in the region and in the world. We are of the opinion that in order to overcome their backwardness as well as to create favourable conditions for their sound economic and social development, developing countries and indeed all countries of the world need peace and stability more than anything else.

The Republic of Afghanistan has positively and actively participated in the pre-

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sentation of the fifth Non-aligned summit and shall participate with great interest at the Colombo conference. The non-aligned movement plays a constructive and decisive role in international relations today and its importance and effectiveness is being increasingly recognised with the passage of time. These countries have submitted realistic views and recommendations not only on political issues but also on other topics, specially economic problems, which in our view constitute the best foundation for the solution of the present

difficulties.

On the question of the Middle East the Republic of Afghanistan has always stated its firm conviction that until all occupied Arab territories in 1967 are not evacuated by the aggressive Israeli forces and the Arab people of Palestine do not enjoy their legitimate rights including the right to establish their own national homeland, real and lasting peace cannot prevail in this region. The Government of Afghanistan is deeply concerned about the disastrous situation in the Lebanon and regrets the horrible losses of human life and enormous material damage inflicted on the Lebanese. It also expresses the hope that our Lebanese brothers would soon be able to settle their differences.

The existing economic and trade relations in the world which are remnants of bygone times and worn-out arrangements can in no way respond to the needs and requirements of the present time. The discussions during the sixth and seventh special sessions of the UN General Assembly, the restricted negotiations of the Paris conference as well as the proceedings of the fourth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development held in Nairobi have clearly demonstrated that a new world economic order based on existing realities, equality and justice should be immediately established. This new order should take into account the rights and needs of all countries and should be able to adjust the economic and trade relations of different groups of countries, taking into consideration their individual rate of growth. On the other hand, developing countries should also endeavour to increase and expand their mutual economic and commercial relations and cooperation. Such cooperation can help them to achieve self-reliance in different fields and enhance their development.

Madam Prime Minister, although your stay in our country is rather short I am certain that the warm feelings and friendly sentiments of the Afghanis in welcoming you and your distinguished companions show that we receive you in our country as our close and sincere friend and offer you every hospitality.

During this short visit we should have the opportunity to discuss and exchange views with you on all questions of mutual interest to both countries. I have great assurance that these talks and exchanges of views following our highly fruitful and satisfactory discussions of last year in New Delhi will be another significant and useful step on the road to strengthening and expanding friendly ties and wide cooperation between Afghanistan and India. As the real objective of the policies followed by Afghanistan and India and of the cooperation between these two countries is to maintain peace and security in the region and in the world, to create and promote understanding and to secure favourable conditions for the happiness and prosperity of their people through cooperation in different fields, I feel confident that our discussions in Kabul will prove beneficial for the preservation of the stability and security of this part of the world and the success of the recent positive developments in the region. At this stage it should be mentioned that the sincere cooperation of the Government of India in some of the development projects in Afghanistan is being cordially appreciated by the Government and the people of Afghanistan.

Madam Prime Minister, I wish you a very pleasant stay in our country and hope that you will find time to get more familiar during this brief period with the different aspects of life in this country. May I request the distinguished guests to please join me in a toast to the health and perpetual success of Her Excellency Mrs. Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister of the friendly India, to the ever-increasing happiness and prosperity of the friendly Indian nation, to the friendship and fruitful cooperation between Afghanistan and India, to the lasting peace and stability of our region and the world.

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AFGHANISTAN INDIA USA SRI LANKA ISRAEL LEBANON FRANCE KENYA

Date : Jul 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

AFGHANISTAN

Indo-Afghan Joint Communiqué

Following is the text of the joint communiqué issued at the conclusion of the prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi's official visit to Afghanistan from July 4 to July 7, 1976:

At the invitation of Mr. Mohammad Daoud, Head of State and Prime Minister of the Republic of Afghanistan, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister of the Republic of India, paid an official and friendly visit to Afghanistan from 4th to the 7th July, 1976.

The Prime Minister of India was accorded a very warm welcome by the people and Government of Afghanistan, reflecting the friendly ties between the two countries. She also visited some places of interest in Kabul and Istalef.

The Prime Minister had extensive discussions with the Head of State and Prime Minister of Afghanistan in an atmosphere of complete friendship and cordiality, in which problems of the region, as well as major international issues and bilateral relations were fully examined. These discussions revealed identity of views on all important subjects. The Head of State and Prime Minister of Afghanistan was assisted by Dr. Mohammad Hasan Sharq, First Deputy Prime Minister, Mr. Sayyed Abdulilah, Second Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister, Mr. Mohammad Khan Jalalar, Commerce Minister, Mr. Ali Ahmad Khuram, Planning Minister and Mr. Waheed Abdullah, Deputy Foreign Minister.

In these discussions the Prime Minister

of India was assisted by Mr. Mir Qasim, Minister without Portfolio, Prof. P. N. Dhar, Secretary to Prime Minister, Mr. J. S. Mehta, Foreign Secretary, Mr. H. Y. Sharda Prasad, Information Adviser to the Prime Minister, Mr. K. L. Dalal, Additional Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, Mr. A. Damodaran, Joint Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, and Dr. I. P. Singh, Joint Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs.

The Ambassadors of the two countries, Mr. A. R. Pazhwak and Mr. K. R. P. Singh, were also present in these talks.

The two leaders expressed satisfaction over the continuing validity of non-alignment which had made a positive contribution to the common struggle for peace and security of nations. They underlined the need for adherence to the principles and criteria of the non-aligned movement to assure its success and efficacy and agreed to cooperate actively in furthering this objective at the forthcoming Summit Conference at Colombo.

The two sides were agreed on the fact that ever-increasing membership of non-aligned countries in the world and its universal attraction has further proven and justified the vital importance of non-alignment for the preservation of world peace and security. They also stressed, once more, the validity of this movement which has so well served the mankind as a whole.

The two leaders called for universal disarmament including a total ban on the use of nuclear weapons. They emphasized the need to develop nuclear energy exclusively for peaceful purposes for promoting rapid economic development.

The two sides reviewed the world economic situation and stressed the need for restructuring the international economic order. The developing countries should have the unfettered right to dispose of their national wealth to their best advantage and thus fulfil their desire to raise the level of social, economic and cultural development of their peoples. They called upon the developed countries to cooperate in putting their economic relations with developing countries on

a just and equitable basis. They reaffirmed their belief that economic, technical and scientific cooperation among the developing countries should be further strengthened for speedier progress.

The two sides had identical views on the political problems in the Middle East, and believe that the existing conditions continue to threaten peace and security of the region. They called for the Israeli withdrawal from all occupied Arab territories. They agreed that a lasting peace could prevail in the area only after the national rights of the people of Palestine, including the right to have a national state for the Palestinians, are restored. They also expressed the view that the political differences in the Lebanon should

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immediately be resolved between various factions of the country through peaceful means and negotiations.

The two sides reaffirmed their support and solidarity with the people of southern Africa who are fighting against racialism and colonialism and called for an end to all political, economic and military support to the racist regimes.

The two sides stressed the importance to all the countries in the region of the Indian Ocean being a zone of peace, free from foreign military bases and tension and great power rivalry.

President Daoud explained that, in keeping with her traditional policy of peace and friendship, Afghanistan has sought to improve her relations with the other countries of the region in order to help to create an atmosphere of peace and cooperation in the region to which she belongs. The Prime Minister of India welcomed the peace-loving policy of Afghanistan and recognized that it would be of great benefit to all countries of the region.

The Prime Minister of India explained the efforts which India has made in recent months to improve bilateral relations with

her neighbours in order to promote peace, stability and cooperation in South Asia. India looked forward to beneficial cooperation amongst the countries of the region. President Daoud welcomed this policy which would be in the interest and to the advantage of the region as a whole.

The two leaders reaffirmed their understanding of each other's policies and while taking note with satisfaction of the recent reduction of tensions and progress towards normalization of relations in this part of the world, expressed the hope that these trends will lead to peaceful settlement of differences and constructive and positive cooperation in all fields amongst the countries of South Asia and thus lead to strengthening of peace and stability in the region and Asia.

The two sides examined the progress' achieved in the commercial, economic and cultural cooperation between the two countries. They agreed that the area, of bilateral cooperation between the two countries should be further widened and expressed their readiness to continue to expand the cooperation of India for the forthcoming seven-year development plan of Afghanistan. In this regard both sides expressed their satisfaction for the fruitful results of meetings held by the Joint Economic Commission between India and Afghanistan.

Both sides agreed that close and permanent contacts between their two countries at various levels should be maintained in order to exchange views on matters of mutual concern and cooperation.

The Prime Minister of India expressed her sincere thanks to Mr. Mohammad Daoud, Head of State and Prime Minister of Afghanistan for the most cordial hospitality extended to her and members of her delegation by the Government and people of Afghanistan.

The Prime Minister of India extended an invitation to Mr. Mohammad Daoud, Head of State and Prime Minister of Afghanistan, to visit India at his convenience. The Head of State and Prime Minister accepted the in-

visitation with pleasure.

AFGHANISTAN USA INDIA SRI LANKA ISRAEL LEBANON MALI

Date : Jul 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

CONFERENCE OF THE COMMITTEE ON DISARMAMENT

Shri Brajesh Mishra's Statement on Disarmament Decade

Following is the text of the statement made in the plenary of the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament in Geneva on July 27, 1976 by India's Permanent Representative, Shri Brajesh Mishra on the subject of the mid-term review of the Disarmament Decade:

Mr. Chairman: By its resolution 2602E (XXIV) of 16 December, 1969 the U.N.

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General Assembly declared the decade of the 1970s as a Disarmament Decade. In doing so the General Assembly recognized that concerted and concentrated efforts were needed to halt the nuclear arms race, to bring about nuclear disarmament and the elimination of other weapons of mass destruction, and to negotiate a treaty on general and complete disarmament. The Assembly also stated its belief, that a substantial part of the resources freed by disarmament measures should be channelled to promote the economic development of developing countries and, in particular, their scientific and technological progress. Finally, the Assembly requested the CCD to negotiate comprehensive measures for reaching the ultimate goal of general and complete disarmament.

My delegation joins others in expressing

its gratitude to the Nigerian delegation and, in particular, to Ambassador Clark for the initiative taken in the General Assembly last year for a mid-term review of the progress in the Disarmament Decade. The initiative resulted in resolution 3470 (XXX) which, inter alia, invited the CCD to review the work done in the implementation of the purposes and objectives of the disarmament decade and to accelerate the pace of its efforts to negotiate truly effective disarmament and arms limitation agreements. In our spring session this year it was again Ambassador Clark who took the initiative to ask that the CCD hold special plenary meetings in pursuance of the General Assembly Resolution.

The mid-term review we are now conducting has as its objective a report to the General Assembly on what we think has been done or not been done in the last five years and what corrective measures, if any, are needed. What can we report to the Assembly? It can be reminded, of course, of the treaty on the prohibition of the emplacement of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction on the sea-bed and the ocean floor as also the Biological Weapons Convention which have already entered into force. Further, it can be reported that we have made significant progress, if not completed the work, on a convention to prohibit the use of environmental modification techniques for military or any other hostile purposes. My delegation does not regard these international instruments as trivia. Indeed, the significance of the last-named goes far beyond what can be foreseen at the present. It goes in the direction of prohibiting the use of science and technology for perpetrating mass destruction, a subject to which the committee has this year devoted considerable time and which will perhaps receive concentrated attention next year.

But we cannot be proud of our efforts to halt the nuclear arms race. Much less can we face the Assembly with having made any effort to bring about nuclear disarmament. What has this led to? In the words of the Prime Minister of India, Mrs. Gandhi, "The world has become accustomed to nuclear arsenals, and insensitive to their evil, per-

haps even unable to comprehend the sheer magnitude of the fearsome destruction they hold. There is a helpless acceptance of nuclear, biological and chemical weapons as part of our daily lives. Our preoccupation with smaller day-to-day problems clouds a careful examination of the assumptions and policies which have led to the arms race. These words were spoken in the General Asssmbly in the 25th year of the United Nations and in the 1st year of the Disarmament Decade.

Mankind's quest for peace and prosperity is perpetual. It is counter-balanced by greed and avarice. These have led to incessant wars and disasters. History is full of the efforts of leaders from various pails of the world to achieve the perpetual goal. In the modern era the first such concerted attempts was made after World War I through the establishment of the League of Nations. But in less than two decades the impotence of that organisation was apparent. The late Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru said in 1938, "All the brave words of disarmament and outlawry of war have ended in nothing, idle dreams that have vanished at the coining of cruel day. The world hovers at the brink of war and catastrophe and spends three times as much on armaments as it did in 1914. International morality, feeble as it always was, has ceased to exist".

The UN was born in the aftermath of World War II, arising from the ashes of the League of Nations, to strive yet again towards the goal of saving the succeeding generations from the scourge of war. Between the birth of the United Nations in 1945 till today more wars have been fought and fantastic sums spent on defence, than in any other corresponding period of human history. Far from the process of disarmament having even begun, the arms race continues unabated. To

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quote Pandit Nehru once again, he said in the General Assembly in 1961, "I am convinced that the modern world cannot continue for long without full disarmament. It is perhaps true ultimately that the material ad-

vance which has taken place in the world and which is magnificent, has gone far ahead of the development of the human mind. A mind which lags behind and thinks in terms of how nations functioned and wars occurred a hundred or two hundred years ago does not fit in with the modern age. Emotionally we do not fully understand the possibility of a nuclear war".

The tragedy is that the testing, manufacture and stockpiling of nuclear weapons or of other weapons of mass destruction has not provided, in reality, any security. No sooner does a new weapon or a system of delivery reach the stage of manufacture or even development in one country, than other countries are able to counter it with something of a deadlier variety. The tragedy is twofold.

First, it pushes further and further the day when the use of force will be really and completely renounced as a means of regulating international relations. The more distant that day, the more feverish the arms race. There is a vicious circle. Permit me to quote from a statement by Mrs. Gandhi in the General Assembly in October, 1968. She said, "Nuclear weapons today represent the ultimate in force. Thus any attempt to eliminate force as the determining factor in international relations must begin with practical steps towards disarmament. Despite every solemn resolution adopted by this Assembly, states continue to enlarge their capacity for nuclear war. The arms race and the search for more sophisticated weapons have rendered meaningless the concept of balance of power. Yet, every advance in military technology is accompanied by an effort to maintain a balance of terror. This encourages local wars and undermines the established political authority in states which are struggling to protect their freedom. It is by restricting, reducing and eventually eliminating the growing nuclear menace that firm foundations of peace can be laid. The limited achievement of the Partial Test Ban Treaty has been off-set by the refusal of states to halt the testing of nuclear weapons. The problems of insecurity cannot be solved by imposing arbitrary restrictions on those who

do not possess nuclear weapons, without any corresponding steps to deal with the basic Problem of limiting stockpiles in the hands of a few powers... Unless the powers which possess these weapons are prepared to exercise some self-restraint, collective efforts to rid the world of the nuclear menace cannot bear fruit".

Second, it increases inequality in international relations. The distinguished delegates of Sweden and Nigeria have already provided the committee with facts and figures to illustrate the point that the arms race is playing havoc with the economic development of developing countries. If there is no drastic change in the policies of the affluent, the situation would become even worse as time passes. The developing countries need to divert to economic development the financial resources they are devoting to their defence. What is more, they need inputs from affluent countries which are the ones primarily engaged in the arms race. Moreover, as time passes the scarce raw materials of our planet will become even more scarce and costly due to their over-utilization in the arms race. So, unless the process of disarmament is begun, neither the one nor the other will be in a position to divert the vast resources needed by the developing countries. But can it be reasonably expected that it is the developing countries which must provide an example to the affluent ones? Those who claim a special status and a special responsibility must provide the outstanding example. They must lead the way to a new international morality capable of shielding this planet from total destruction. Has morality ever seeped upwards?

This committee of ours must not lose sight of the fact that its task of highest priority is to negotiate treaties and conventions relating to the stoppage of the nuclear arms race and to nuclear disarmament. It must not be totally side-tracked into issues which, while important in themselves, pale into insignificance when compared to the nuclear arms race. My delegation is convinced that the first steps which should be taken in this direction are: (i) A cessation of the production of fissile material for weapon pur-

poses combined with prohibition of the manufacture of nuclear weapons, and (ii) a comprehensive ban on all testing of nuclear weapons. In regard to this last my delegation reiterates that in its view there is no excuse to delay the conclusion of a C.T.B.

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The Government of India shares the conviction that the future of mankind can be assured only through disarmament and the total elimination of nuclear weapons. For years it has striven for the discontinuance of all testing of nuclear weapons and to prevent all proliferation, horizontal or vertical, of nuclear weapons. There is no change in this policy which is inspired by our philosophy and history and which reflects the dedication of our people to world peace, stability and progress.

To this end my delegation renews its offer of constructive cooperation to all other delegations in the CCD.

SWITZERLAND INDIA NIGER NIGERIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC RUSSIA SWEDEN

Date : Jul 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

CUBA

Memorandum of Understanding on Indo-Cuban Scientific and Technological Cooperation

Following is the text of a Press release issued in New Delhi on July 22, 1976 on the memorandum of understanding signed between India and Cuba on Scientific and Technology Cooperation:

India and Cuba today (July 22) signed a memorandum of understanding outlining the steps to be taken for strengthening coope-

ration between the two countries in the field of Science and Technology. The memorandum was signed by Dr. A. Ramachandran, Secretary, Department of Science and Technology on behalf of the Government of India and by Dr. Zoilo Marinello on behalf of the Government of Cuba. The area identified for cooperation include Agricultural sciences with special reference to Sugarcane, Tobacco and Rice Breeding, Solar Energy, Information Sciences and Documentation, Public Health and Utilisation of Bagasse. Both sides agreed to arrange for the visits of experts in order to work out detailed programmes of collaboration.

Earlier a five-member delegation led by Dr. Zoilo Marinello, the first Vice President of the State Committee for Science and Technology, had indepth discussions with the Department of Science and Technology on the subject. The discussions were held with a view to exploring the possibility of initiating scientific and technological cooperation in the selected areas of mutual relevance and benefit.

CUBA INDIA USA

Date : Jul 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Indo-Czech Cultural Exchange Programme

Following is the text of a Press release issued in New Delhi on July 31, 1976 on the Cultural Exchange Programme signed between India and Czechoslovakia:

India and Czechoslovakia signed a Cultural Exchange Programme for the years 1976-78 in Prague on Thursday the 29th July 1976. The Programme was signed by

Shri K. N. Channa, Secretary, Ministry of Education, Social Welfare and Culture, on behalf of India and His Excellency Mr. Ing Vladimir Berger, Deputy Foreign Minister of Czechoslovakia, on behalf of Czechoslovakia.

The Programme covers exchanges in the fields of education, art and culture, sports, radio, television and films, award of scholar-

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ships, etc. The two sides will also exchange art exhibitions, dance music ensembles and experts in the fields of art and culture. In addition, they will have close collaboration between the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences and various universities and institutions of higher learning in India on subjects of mutual interest.

NORWAY SLOVAKIA INDIA CZECH REPUBLIC USA

Date : Jul 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi's Banquet Speech at Berlin

Following is the text of the prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi's speech at the banquet given in her honour by the leaders of the German Democratic Republic in Berlin on July 1, 1976:

I am glad to be in your country and amongst a people well known for their culture and dynamism. I thank you on my own behalf and on behalf of my delegation for your longstanding invitation and for your warm welcome.

Mr. General Secretary, you have made

generous references to the people of India and their endeavours. I bring you their greetings and good wishes. We have had the privilege of visits by eminent leaders of the German Democratic Republic - Prime Minister Grotewohl in 1959 and more recently Chairman Stoph and Chairman Sindermann. I wanted to come earlier but sometimes delay enhances the pleasure, and this is such an occasion.

The achievements of the German people in philosophy, art and science and their proverbial industriousness have long evoked admiration in India. Beyond that there is a special bond between us, because of the pioneering work of German scholars in discovering the heritage of India. Other European nations came into closer political contact with us, which they utilised to exploit us economically, but Germany tried to understand our spirit. We recall Goethe's moving paean in praise of our national poet Kalidasa. Early in the nineteenth century, Friedrich Schlegel wrote his famous treatise on the language and wisdom of the Hindus. As Max Muller put it, "A scholar who studied in Sanskrit in Germany was listened to like another Marco Polo". This quest was a major influence on the German romantic movement, but an even more profound one on our renaissance.

Nor was this mere bilateral interaction. German interest in India laid the foundations of sciences which enabled the study of affinities between the peoples of the world. Even today the work of the scientists of the GDR in unravelling the Uigur-Turkish translations of Sanskrit philosophical texts, poem and stories is opening out a new domain of intercultural symbiosis. Medical texts like those of Ravigupta were in vogue among the Uigur-Turks, as is evidenced by the fragments available with the Berlin Academy of Sciences.

Berlin city is replete with historical associations. For me it holds many personal memories. Forty years ago I came with my mother. It was a time when ominous clouds were gathering over Germany and its neighbours. We in India, under the leadership

of Jawaharlal Nehru, were particularly sensitive to ideas and ideologies which were then contending for Europe. We felt a deep sense of involvement in this confrontation between freedom and fascism. We noted with growing dismay that appeasement was being mistaken for peace. We foresaw the holocaust that followed. The end of that war left you

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with ruined cities and broken homes. But through faith, skill and hard work, you built your nation anew. Your achievements in reconstruction and development are truly remarkable.

Years ago India associated herself with the forces of democracy, socialism and peace. In 1947, our own long struggle for freedom culminated in victory, giving us the opportunity of translating our dreams into reality. In the last 28 we have built institutions which embody the supremacy of the people. We have undertaken programmes to eradicate the poverty, the inequalities and the psychological diffidence which had accumulated over centuries of feudalism and colonial rule.

Unlike in Europe, in our country the growth of political and democratic demands preceded the Industrial Revolution, that is before we could have the means of fulfilling them. But these very aspirations of the people have provided the motive force for Planned technological transformation. We have laid the foundations of economic self-reliance. The range and equality of our scientific training, heavy industry and machine-building make us an industrialised nation. But primarily we depend on agriculture which has been considerably transformed through land reform, vast irrigation programmes and scientific farming. We must now utilise our enlarged capacities to raise the general standards of living.

Despite our own myriad, domestic pre-occupations, we have not neglected our duty of befriending and assisting international movements for a more equitable order. We have identified ourselves with the quest of African and Asian nations for freedom and national identity and have welcomed Europe's

desire for peace and stability. We have kept out of power alliances and sought friendship with all countries, no matter what their internal political systems. We believe that the world can survive only through coexistence. It is good that other nations have gradually come to recognise its inevitability. Efforts to dictate to nations or to remake others in one's own image are incompatible with peace. Nor can crusades have any place in a nuclear age.

The Helsinki Conference has created a welcome atmosphere of trust and relaxation, providing release from the incubus of fear. The leaders of several countries, socialist and non-socialist, deserve congratulations on the patience and persistence with which they have worked to build a base for durable peace. The role of your great country has been particularly notable. You are centrally concerned with all agreements and arrangements that affect Europe. We in Asia specially welcome detente in Europe because of our hope that it will open the door for greater international cooperation in ensuring global peace and solving the problems of economic disparities in the world family.

Discordant voices do exist, but the essay in trust should not be deterred by them. Step by step it must lead to disarmament and the dismantling of the apparatus of war. Can nations use one hand for a hand-clasp and wield the sword with the other? Can they seek a *modus vivendi* in Europe and escalation in Asia and Africa?

Asia's problems are even more complex and gigantic than those of Europe. In one part of Asia, Vietnam, a prolonged and wholly unnecessary conflict has ended, and the Vietnamese people are able to bend their energies towards construction. In other Asian regions, there is a feverish build-up of arms, beyond what could reasonably be needed for defence and perhaps even well beyond capacity. West Asia (what you call the Middle East) continues to be a danger spot. The urgent need for us in Asia is to lower temperatures and soothe tensions.

It has been said that nothing exists in

isolation; people and things are inevitably connected, one with the other. Thus each of us is affected by what happens elsewhere. No country can depend merely on international efforts for peace, each has to make its own moves to eliminate the causes of suspicion and ill-will and encourage the forces of stability and co-operation. We have therefore taken initiatives to improve our relations with every one of our neighbours. This experiment in goodwill has achieved some success. In some places our motive is being misinterpreted. India does not seek any friendship at the cost of another. You have been and are with us; but we want also to correct the misapprehensions of those who for their own reasons have been hostile to us. We hope that the international community will support our effort to enlarge the area of goodwill.

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Over the years the friendship between the German Democratic Republic and India has been steadily increasing. We have developed a tradition of mutual understanding and constructive co-operation on bilateral and international problems, political and economic, long before our two nations formally exchanged embassies and you became a member of the United Nations. We specially appreciate your spontaneous sympathy in, and understanding of, the difficulties with which we were beset in 1971 and our present problems.

Economic and commercial exchanges between our countries have grown. But there is scope for expanding them because our two economies are strong, vital and sufficiently varied to promote qualitatively new modes of co-operation. I am confident that in the coming years, our proven friendship will be further strengthened. On our part, we shall do our utmost. The relation between us is an excellent example of co-operation between countries with differing systems which is a fact of contemporary international life. We wish the people of the German Democratic Republic still greater successes in every endeavour under the dynamic leadership of your Party and Government.

Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, I request you to drink to the good health of His Excellency General Secretary Honecker, Their Excellencies Chairman Stoph and Prime Minister Sindermann, to the continued progress well-being and prosperity of the German Democratic Republic and the further development of friendship between our two countries.

GERMANY INDIA USA OMAN LATVIA FINLAND VIETNAM

Date : Jul 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

Prime Minister's Address to GDR Workers

The Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, addressed industrial workers of the German Democratic Republic in Berlin on July 2, 1976. Following is the text of her address:

Dear German friends: I come from a country which is far away but has warm feelings of friendship for you. I bring you the greetings of 600 million of my country, especially our workers in industry.

There are many ways by which peoples can learn about one another - through printing, which Gutenberg popularised, films, radio, TV, and satellite communication. But these are no substitute for personal visits and personal conversation. I have come to discover the secret of the remarkable vitality and progress of the German Democratic Republic and to tell you something about India and its aspirations and endeavours.

India is one of the world's oldest countries, and the second largest in terms of

population. We have dug up cities and ports which flourished three or four thousand years ago. Our area is 3.2 millions square kilometres and we have probably the greatest diversity of any country climatically: From the eternal snows of the mountains to the hottest and the wettest of towns - with six religions, fourteen languages, each with its own script, and life-styles of several centuries existing simultaneously. By one of the great quirks of history, our country was conquered by a comparatively small European power in the 16th century. Small States, riven by internecine quarrels and out of touch with contemporary knowledge could not stand up against modern organisations.

During this period arose many great leaders who paved the way for social reform and led us into freedom. We resolved to eliminate all vestiges of feudalism and outdated social customs and superstitions. Only 28 years ago, a few months before your own Republic was founded, we joined the international community as a sovereign, united nation, inspired by Mahatma Gandhi with a vision of equality and a sense of inner potential. Jawaharlal Nehru imbued our people with a rational outlook, guiding them towards objectives of socialism and laying the foundation of technological development.

At the end of the war, almost all your factories had been destroyed. But you had training and discipline and were therefore able to rebuild them swiftly and soon surpass the old levels. When we prepared our first Five Year Plan, we had to start virtually from scratch. The machinery which was manufactured in India in the forties was worth barely 127 million marks per year. Today this figure is 4,300 million marks. The

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total industrial production has grown from a level of 1,700 million marks to 85,000 million marks. The number of workers has increased. The range of skill has vastly enlarged. Wages are higher. Workers have far greater protection.

India is predominantly agricultural and

progress cannot be measured merely in terms of industry or the urban areas. Enormous changes have taken place in rural life. We have limited the size of land holdings and given title to land to millions. We have introduced scientific farming methods and electrified 200,000 villages. The production of grain has gone up from 52 million tonnes to 116 million tonnes plus 12 million tonnes of tubers. The number of children at school has quadrupled - from 23 million to well over 90 million. Epidemics have been controlled. The life span has also gone up by 20 years. These in brief are the gains from our development plans.

In all societies there are groups which resist change. At every stage there have been attempts to obstruct our programmes. Those who are opposed to our policies of religious equality, parliamentary democracy, progressive infusion of socialism and our independent foreign policy have time and again challenged us, not only at the polls, which is legitimate, but through agitations and undemocratic and unconstitutional methods. A few political parties and leaders have misled industrial workers and used them for their own purposes. They have ignored the elementary truth that nation-wide poverty can be reduced only if production is augmented and distribution more equitable. To expect socialism without increased production is like making a coat with inadequate cloth.

Socialism has a particular connotation in your country. But our history is different, so are our problems and the entire context of our efforts. Thus our socialism also has its own features. We do not place all means of production in the state's hands, only the key industries, financial institutions and communications. Our way is to subordinate all economic activity to overall social needs rather than its actual ownership and management by the state. Our state sector is steadily growing in range and strength.

In foreign policy also we have followed our own distinctive path. Achieving freedom soon after the war we felt that our development would be slowed and our independence restricted if we got entangled in military al-

liances of the post-war world. Hence our decision to remain non-aligned. Many new nations of Asia, Africa and the Caribbeans did the same. This does not inhibit our desire for friendship with all nations. It redounds to the credit of the Socialist countries that they have wholeheartedly befriended the non-aligned nations.

When a nation industrialises for the first time, machinery has to come from outside. When there is a shortage of money, credits are needed for imports to be repaid as production expands. This is called aid. We have received such credits from Socialist as well as Western countries. The aid of Socialist countries in particular has enabled us to build heavy industries under state ownership. We have now achieved self-reliance in most of our basic industries. But we still need foreign help in sophisticated industries because technology is continuously progressing and becoming more intricate. We note that even the most advanced nations are compelled to trade and have international economic co-operation, cutting across ideological barriers.

Economic changes are not the only changes taking place in India. Equally important is the transformation in social customs and attitudes. Centuries ago what is called the caste system came into being which in a way was like a trade union of professions reserving certain types of work to particular groups. Unfortunately some castes were considered high, others low. Those who worked with their hands were looked down upon by others, causing injustice, lack of opportunity and narrowness of vision which in turn stultified the growth of society. These and other old customs are gradually going, although not as fast as we should like.

During International Women's Year women came for a special conference to Berlin, which is the headquarters of the Women's Democratic Federation. There are no obstacles against women rising to the top. Legally there is equality of opportunity and wage. In Hindu Law women and men now have equal rights as regards marriage and divorce. Our problem is not men versus women, but men and women versus poverty and

economic backwardness.

Whatever the political system, the problems of technological progress and management remain the same. As General Secre-

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tary Honecker once observed, progress will not drop from the sky, it is achieved only through hard work. We are doing our best to inculcate in our industrial workers, and indeed in all our people, the habit of disciplined and dedicated work, efficiency and the application of scientific methods and human insights.

However, what is good for one country does not necessarily benefit another. In Europe, industrialisation has meant migration from villages to cities and reduction of the number of people dependent upon agriculture. Farming has become mechanised. But in India, the need is to provide more work for a larger number. Labour savings technologies which require greater capital investment are not relevant to us in the present or even the future. This is all the more true of consumption patterns. To consume more meat and fat is considered a sign of prosperity, although medical science advises fewer calories and a fat-free diet. Agronomists point out that grain farming is more economical than meat farming. If the population of the developing countries, which is four times that of the developed ones, were to adopt the consumption patterns prevalent in Europe, neither the land surface of the earth, nor the reserves of coal and oil, that are converted into fertiliser and fuel, would suffice.

Whether in developed or developing countries, technology should take a new turn. Its aim should be not to create new needs but to remove old anxieties. Simultaneously there must be clearer awareness that all of us, whatever nation we may happen to inhabit, belong to one human family. Disparities between nations must be reduced. Today some have problems of superfluity, while four-fifths of mankind are compelled to face hunger and want. Vision and determination are needed to remedy this wide-spread and

heart-breaking situation. During my visits to Socialist countries, I have been especially impressed by the great effort made to reduce national disparities. This is consistent with the great philosophy of humanism which has been the legacy bequeathed to you by Marx and Engels in the 19th century and by your famous poets and philosophers.

I am glad to visit the German Democratic Republic, meet its leaders and exchange views with them. When I return to my country, I shall carry with me the impression of a wonderful people who are engaged in the task of national reconstruction at home and peaceful contacts abroad and who are recreating a vigorous national culture in a genuinely contemporary form. I cherish this opportunity of meeting and exchanging thoughts with men and women who in their thousand unnumbered tasks are contributing to the prosperity and well-being of this great country.

We value your friendship and wish you well.

USA GERMANY INDIA PERU RUSSIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Jul 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

India-GDR Joint Communiqué

Following is the text of the joint communiqué issued at the conclusion of the first official visit of the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, to the German Democratic Republic from July 1 to July 4, 1976:

The visit of the Prime Minister of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, to the German

Democratic Republic at the invitation of Herr Enrich Honecker, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, marked a new stage in the relations between the two countries. It symbolised the close and friendly cooperation long established between the two countries and the confidence that their relations will further develop to their mutual benefit.

The visit provided an opportunity for friendly and far-reaching discussions between Shrimati Indira Gandhi and Herr Erich Honecker. In the official talks Shri Mir Qasim, Minister Without Portfolio, Shri P. N. Dhar, Secretary to the Prime Minister and Shri J. S. Mehta, Foreign Secretary, participated from the Indian side and Herr Willi Stoph, Chairman of the Council of State, Herr Horst Sindermann, Chairman of the Council of Ministers, Herr Wolfgang Rauchfuss, Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers and Herr Oskar Fische, Minister of Foreign Affairs, participated from the GDR side.

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The discussions covered bilateral relations between India and the German Democratic Republic and also a number of international issues connected with the further development of peace and detente and the promotion of social justice on the basis of cooperation between countries regardless of their social system. The talks were marked by warm cordiality and revealed close similarity in their view points.

In the course of discussions, Shrimati Indira Gandhi and Herr Erich Honecker acknowledged the friendly relations between India and the GDR and expressed their determinations to further intensify and expand mutual cooperation in the political, economic, scientific, technological, cultural and other fields.

The Prime Minister of India informed the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany of the progress made by the Indian people through the implementation of the socio-economic measures taken by the Government

of India to develop the country's economy and to improve the social conditions of the Indian people and of India's foreign policy based on principles of non-alignment and peaceful co-existence.

The General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany expressed full understanding of the efforts of the Government and the people of India at solving the complex socioeconomic problems facing the country. Appreciation was also expressed for peace-loving foreign policy of India, its important role in the non-alignment movement and its great contribution in strengthening world peace and against colonialism, neo-colonialism and racism.

Herr Erich Honecker informed Shrimati Indira Gandhi of the results of the IXth Congress of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany and the policy which the German Democratic Republic pursues for the development of economic and social policies and the foreign policy of peace, international security and co-operation abroad.

The two sides welcomed the successful conclusion of the All-European Conference on Security and Cooperation in Helsinki. They noted with satisfaction that the Helsinki Declaration and the European treaties made a significant contribution to the relaxation of tensions, the promotion of cooperation in economic and other fields and the establishment of peace on the continent. They recognised that the relaxation of tension is still beset with difficulties but they are convinced that detente should be consolidated and made lasting and indeed should be extended to other regions of the world still troubled by conflict and tension.

Referring to the situation in Asia, the two leaders held the view that the establishment of lasting relations of good neighbourliness between all States is an important prerequisite for transforming Asia into a continent of peace and cooperation. They agreed that for lasting peace to be achieved the relations between States should be governed by the principles of non-interference in internal

affairs, inviolability of frontiers, the renunciation of force and respect for each other's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

The Prime Minister of India informed the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany of India's consistent efforts and measures to normalise and improve relations between the countries of the Indian sub-continent. The GDR side welcomed the efforts and appreciated the Indian initiatives in this regard. The two sides noted with satisfaction the improvement in the atmosphere in the Indian sub-continent and expressed the hope that this would lead to the promotion and expansion of good neighbourly cooperation between all countries of the region.

India and the German Democratic Republic welcomed the emergence of a sovereign, independent and united Vietnam and the restoration of peace in Indo-China which had opened up new opportunities for the growth of peaceful cooperation between the countries of the area.

The two sides held the view that it is necessary for the Cyprus problem to be solved on the basis of the relevant United Nations resolutions and in strict observance of the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus and with due respect to its policy of non-alignment.

The two sides expressed serious concern at the continued conflict and tension in West Asia. They called for the immediate cessation of the fratricidal conflict in Lebanon. They expressed firm support to the struggle

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of the Arab peoples for a just political settlement of the crisis in Asia. They called for withdrawal of Israeli troops from all Arab territories occupied by Israel in 1967, the restoration of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, including the right of establish their own State, and for ensuring the right of all States in West Asia to their independent existence and development.

The two sides welcomed the emergence of the sovereign states of Angola, Mozam-

bique, Guinea Bissau, Cape Verde Islands, Sao Tome and Principe and Seychelles Islands. They underlined the importance of the victory of the progressive National Forces under the leadership of MPLA in Angola against external armed intervention and affirmed that the victory had made a significant contribution to the strengthening of National Liberation movements in countries still under racial domination in Southern Africa.

They condemned all forms of colonisation, neo-colonisation, racial discrimination and the policy of apartheid and expressed their resolute support for the people of Zimbabwe and Namibia. They strongly condemned the brutal murder and suppression of black people by the racist regime in South Africa and reiterated their determination to work for the elimination of racism and repression in that country.

The two sides stressed the urgent necessity of taking effective steps to bring about a general and complete disarmament under effective international control. They supported the proposal for the convening of a world disarmament conference with reference to the problems that are on the agenda of the United Nations Conference on the Law of the Seas. Both sides confirmed their intention to help work out a new international convention on the Law of the Seas which will be on the whole acceptable to all States.

Both sides stressed the importance of the role of the United Nations Organisation in maintaining peace and international security and in promoting beneficial and constructive cooperation among states. They reaffirmed their desire to work for the further strengthening of the United Nations and its specialised agencies on the basis of strict observance of the principles of the UN Charter. They expressed their hope and support for the admission of the Government of re-unified Vietnam and the People's Republic of Angola to the United Nations.

Both sides assessed the visit as an important step towards the further development of relations between the two countries

and agreed to continue the beneficial process of periodic exchange of views between the leaders of the two countries.

INDIA USA GERMANY FINLAND MALI VIETNAM CHINA CYPRUS LEBANON ISRAEL ANGOLA
CAPE VERDE GUINEA GUINEA-BISSAU SAO TOME E PRINCIPE SEYCHELLES NAMIBIA SOUTH
AFRICA

Date : Jul 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

INDONESIA

India-Indonesia Joint Statement

Following is the text of the joint statement issued at the conclusion of the seventh annual meeting between the Foreign Ministers of India and Indonesia held in Jakarta from July 20-24, 1976:

At the invitation of H.E. Dr. Adam Malik, Foreign Minister of the Republic of Indonesia, H.E. Shri Y. B. Chavan, Minister of External Affairs of the Republic of India visited Indonesia from the 20th to 24th July, 1976 for the seventh annual meeting between the two Foreign Ministers of the two countries.

The Minister of External Affairs of India was received by H.E. President Soeharto and Professor Widjojo Nitiasastro, Minister of State for Economy, Finance and Industry Chairman of the National Development Planning Agency.

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During his stay in Indonesia the Minister of External Affairs of India and his party had the opportunity of visiting places of historical and cultural interest in Indonesia including Jogjakarta with its famous Borobudur temple and the island of Bali.

In his talks with the Indonesian Foreign Minister, the Minister of External Affairs of India, H.E. Shri Y. B. Chavan was assisted by H.E. Shri Mahboob Ahmad, Ambassador of India, H.E. Shri Thomas Abraham, Additional Secretary, Shri M. K. Mangalmurti, Counsellor of the Indian Embassy, Shri S. G. Kale, Special Assistant to the Minister of External Affairs, Shrimati Nirmala Prasad, First Secretary of the Indian Embassy, Shri Siddharth Singh, Deputy Secretary, Shri Nikhilesh Prasad, First Secretary of the Indian Embassy and Shri B. Srinivasan, Under Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs. The Foreign Minister of Indonesia, H.E. Dr. Adam Malik was assisted by Mr. D. Ashari, Secretary General of the Department of Foreign Affairs, Mr. R. B. I. N. Djajadiningra Director General for Political Affairs, H.E. Mr. Sugiharto, Indonesian Ambassador to India, Mr. Suryono Darusman, Adviser to the Foreign Minister, Mr. Imrad Idris, Director of International Organisations, Mr. Nurmanli Aman, Deputy National Secretary General of ASEAN, Mr. Ferdy Salim, Director of International Trade Relations and Mr. Fawzi Abdulrani, Acting Director of Asia and Pacific Affairs.

The talks between the two Foreign Ministers were held in an atmosphere of friendship, cordiality and mutual understanding. They reviewed the important international developments that had taken place since the sixth annual meeting held in New Delhi at the end of July, 1975.

Their discussions revealed a similarity of views and close understanding between the two Governments on important international questions. They reviewed the progress of their mutual relations and exchanged views on measures for the further development and consolidation of these relations.

The Minister of External Affairs of India informed the Foreign Minister of Indonesia of the progress made by India in normalising relations with Pakistan in pursuance of the Simla Agreement. The Foreign Minister of Indonesia welcomed this development and hoped that it would create a durable

peace and stability in the sub-Continent.

The Foreign Minister of Indonesia informed the Minister of External Affairs of India of the historic ASEAN Summit Conference held in Bali in February, 1976.

The Minister of External Affairs of India welcomed the success of the Summit conference and expressed the appreciation of the Indian Government to the efforts of ASEAN countries to consolidate peace and stability in South East Asia. He hoped that these efforts would lead to a broadening of avenues of cooperation among all the countries of South East Asia. He added that the Government of India looked forward to the further strengthening of the friendly ties with ASEAN and hoped to develop economic cooperation with ASEAN. The Foreign Minister of Indonesia appreciated India's desire to cooperate in the economic field, including in joint ASEAN industrial projects.

The Foreign Minister of Indonesia informed the Minister of External Affairs of India that the question of East Timor had been resolved in accordance with the genuine aspirations of the people of East Timor. The Minister of External Affairs noted these developments which led to the solution of this problem. The Foreign Ministers hailed the reunification of Vietnam and were confident that this would contribute to the establishment of peace, stability and cooperation in the region.

The two Foreign Ministers while reaffirming their adherence to the relevant United Nations resolutions, reiterated that a just and lasting peace in Middle East West Asia could be achieved only through Israeli withdrawal from all occupied Arab territories and restoration of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. The two Foreign Ministers expressed their deep sorrow at the serious situation in Lebanon and hoped that the differences between the various parties would be speedily resolved through peaceful means and negotiations, in such a manner as to ensure that the sovereignty, territorial integrity and non-aligned status of Lebanon would be preserved.

The two Foreign Ministers reaffirmed their consistent opposition to the policies of Apartheid in southern Africa and expressed their firm support to the peoples of Zimbabwe and Namibia.

The two Foreign Ministers reiterated that both India and Indonesia are deeply com-

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mitted to the policy of non-alignment and expressed their determination to work together with other non-aligned countries for the successful outcome of the forthcoming Summit conference of the non-aligned nations which will be held in Colombo in August, 1976.

The two Foreign Ministers expressed concern over the lack of progress towards the realisation of the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace in accordance with the resolutions adopted by the United Nations. They called on the great powers to act with due restraint. They hoped that steps detrimental to peace and stability in the region would be avoided.

The two Foreign Ministers expressed their gratification at the progress made in the field of mutual economic cooperation in the past years. They noted with satisfaction that further areas of cooperation had been identified and were confident that there would be a strengthening and further development of these trends,

The Foreign Ministers expressed satisfaction at the results of their discussions which would contribute toward a better understanding and appreciation of bilateral and international matters of mutual interest.

The Minister of External Affairs of India 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 Ministers of Indonesia to visit India which was gratefully accepted.

INDONESIA INDIA USA MALI PAKISTAN VIETNAM ISRAEL LEBANON ZIMBABWE NAMIBIA SRI LANKA

Date : Jul 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON NON-ALIGNED PRESS AGENCIES POOL

Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi's Inaugural Address

Following is the text of the Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi's inaugural address to the Ministerial Conference of Non-aligned Countries on the Press Agencies Pool in New Delhi on July 8, 1976:

On behalf of the people of India I am glad to extend a warm welcome to you all. You have come from different continents and in a season which is not climatically pleasant but I hope that the warmth of the temperature will be matched by the warmth and friendship which you receive here and that you will feel at home. Our own tradition is to view all peoples with the eyes of a friend. Leaders and people of the non-aligned countries have a special claim on our affection.

We belong to an extraordinary diversity of countries. But we share a common past, a common present and a common future. We have all suffered the ravages of colonial rule - economic exploitation, humiliation, deliberate denial of cultural opportunity, psychological frustration. We prize freedom regained and are determined to guard our independence. Freedom cannot be consolidated without economic strength. Hence our vision of a future in which the resources and stock of technology are more equitably shared, and our recognition that such a future can be secured only by reducing tensions and preventing wars.

These shared impulses make non-alignment one of the most purposive and powerful

international movements in the world's history. Non-alignment has been called neutralism, and even negative because of the prefix 'non'. But it is alignment which is negative, because it connotes teaming up against others out of suspicion, which is a negative aspect. Non-alignment, on the contrary, is based on trust, hope and willingness to co-operate, all of which are positive values.

Those who have always disapproved of the non-aligned movement now say that it has lost its *raison d'être* because of the reduction in Cold War acerbities and the begin-

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ning of detente. This argument is hardly valid. Non-alignment has provided a powerful impetus for detente. Besides awareness of the dangers of confrontation in a world armed to the teeth with conventional and nuclear weapons, demonstrable proof was needed that humane behaviour between nations was possible. The fact that non-aligned countries had normal dealings with countries of rival blocs gave them a more relaxed view of one another. Detente is not yet an accomplished fact. We must ensure that the trend is not reversed; that trust is deepened, and misgivings removed. Apart from the stockpiling of armaments, factors such as economic disparities imperil peace. Hence the continuing relevance and necessity of the non-aligned movement, whose work is by no means over.

There is a tendency to divide the world into different categories and the expression "Third World" is used rather indiscriminately and applied to non-aligned and developing countries. Personally I stand firmly by the concept of One World. Most non-aligned countries are also developing ones. Economically under-developed countries which had aligned themselves with one or other power bloc have subscribed to a political outlook, obviously different in a crucial respect from ours, even if economic problems and tasks were common. That is the importance of not stretching the premises and criteria of our movement in such manner as to blur its very definition. Let us co-operate with all countries, except avowedly racist regimes, but let

us guard our identity.

In spite of political sovereignty, most of us who have emerged from a colonial or semi-colonial past continue to have a rather unequal cultural and economic relationship with our respective former overlords. They often remain the main source of industrial equipment and technological guidance. The European language we speak itself becomes, a conditioning element. Inadequacy of indigenous educational materials made us dependent on the books of these dominant countries, especially at the university stage. We imbibe their prejudices. Even our image of ourselves not to speak of the view of other countries, tends to conform to theirs. The self-deprecation and inferiority complex of some people of former colonies makes them easy prey to infiltration through forms of academic colonialism. This also contributes to the brain drain.

I am not saying that we should not learn English or French. Nor am I for any narrow linguistic chauvinism which would only divide us. We must learn international languages to communicate and widen our horizon. But rather than unguardedly accepting versions put out by news agencies and publishing houses of the western countries, we should get to know one another directly and keep in touch to have first-hand acquaintance with our respective views.

In India we feel this all the more strongly because of our own experience. In 1972 we had severe drought in large parts of the country. We had to marshal all our administrative resources and our organisational capacities to feed and provide work to millions of people. We did not allow any one to die. But newspapers and news agencies ignored this heroic achievement, looking only for disaster stories! Many of you may have similar experiences in your own countries. The media of the powerful countries want to depict the governments of their erstwhile colonies as inept and corrupt and their people as yearning for the good old days. This cannot be attributed entirely to the common human failing of nostalgia. To a large extent there is a deliberate purpose. Leaders, who uphold

their national interests and resist the blandishments of multi-national corporations and agencies, are denigrated and their image falsified in every conceivable way.

Due to this widespread drought and the consequent shortages of food and other essential commodities at a time of global financial crisis followed by the fuel crisis, our people suffered much hardship. Certain parties relying on fanatical cadres of extremist groups considered this an opportune moment to weaken our Central Government. This culminated last year in a concerted and determined bid to paralyse the functioning of government. It was a political challenge which had to be met. The western media interpreted it as an onslaught on democracy or an abrogation of our Constitution, which was not at all correct. Most, if not all, developing countries understood the position. Yet many were misled into believing the western versions to be objective reporting. When something false is said about us we can know what is true and what is untrue. But when there is a false report about others, we cannot immediately discern its veracity or otherwise. You must have heard the old saying: "Doctors bury their mistakes. Lawyers hang

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them. But journalists put theirs on the front page".

Hence the necessity to have more direct exchanges among ourselves, in the academic world and in our newspaper, radio, television, films and so on. This attempt to promote a pooling and sharing of the work of our national news agencies is a good beginning. We want to hear Africans on events in Africa. You should similarly be able to get an Indian explanation of events in India. It is astonishing that we know so little about leading poets, novelists, historians and editors of various Asian, African, Latin American countries while we are familiar with minor authors and columnist of Europe and America.

Self-reliance in sources of information is as important as technological self-reliance. I hope this Conference will mark the begin-

ning of a determined effort to rectify another lingering consequence of colonialism. Considerable spadework for these discussions has been done at the meetings in Lima and Tunis. The review of these proposals at the level of Ministers will, I hope, ensure the mobilisation of the necessary political will to give effect to them. All of you here are representing important countries and great leaders of the Non-aligned world. I hope that on your return home, you will take our very warm greetings and best wishes to your leaders, to your Government and to the peoples of your countries. India, as I said earlier, has special regard friendships and affection for them and we wish them all the best. We wish their development, progress, prosperity and a better life.

My good wishes for the success of your deliberations in this Conference. I hope that will help us to further co-operation and more concrete results in future Conferences which will be held.

INDIA PERU USA TUNISIA

Date : Jul 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON NON-ALIGNED PRESS AGENCIES POOL

Address by the President of the Conference Shri V. C. Shukla

Following is the text of the speech made by Shri V. C. Shukla, President of the ministerial Conference of Non-aligned Countries on the Press Agencies Pool, in New Delhi July 8, 1976:

I take great pleasure in welcoming Information Ministers, representatives of news agencies and other distinguished delegates from non-aligned countries to India. This

Conference is taking place on the eve of the Summit Conference of non-aligned countries scheduled to be held in Colombo next month. The fact that non-aligned countries are holding this Conference at such a high level to discuss in depth for the first time concrete possibilities for their mutual cooperation in the field of information, shows their inherent solidarity and identity of will, and the importance we attach to this subject. I deeply appreciate your gesture in calling me to conduct this important Conference, a task which I can satisfactorily perform only with your co-operation and goodwill.

The communication media are the means to involve the masses in national and international aspirations and, therefore, the intention to frame programmes of media development within the non-aligned framework reflects a common mental attitude on the part of the vast millions of people living in our countries. Along with other world leaders, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru was one of the founding fathers of nonalignment, since, as the true leader of the Indian people, he believed in peace and friendship as the policies worth pursuing. India has cherished and practised these policies and made its humble contribution to their promotion on the international plane. Never have we surmounted such challenges as during the last ten years when it required the vision and the fortitude of our Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi to steer the nation, unmoved from our path of non-alignment and democracy. I would take this opportunity to convey to her, on our behalf, our deep thanks for her inspiring address this morning. The people and the leadership of India are wedded to the goals of progress and friendship for all and are politically and emotionally participants in the struggle being carried on against poverty, backwardness and injustice. I take this opportunity of conveying to you all the greetings of the Indian people as a symbol of the brotherhood which binds all of us together.

I do not propose to minimize in any way either the complexity or the urgency of the

self. We have the onerous responsibility of providing momentum in a new area of cooperation amongst non-aligned countries, an area which is sensitive and where we are late in arriving, the area of mass communication. Looking back at the efforts made in this respect on the international plane, it appears to me that the problem of communication media in nonaligned countries has landed in its right place only three years ago when a plan of action was adopted at the Non-aligned Summit at Algiers in 1973. The thinking or the efforts made earlier had not produced concrete results in proportion to the years devoted or the time lost. This, in my view, was due to the fact that information media is a subject which reflects the public will of peoples and is an attribute of their basic aspirations. This largely explains the slow result of earlier efforts to organise international cooperation in this field and the rapid strides made after the task was undertaken at the forum of the nonaligned movement.

You are aware that, the sanctity of free expression is enshrined in Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and was reiterated by the United Nations Conference on Freedom of Information held in 1948. The Seventh Session of the U.N. General Assembly held in 1952 charged the UNESCO with the task of surveying the state of mass media with a view to their development, but, five years later, it was conceded in the Report of the Secretary General of UNESCO that information on the subject was so inadequate that it was not possible to formulate schemes for international assistance. The Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, at their session in 1959, therefore, requested the UNESCO to conduct a full-scale survey. This was sought to be done through regional level conferences. These conferences proved useful for exchange of views but could not result in action oriented recommendations, because ideological homogeneity so essential in this field, was lacking. The Commission on Human Rights and the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations at their meetings in 1961 considered the results of these efforts and the council passed a historic Resolution urging national development and international co-

operation in this field, especially in the interest of developing countries. At its Seventeenth Session in 1962, the UN, General Assembly itself adopted a Resolution calling for removal of communication inadequacies in the developing countries and the organisation of international assistance towards this end. The subject figured prominently in discussions at the General Conference of the UNESCO at their 16th and, 17th sessions. At its 18th session held in 1974, the UNESCO General Conference included "communication" as one of the four "problem areas" around which UNESCO's 6-year medium term programme for 1977-82 was to be concentrated. I have narrated this story in some detail not to cause any pessimism about slow progress in this field but to explain how the subject, which is now before the non-aligned movement, with the decisions in Algiers in 1973, demands high level attention on our part with a view to achieving concrete results without further loss of time.

There are two factors peculiar to the field of communication which call for a great deal of boldness of policy and urgency of action on the part of the non-aligned countries.

The first is the wide gap between the communication capacities of our countries and those of the advanced countries, most of which are the former colonial masters. With more than 70% of the world's population living therein, only 26% of the daily newspapers of the world are bought in Asia, Africa and South America. The raw material for newspapers, namely newsprint, is manufactured by a handful of advanced countries to such a precarious extent that a labour strike in one of them - as in 1974 -- may be sufficient to interrupt the publication of newspapers in many developing countries. More than three-fourths of the world's population, living mostly in non-aligned countries, is still below the UNESCO criteria of 10 copies of daily newspapers, 5 radio sets, 2 TV sets and 2 cinema seats per 100 persons. To revert once again to the connection between political set-up and communication media, these imbalances are a result of the political domination of a large part of the world for

several centuries by the imperialist powers. Coinciding with the period of industrial advancement, the colonial powers reaped the rich harvest of media development while the same was almost deliberately suppressed in the countries ruled by them. When these nations achieved their political emancipation in the present century, they were already pitted against gigantic transnational press agencies with a communication network centred in the capitals of the advanced countries.

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The big news agencies are still in a position to land their news in any part of the world at such top speed and at such throw-away costs that we have hardly any choice but to receive and accept these.

Indeed, the growth of most of the international news agencies appears fully linked with the political and economic power which the former colonial countries have tried to wield over the rest of the world. The theme of 'free' flow of information, which was chanted in a chorus, was aimed to enable all countries in name but only the powerful countries in reality, to pump their information into all regions of the world without let or hindrance. Non-aligned countries till today have been able to do almost nothing to protect their national interests against such onslaughts, since no safeguards are possible without (a) some degree of development of their own national media and (b) a state of co-operation amongst themselves. In fact, the idea of free flow of information fits insidiously into the package of other kinds of 'freedom' still championed by the adherents of 19th century liberalism. It is painful to recall that many of us have to reckon with such an elitist neo-colonialism within our own countries. Such a link-up is typical of the ways through which former colonial powers still wish to maintain their material and intellectual hold and is parallel to a similar, link-up witnessed in the economic field where internal elements of vested interests make common cause with external elements in the name of freedom of trade and business. This is yet another area which reveals the deep political implications of the problem of com-

munication media and thus deserves the notice of the higher level of leadership in every country.

The second factor is the widening of the gap between the advanced and the developing countries, occasioned by the galloping technology of the communication media. The communications industry is capital-intensive and requires both resources and expertise; the nonaligned countries already suffer from inadequacy of both and the channels of international assistance are still not flowing. For example, the technology of printing is getting revolutionised by vast improvements in rotary offset printing, use of photocomposition, better inking, faster etching methods and electronic devices for engraving of plates. Satellite communication bids fair to play havoc with any orderly rate of growth of mass media. We are told that the day is coming when we will push a button and the newspaper of our choice would appear on the screen of our TV set. One main characteristic of modern society is that we are moving from the production and distribution of material goods towards the assembly and distribution of information, a phenomenon which is sometimes described as the emergence of "knowledge industries". Experts have concluded that by the end of the seventies there would be a virtual 'explosion' of communication possibilities. This may affect the life style of humans more radically than the automobile had done in the twenties and the Industrial Revolution earlier. The UNESCO already thinks that the nineteen-seventies may well be remembered as the "communication decade". But who are the partners in this progress? As in everything else, only the rich will grow richer. I am saying this only to emphasize the degree of urgency with which we must attend to our task of building up national information systems with arrangements for international cooperation amongst non-aligned countries for mutual benefit.

No effort has so far succeeded in evolving an international code on the flow of information, from well-equipped countries to those not so well-equipped, so that the national rights of the countries being informed are

protected in the same way as the right of the countries trying to inform. In the prevailing situation, therefore, the affluent countries take advantage simultaneously of their earlier lead in the creation of communication facilities and the liberal doctrine of "freedom" of information, leading to the continuance of a subtle form of colonialism over the other countries. Affluent societies still like to treat, for reasons of their own, news and information as a commodity rather than as a service. The trans-national press agencies continue to invade the minds of people living in the non-aligned countries, just as multi-national corporations invade their economies. Under such conditions, we are denied the right to interpret ourselves to ourselves and, within the non-aligned world, knowledge about one another is provided by agencies belonging to nations which have entirely different interests in world affairs. We all know the attention - or the lack of it - given in the world press to the non-aligned Summit conferences of Belgrade, Cairo, Lusaka and Algiers. It has thus to be considered whether

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world opinion can swing in favour of an international code on the flow of information and the functioning of powerful communication agencies. This high level Conference will perhaps consider these issues in the same spirit of self-realisation as we have displayed in our struggle for national liberation during the past half century.

Apart from the handicaps imposed by history, non-aligned countries generally suffer from internal imbalance within our own territories. There are vast masses of uneducated population and vast areas wanting in even physical communication. There is, in several of our countries, a maddening variety of languages, dialects and scripts, many of which have not yet responded to modern printing technology. In India we are already publishing more than 12,000 newspapers in 56 languages but the number of newspapers available is still only 11 for 1,000 as against the "UNESCO minimum" of 10 for every 100.

In addition to these physical limitations,

the non-aligned countries face two qualitative restrictions against which they have to plan the development of their media. First, economic growth itself is slowed down when, as a result of inadequacy of communication media, the emotional involvement of people in the process of development is not secured. Secondly, it is a well-settled principle that as income rises, the demand for mass media increases in a proportion which is higher in less developed countries than it is in the developed countries. This growth of mass media, therefore, leaves unsatisfied the increasing hunger for information.

A time has come when the efforts of the non-aligned countries and the declared willingness of the international bodies should be married for maximum results in this field. However, we all know that international assistance can be drawn only on the basis of concrete projects. It is here that the non-aligned countries must help one another and give a lead in the formulation of such programmes. Bilateral and multilateral cooperation amongst the non-aligned countries in the field of mass communication can result in concrete schemes which can derive support from world agencies. There is, therefore, an urgent need to create an area of mutual cooperation for this purpose amongst the non-aligned countries. This may, perhaps, also be a theme of this Conference, so that immediately after the endorsement of these policies by the Summit at Colombo, programmes can be taken in hand. The symposium held in Tunis in March this year, has done monumental work and its reports contain a series of highly important recommendations. This Conference is going to be apprised of the results of the Tunis Symposium. Thanks to the valuable work done by the participants of this Symposium, it now appears, possible to evolve a compact programme of action which can be implemented over a short term period, with early results.

In the field of the oldest media, namely the press, valuable initiatives in multilateral cooperation have been taken by Yugoslavia as well as by several Afro-Asian countries. The Conference is going to be apprised in detail of the commendable initiative taken

under the auspices of the TANJUG, the Yugoslav News Agency, for creating a pool of news exchange. Similarly, several Afro-Asian agencies have organised or participated in sharing of news in a mutual basis. The Foreign Ministers Conference held in Lima in 1975, rightly felt that the time had come to review these efforts and, in the light of these, try for a formal broad-based news exchange system amongst the non-aligned countries. We are going to consider this subject in some detail; this Conference is expected to lay down the form and the method, of such news pooling and consider several attendant issues, such as the need for a coordinating bureau, methods of financing, operational methods and the relationship of these efforts with existing arrangements. An important consideration in discussing these matters may be the aim to enrich and expand rather than to restrict - the possibilities of news-sharing amongst the countries concerned.

The communication gap amongst like-minded countries of the non-aligned world inherited from the colonial era is evidenced in the lop-sided communication network prevailing in the world. It is easier for New Delhi to send a message to London than to Kabul. Moreover, incoming messages from the advanced countries can land up more economically than our own messages addressed to those regions. In spite of the efforts made in the past by the UNESCO and ITU, it has not been possible to rectify the situation. This is a material handicap, to which we must devote our attention. A new possibility has been revealed by the project of the

Asian Telecommunication Highway which would link 15 Asian countries by 1977-78, most of which are in the non-aligned community. Apart from speed, such a system may also reduce the cost of transmission. There is need for more projects of this kind. We have to consider, firstly, what facilities we can provide amongst ourselves and, secondly, what proposals can be made before international bodies, so as to remove the present handicaps of the developing countries.

I once again extend a warm welcome to the Ministers and other distinguished delegates assembled to consider these issues, which have a complexity and urgency of their own. All the non-aligned countries, however, are endowed with highly imaginative and patriotic leadership and equipped with efficient and dedicated personnel at all levels. It is my faith that these endowments can overcome the limitations of resources and the legacies of history. I am confident that the experience which we, in our own countries, have already gained in this field would be brought to bear upon the discussions to be undertaken at this Conference. I also hope our discussions will result not only in a workable programme for news agencies pooling but also in the creation of a base for continuing further the process of co-operation in all other media in order to enable the Summit Conference to take appropriate decisions. I thank you once again for having allotted to me the task of conducting these deliberations and would like to conclude by assuring you that, with your co-operation, I would endeavour to carry out this responsibility to your fullest satisfaction.

UNITED KINGDOM INDIA SRI LANKA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC ALGERIA EGYPT
YUGOSLAVIA ZAMBIA TUNISIA PERU AFGHANISTAN

Date : Jul 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON NON-ALIGNED PRESS AGENCIES POOL

Address by Alternate Leader of the Indian Delegation Shri Mohammad Yunus

Following is the text of the statement made by Shri Mohammad Yunus, Prime Minister's Special Envoy and Alternate Leader of the Indian Delegation to the Ministerial Conference of Non-aligned Coun-

tries on the Press Agencies Pool, in New Delhi on July 9, 1976:

May I, first of all, offer to you, Mr. President, congratulations on behalf of the Indian Delegation on your having been elected to the high office of the President of this important Conference? The issues facing this Conference are both momentous and complex, but I have no doubt that, with your political wisdom and administrative experience, you would be able to handle effectively the task of conducting these deliberations. I hope I voice the feelings of all the distinguished Delegates present when I say that our cooperation and our services are at your disposal, so that the expectations which have been placed on such a high level assembly can be fulfilled. You have with you a galaxy of distinguished personalities holding key positions in the Bureau of the Conference. I would like to congratulate them on their election and assure them at the very outset that the Indian Delegation has pledged itself to make its humble contribution to the cause which you yourself and all your distinguished colleagues in the Bureau have accepted, namely, a successful outcome of this Conference in the best interests of the peoples of the non-aligned countries.

We are fortunate that at the very commencement of our Conference we were introduced to the fundamental issues concerning the information media and their relationship with non-alignment by the inspiring address of the Prime Minister of India. The deep political significance of the efforts of the nonaligned countries to liberate themselves from the imperialism of information were lucidly spelt out in your own address. We are, therefore now properly launched upon our task.

As a country ravaged for long by the forces of colonialism, my country has suffered not only materially but also intellectually, having been subjected to the cultural domination which invariably accompanies all forms of colonialism. Amongst the different areas of self-expression, the information media are always the most sensitive. In the course of our freedom movement, the revo-

lutionary spirit displayed by the Indian press was as conspicuous as the continued effort of the ruling power to crush it altogether. Ultimately, India's newspapers and Indian

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journalists came out with a historic record of participation in the struggle for freedom which was carried out intensely for about three decades before 1947. Therefore, our anxiety to see that, following our political independence, the information media of the country also grow to their full heights is understandable. It is equally natural for us to have the ambition of discharging a useful role in all efforts for similar development on the part of like-minded countries with whom we are bound in ties of brotherhood. These connections are deep, springing out of the struggle that we have waged against imperial powers in the recent past and the struggle we are still waging against poverty and social injustice.

In the field of information media, the struggle has not yet ended. In fact, it has just begun. The non-aligned countries are yet to surmount the basic handicaps which we have inherited from history. First, they have yet to create an adequate media system, supported by a reasonably efficient communication system, for their national purposes. Secondly, they have yet to organise a set of arrangements under which all of us can share one another's experience in this field as also continually enjoy the fruits of such information media as have already come to exist in our respective countries. In order to overcome these massive obstacles, a great deal of commitment and effort would be necessary on the part of all of us. The Indian Delegation is, however, confident that this Conference, which is the first Conference of non-aligned countries on the subject of mass media being held at Ministers level, would be able to provide the guidelines and prepare a charter for the future programme in this field. Not only is this Conference being held at the appropriate level, it is also being held at an opportune time, since the guidelines drafted by this Conference can be placed for endorsement by the Summit Conference of Non-aligned Countries to be held at Colombo

next month.

Like most of our brother nations of the non-aligned community, we, in India are continually trying to develop our different media systems in order to adequately face the challenge thrown up by the size, the problems and the complexities of our country. We have been conscious that we are to cover six hundred million people, living in more than half a million villages over an area of three and half million square kilometers. However, we have accepted the challenge and we have been striving to fulfil our tasks. We already have more than 12,000 newspapers in a total of 56 languages. A number of our newspapers are about a hundred years old. The daily newspapers of India have a circulation of about nine and half million. We have to cater to a demand of newsprint which amounts to about two hundred and fifty thousand tons a year. Our national news agency, Samachar, with which I have the privilege of being associated directly, is engaged in feeding this vast and complex Indian press. We are trying to improve it by a constant process of growth. With a total working cadre of more than two thousand persons, Samachar is already operating eighty Bureaux over a teleprinter network of about 73,500 kilometers. The Samachar has plans to further expand in the international field by location of its correspondents in more than 40 countries. We have been trying to pay equal attention to the other media. Our radio broadcasts, through 73 radio stations, are covering about 70 percent of this large country in all our major languages. We are also broadcasting practically for all countries of the world in several foreign languages. India recently entered the TV field and we have already established seven stations and eight transmitters. By next year, the number of our T.V. transmitters would be sixteen. We are one of the largest film producers in the world. Since we regard film as a direct and an effective medium of communication. We are producing more than four hundred films every year in several languages, expressing the rich cultural variety of the country. The progress of education in India suffered badly at the hands of our former colonial rulers, but, in spite of

this, the printing industry and the publication of books has been spreading fast to satisfy the hunger for knowledge and information which has now been growing. Already more than 10,000 publishers and about 50,000 printers in the country are engaged in production of books and other literature. Having suffered ourselves for want of adequate training and research facilities in the past, we have tried to organise special training institutions for mass media, film-making and acting, TV production and radio programming. At several of these centres, we have had with us scholars and professional men from many of the non-aligned countries. These facilities are in addition to courses in journalism which are offered by fifteen Indian Universities,

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with four Universities offering Post-graduate education in journalism. From our side, I would humbly offer that whatever resources and facilities we have been able to organise may be treated as being at the disposal of all our brother non-aligned countries. We are also quite clear that we cannot succeed in these tasks unless we become partners in a programme of cooperation amongst countries facing similar challenges and unless we draw lessons from each other's experience.

This Conference has the benefit of drawing upon the substantial work already done in this sphere during the past few years. We have to consider the subject in the background of the series of affirmations and discussions that have already taken place, at the Algiers Summit in 1973, at the Foreign Ministers Conference at Lima in 1975 and at the Symposium in Tunis in March this year. These efforts were fully recognised by the Bureau of the non-aligned countries at their Ministerial Level meeting which concluded at Algiers last month. As decided at the Algiers meeting, these different recommendations have now to be considered at the Summit Meeting at Colombo next month, "taking fully into account the report and recommendations in this regard" of the present New Delhi Conference. The Indian Delegation proposes to make its humble contribution to the consideration of all the different

issues placed before this Conference, including the preparation of a constitution for a News Agencies Pool and a discussion over the problems and possibilities of communication facilities. I am confident that the results of our deliberations would be substantial and we would justify the hope expressed by the Bureau at its recent Algiers meeting that our efforts would be "a significant step forward" in developing the possibilities of cooperation in the field of mass media.

I would like to express the hope that we would also cover some of the fundamental issues which lie at the root of the present predicament of the non-aligned countries in the field of mass media. No detailed thought has yet been given to the question of evolving some kind of an international code in order to mitigate the pernicious effects of the so called "free flow" of information. We are painfully aware that as between the affluent and the poor, this "free flow" always works to the advantage of the former. Most of the gigantic press media agencies located in the advanced countries are the by-products of the political power these countries have exercised over the rest of the world for several centuries. This power, in its turn, was merely a basis for the commercial and economic exploitation which these nations carried out in almost all the continents. The information media in their very nature were the reflections of these trends. The political and economic supremacy of these agencies, as well as the technological supremacy of such modern media as satellites, would continue unhindered unless a world opinion is created in favour of a balanced relationship between them and the media of the non-aligned countries. My Delegation hopes that we would give thought to this and similar other basic issues and initiate efforts to solve them ultimately.

As our Prime Minister pointed out in her message to the Tunis Symposium on Development of Information among Non-Aligned Countries, "the big powers have never accepted the validity of non-alignment. Neither colonialism, nor racialism has vanished. The old comes back in new guise. There are suitable intrigues to undermine our self-con-

fidence and to sow dissensions and mutual distrust amongst us. Powerful vested interests, domestic and foreign, are combining to erect new structures of neocolonialism. These dangers can be combated by our being united in our adherence to the basic tenets of nonalignment"

All the non-aligned countries are passing through a stage of resurgence and are making their identities felt on the global scene. They already draw, respect and recognition from other countries of the world. The framework of non-alignment is intended to assist in this process, so that the common experience of nations which are bound together by many emotional and historical ties are available to one another and each country is thus helped to reach its full stature.

My delegation wishes to work for evolving such arrangements for pooling of news as may enrich the existing facilities and reinforce the possibilities that already exist. A system of pooling of news amongst non-aligned countries can be devised which can easily expand the area of news projections. Many of us are already acquiring such facilities through bilateral and multilateral efforts. My Delegation has a similar approach towards the question of developing cooperation amongst non-aligned countries in respect of other media, such as radio, TV, films and books. We also propose to avail

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fully of the wisdom and the experience of all the distinguished Delegates who have assembled here at such a high level. We would accordingly offer our comments both at the Plenary meetings and in the Committees on individual items under discussion. We hope that non-aligned countries will take the opportunity of this important Conference to formulate a comprehensive set of guidelines for their mutual cooperation in different fields of information and mass media. These could include a pool of news agencies, cooperation in the field of radio, TV, films and books, cooperation for research and exchange of technical and training facilities, and suitable modalities for coordinating and implementing

these cooperative ventures. It would be appropriate to place them in the historical perspective of the adverse effects of the present international information pattern and the need to rectify it in order to enable non-aligned countries to take their rightful place. The deliberations of this Conference and of the meetings which have preceded it, provide adequate material from, which nonaligned countries can draw out a blueprint for their future cooperative action in the sphere of information. It will be the endeavour of the Indian Delegation together with all other delegations, to ensure that this Conference can put forward such a comprehensive plan for the approval of our Heads of State and Government at Colombo who would expect nothing less from a meeting of this level and importance.

The Indian Delegation would be willing to offer its comments in course of discussions both on basic issues and on concrete programme of action. We also propose to benefit from the knowledge and experience of all the distinguished Delegates in a spirit of mutual understanding and regard.

INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC SRI LANKA TOTO ALGERIA PERU TUNISIA

Date : Jul 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON NON-ALIGNED PRESS AGENCIES POOL

New Delhi Declaration

Following is the text of the Declaration of the New Delhi Conference of the Ministers of Information of the nonaligned countries:

The Conference of Ministerial level Government representatives and heads of news agencies of non-aligned countries was

held at New Delhi (India) from 8 to 13 July, 1976.

2. The following countries participated in the Conference:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Botswana, Burundi, Cyprus, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Socialist Republic of Vietnam, Democratic People's Republic of Yemen, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guyana, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Laos People's Socialist Republic, Liberia, Libyan Arab Republic, Malaysia, Malta, Mauritius, Morocco, Mauritania, Mozambique, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, PLO, Peru, Qatar, Senegal, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Trinidad & Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia.

3. The following countries and organisations attended the Conference as observers:

Ecuador, Mexico, Venezuela, OAU, League of Arab States, AAPSSO, UNO.

Non-aligned countries meeting for the first time at the high political level of Ministers of Information have taken note of the persistent and the serious imbalance in the current global information situation and its adverse effects on them, have recognised the need to liberate their information and mass media from the colonial legacy and have expressed their collective determination to rectify this situation and add a new dimension to the ever-increasing co-operation among themselves by promoting mutual cooperation among themselves in all fields of information, communication, mass media and social and cultural inter-action.

A. THE CONFERENCE NOTED THAT:

1. The present global information flows are marked by a serious inadequacy and imbalance. The means of communicating in-

formation are concentrated. in a few countries.

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The great majority of countries are reduced to being passive recipients of information which is disseminated from a few centres.

2. This situation perpetuates the colonial era of dependence and domination. It confines judgements and decisions on what should be known, and how it should be made known, into the hands of a few.

3. The dissemination of information vests at present in the hands of a few agencies located in a few developed countries and the rest of the peoples of the world are forced to see each other and even themselves, through the medium of these agencies.

4. Just as political and economic dependence are legacies of the era of colonialism, so is the case of dependence in the field of information which in turn retards the achievement of political and economic growth.

5. In a situation where the means of information are dominated and monopolised by a few, freedom of information really comes to mean the freedom of these few to propagate information in the manner of their choosing and the virtual denial to the rest of the right to inform and to be informed objectively and accurately.

6. Non-aligned countries have, in particular, been the victims of this phenomenon. Their endeavour individual or collective, for world peace, justice and for the establishment of an equitable international economic order, have been underplayed or misrepresented by international news media. Their unity has sought to be eroded. Their efforts to safeguard their political and economic independence and stability have even been denigrated.

7. Non-aligned countries have few means, in the present situation, to know about each other, except through the channel of the existing international news media and news centres, their own news media being mainly

underdeveloped or undeveloped for want of required resources.

B. THE CONFERENCE REAFFIRMED:

The determination of the non-aligned countries not to continue to suffer individually or collectively because of the present inequitable global situation. It was clear that it could be rectified by encouraging constructive and wide-ranging co-operation among themselves for achieving greater collective self-reliance. They expressed commitment to the improving of the flow of direct information and fast communication between each other, thereby promoting both greater mutual awareness and understanding of their common political and economic goals and also increasing mutually beneficial co-operation in the social and cultural fields. They stressed that the decolonization of information is essential for these purposes and that the establishment of a New International Order for Information is as, necessary as the New International Economic Order.

C. THE CONFERENCE RECALLED:

1. The initiative taken in this regard at the Algiers Summit in 1973 and the provisions incorporated in the Action Programme of Economic Cooperation adopted there;
2. The decisions embodied in the Resolution VI of the Lima Foreign Ministers Conference in 1975;
3. The recommendations of the Tunis Symposium held in March 1976; and
4. The significance attached to the New Delhi Ministerial Level Conference by the meeting of the Coordinating Bureau of Non-aligned countries at the level of Foreign Ministers held in Algiers in May-June 1976 by regarding it "as a significant step forward in cooperation among non-aligned countries in the field of information" and calling for "the participation of all the non-aligned countries in ensuring the successful outcome".

D. THE CONFERENCE DECIDED:

1. In order to assure the continuity and promotion of a pool of news agencies of non-aligned countries, to endorse the agreed constitution for the Non-aligned Press Agencies Pool, including the setting up of the Coordination Committee for making this Pool operational as soon as possible.

2. To endorse the setting up of the Coordination Council composed of representatives at Governmental level to review implementation of the decisions taken so far in the field of news dissemination and to take decisions regarding convening of further meetings and consultations at political, official and expert levels for promoting cooperation in different

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fields of information - particularly on the following issues:

(i) Promotion of cooperation among non-aligned countries in a spirit of collective self-reliance to enable each country to bring its information media to a level where it can meet the national needs without undue dependence on the media of advanced countries and where it can enter into fruitful cooperation with other non-aligned countries.

(ii) Implementation of the decisions taken at this Conference regarding mutually beneficial communications infra-structure and tariff.

(iii) Compilation of information and data concerning the existing conditions and functioning of the communications media as well as telecommunication facilities of non-aligned countries in order to identify specific aspects of mutually beneficial cooperation among non-aligned countries and particularly the setting up of a telecommunication network among them.

(iv) Promotion of further pooling arrangements in the field of television, films, radio programmes, features and photo service, books and publications. It would be desirable to foster contacts between radio and TV systems of non-aligned countries, inter alia through the exchange of films and

recorded materials.

(v) Promotion of contacts and cooperation through exchange of visits, periodicals, conferences and seminars between the members, associations and journalists of non-aligned countries.

(vi) Establishment of linkage among the research and training centres of non-aligned countries in the field of information media with a view to promoting exchange of experts and sharing of research expertise and training facilities.

(vii) Promotion of cultural contacts and exchanges through holding of exhibitions, films, cultural and youth festivals, art displays, exchange of films and books, etc.

(viii) Formulation of a common approach with a view to evolving an international code on the functioning and use of satellite communications, transnational press agencies and a code on direct and objective dissemination and free flow of information among various countries.

Recommends to the Fifth Summit of Non-aligned Countries at Colombo to consider the decision of the Conference, in the context of over-all co-ordination among non-aligned countries, to set up the above mentioned Co-ordination Council to enable it to commence, its activities forthwith.

3. To emphasise that non-aligned countries should coordinate their activities in the United Nations and other international forums to enable the adoption at an early date of a proper declaration of fundamental principles on the role of mass media in strengthening peace, promoting international understanding and cooperation contributing to the early establishment of an international economic and social order based on equality and justice and in combating racism, racial discrimination, apartheid, zionism, neo-colonialism and all other forms of oppression. Non-aligned countries should ensure that such declaration could also be an effective instrument for reducing their dependence in the information field in keeping with the ob-

jectives incorporated in this Declaration.

4. To recommend that non-aligned countries should further coordinate their activities in the United Nations to ensure achievement of the objectives of UN General Assembly Resolution 1778 (XVII) of 1962 and implementation of other relevant UN Resolutions and of their further elaboration in accordance with the decisions of the New Delhi Conference. They should work together to secure assistance for such non-aligned countries as are proposing to establish their own news agencies or developing and expanding them further.

5. To recommend that the Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-aligned countries at Colombo in August 1976 should endorse this Declaration and the decisions taken at this Conference.

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INDIA AFGHANISTAN ALGERIA ANGOLA BAHRAIN BANGLADESH BHUTAN BOTSWANA
BURUNDI CUBA CYPRUS USA KOREA VIETNAM YEMEN EGYPT ETHIOPIA GHANA GUINEA
GUYANA INDONESIA IRAQ JAMAICA JORDAN KENYA KUWAIT LAOS LIBERIA LIBYA MALAYSIA
MALTA MAURITIUS MAURITANIA MOROCCO MOZAMBIQUE NEPAL NIGER NIGERIA OMAN PERU
MALI QATAR SENEGAL SOMALIA SRI LANKA SUDAN SWAZILAND SYRIA TUNISIA UGANDA
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES TANZANIA ZAIRE ZAMBIA ECUADOR MEXICO VENEZUELA

Date : Jul 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Indo-Soviet Merchant Shipping Agreement

Following is the text of the press release issued on the Merchant Shipping Agreement signed between India and the USSR in New Delhi on July 19, 1976:

An Indo-Soviet Merchant Shipping Ag-

reement was signed in New Delhi on July 19, 1976 by Dr. G. S. Dhillon, Union Minister of Shipping and Transport, and Mr. T. B. Guzhenko, Minister of Merchant Marine, Government of USSR, who arrived this morning at the head of a Russian delegation. It has replaced the earlier shipping agreement between India and USSR concluded in April 1956.

Whereas the agreement of 1956 covered only the carriage of liner cargo trade between India and Soviet Union, the new agreement Provides for the carriage of not only the liner cargo but also the dry bulk and liquid cargo between the two' countries. Besides, the service which earlier operated between Black Sea ports of Soviet Union and the ports in India will now extend to all the commercial ports in both the countries. This has been done after taking into account the steady growth, expansion and diversification of trade between the two countries.

Adherence to the principle, of parity in cargo, liftings and freight earnings and equality in all other aspects is an important feature of the new agreement. As a result of it, the shipments to and from all the ports situated in both the countries will be taken into consideration in the calculation of parity and financial adjustments made during every accounting year. There is also a provision by which the shipping lines of one country are given the right of first refusal in regard to extra tonnage that may be required at any given time by the other country.

Both the sides have pledged to accord the 'most-favoured-nation' treatment to each other's vessels. The agreement also reflects the unity in the approach towards the extension of the spirit of bilateralism and mutual benefit in regard to third country trades. It also recognises the twin principle of each country having the right to utilise its merchant fleet to the maximum to cater to the trade of third countries and subject to this, the shipping lines of the other countries are welcome to participate in such trade. Another important feature of the agreement is that no steps be taken by either side which might cause harm to the development of merchant

shipping of the other.

The shipping lines of either country will enjoy the benefit of tax exemption in the other country and freight earnings on bilateral trade. Such earning on third country trades will be payable at a concessional rate of 33.33 per cent.

The agreement will be valid for a period of five years to start with, from the date it comes into force. During this period, the overseeing of all aspects of the agreement will be done by an inter-governmental joint committee which will consist of representatives of both the countries.

The signing of the new merchant shipping agreement marks another milestone in the eventful and long history of close, friendly and fruitful ties between India and the Soviet Union in the field of economic cooperation. It is broader in scope and wider in its coverage than the previous shipping agreement of 1956. The new agreement symbolises the fulfilment of the common aspirations envisaged in the agreement between India and the Soviet Union on the further development of economic and trade cooperation signed in November 1973, during the visit of Mr. L. I. Brezhnev, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of USSR, for all possible expansion and deepening of mutually beneficial economic cooperation.

The signing of the agreement was preceded by free and frank discussions between India and Soviet delegations which took place in an extremely cordial atmosphere. In this respect, both the delegations were also guided by the provisions of the Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation between the two countries concluded in August 1971.

An important feature of the Indo-Soviet Shipping Service during the last 20 years has been that the cargo liftings and freight earnings are shared by the Indian and Soviet side on equal basis. During these years, the service has transported about 12.5 million tonnes of cargo. The Indian lines earned

freight to the extent of Rs. 92.73 crores, while the Soviet lines' earnings amounted to Rs. 93.69 crores.

India's trade with USSR accounts roughly for 10 to 11 per cent of the nation's total global trade. A long-term trade agreement for the period 1976-80 has already been signed and it is expected that during this period the turn-over of the bilateral trade will increase to 50 per cent and eventually even to 100 per cent. The new agreement would provide an essential infra-structure support for the planned increase in the bilateral trade.

The Indo-Soviet Shipping Service has completed 20 years of extremely useful and mutually beneficial service. The government-owned Shipping Corporation of India, the Scindia Steam Navigation Company Limited. Bombay and the India Steam-Ships Limited. Calcutta from the Indian side, and the Black Sea Shipping Company from the Soviet side, have been operating this service jointly. A remarkable aspect of the service is the full satisfaction it has given to the trading organisations of both the countries by providing regular and adequate sailings on the basis of stable and economic freight rates. Another reason for the success and popularity of the service has been the simultaneous response shown by the authorities concerned in both the countries in favour of technological innovations in order to render cheaper and quicker service.

It will be recalled that celebrations to mark the 20th anniversary of the Indo-Soviet Shipping Service were held in Odessa last month. On this occasion, Dr. G. S. Dhillon led a delegation of senior officials and representatives of the three Indian shipping lines to participate in the celebrations.

August

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MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: EXTERNAL PUBLICITY DIVISION
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

USA AUSTRALIA BANGLADESH BHUTAN KENYA LESOTHO INDIA MAURITANIA SRI LANKA

Date : Aug 01, 1976

Volume No

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AUSTRALIA

Indo-Australian Trade Agreement

The following joint communique on the Indo-Australian trade agreement was released in Canberra on August 2, 1976:

A Trade Agreement and an associated exchange of letters were signed by His Excellency Professor D. P. Chattopadhyaya, Minister of Commerce, on behalf of the Government of India and the Rt. Hon. J. D. Anthony, Acting Prime Minister and Minister for Overseas Trade on behalf of the Australian Government.

The two Ministers said at the signing ceremony that they welcomed the conclusion of the Agreement as further tangible evidence of the great importance which both countries attach to a further strengthening and broadening of Trade and Economic relations.

The Agreement formalises bilateral trade relations between India and Australia and provides that the two Governments shall take all appropriate measures to facilitate, strengthen and diversify bilateral trade which will be conducted in accordance with the general agreement on tariffs and trade, to which both India and Australia are contracting parties.

The two Ministers expressed particular

satisfaction that the Trade Agreement provides encouragement for an increased level of contact between Indian and Australian enterprises, for example through the development of appropriate industrial cooperation, including joint ventures, between the relevant enterprises and organisations of the two countries.

The exchange of letters refers to the Recognition of each Government of the need to improve the conditions of world commodity trade and their support, in principle, for international commodity arrangements. The exchange also expresses the support, in principle, of the two Governments for the conclusion of long-term commercial contracts for commodities and their intention to encourage the relevant enterprises and organisations of the two countries to conclude such contracts where appropriate.

The Ministers also welcomed the establishment under the Trade Agreement of a Joint Trade Committee which would meet regularly to facilitate the implementation of the agreement. They said that the Committee would provide a continuing forum for regular consultations between officials of the two countries, to seek solutions to any bilateral trading problems, to identify opportunities for increased trade and industrial cooperation, and to explore the means of realising these opportunities.

AUSTRALIA USA INDIA MALI

Date : Aug 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

BANGLADESH

Official Statement on Ganga Waters Issue

Commenting on press reports, the official spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs, made the following statement in New Delhi on August 25, 1976:

Information has been received that, the Government of Bangladesh have decided to take the bilateral issue of sharing of the Ganga. waters between the two countries, to the General Assembly of the United Nations.

The question of sharing of Ganga waters during the period of shortage has been under discussion between the two countries since

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the Joint Declaration of the Prime Ministers of India and Bangladesh of May 1974.

Technical talks were held on the subject in April and May this years. These talks were followed by high level governmental talks during the visit of a goodwill delegation led by Shri G. Parthasarathi, Chairman of the Policy Planning Committee, to Dacca in June.

On July 30, 1976 the Government of India invited the Government of Bangladesh for further talks to be held in New Delhi. This invitation was renewed on August 13, but a response is still awaited.

The Government of India remains confident that such problems are amenable to constructive solution which will take into account the needs and rights of the two countries in a spirit of mutual understanding and cooperation.

It may be added that the Government of India themselves attach great importance to the need for solving such problems between neighbours for the benefit of their peoples and in the interests of peace, stability and progress of the region.

It is unfortunate and regrettable that the Government of Bangladesh should interrupt the process of bilateral negotiations and seek to internationalise the issue.

Volume No

1995

BHUTAN

Speech by the President at Banquet in Honour of the King of Bhutan

The President, Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, made the following speech at the banquet in honour of His Majesty the King of Bhutan in New Delhi on August 13, 1976:

It gives me immense pleasure to welcome Your Majesty in our midst. That you should have visited New Delhi en route to the Colombo Summit for an exchange of views on matters of mutual interest, is symbolic of the extremely close and unique ties of friendship between our two countries.

Bhutan, though small in size, comprises warm, friendly and large-hearted people who, by their hard work, are determined to transform their country into a modern nation. In this regard, we are deeply conscious of the wise, far-sighted and dynamic role played by Your Majesty in providing leadership to your people. It is a leadership that is conditioned by Your Majesty's deep and sincere commitment to the cause of your people.

While discharging your duties as Head of State, Your Majesty is exerting the utmost in maintaining the traditional rhythm, pace and tenor of life of the people, by preserving the noble cultural heritage of Bhutan and conserving the unique beauty which nature has so bountifully lavished upon Bhutan. India, as the closest friend and neighbour of Bhutan, is privileged to contribute to the efforts of Your Majesty and the people of

Bhutan towards the economic development of your country.

We in India are proud of our association with your country and take particular pleasure in identifying ourselves with the efforts made by Your Majesty in further consolidating the friendship, cordial relations and unique ties existing between our two countries.

I would like to take this opportunity to pay our tribute to the efforts of His Late Majesty, your father, in this direction. It was he who laid the foundations of Indo-Bhutan friendship and fashioned the pattern of relationship in evidence today and which Your Majesty is further strengthening. I would like to assure Your Majesty that the Government and people of India attach the greatest importance to their relations with

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your country and will never be found wanting in this regard.

Both India and Bhutan are pledged to consolidate and advancing the principles of non-alignment and we both attach the highest importance to them. In Colombo, we will have an opportunity, once again, to collaborate in their further advancement and demonstrate the unbreakable ties of friendship binding us. We wish Your Majesty a very successful and fruitful participation at the Summit. We look forward to Your Majesty's more extended and relaxed visit to our country in the near future.

Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen: I now propose a toast to the health and happiness of His Majesty Jigme Singye Wangchuk, the King of Bhutan, and the people of Bhutan and to the ever-lasting friendship between India and Bhutan.

BHUTAN INDIA USA SRI LANKA UNITED KINGDOM

Date : Aug 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

BHUTAN

King of Bhutan's Reply

Replying, the King of Bhutan delivered the following speech:

I would like to thank you, Excellency, for your most generous remarks about my late father and my country. It gives me great pleasure to be back in Delhi to enjoy your warm hospitality. The friendship, generosity and understanding which the Government of India has shown towards my Government and people is deeply appreciated. India has played a key role in Bhutan's socioeconomic development, with a genuine understanding of our problems. The Government and people of Bhutan are very grateful for this and it shall be our constant endeavour to further strengthen these friendly relations.

As a peace loving country with Buddhist tradition, Bhutan is committed to the principles of Non-alignment. It is my belief that the present Summit Conference in Colombo will be able to display the existing solidarity among the countries of the Non-Aligned movement and also, to take some concrete measures towards establishing closer cooperation in the socioeconomic and cultural fields. My delegation looks forward to working in cooperation with the delegation of India to achieve these objectives, which are common to both India and Bhutan.

My Government has watched with great satisfaction recent developments in the sub-continent and is particularly happy with the initiatives taken by Your Excellency's Government under the dynamic leadership of Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi towards normalisation of relations in the area.

I would now like to propose a toast to the health of Your Excellency and to the

genuine friendship, cooperation and understanding between our two countries, that we hope will be further strengthened in the years to come.

BHUTAN USA INDIA SRI LANKA MALI

Date : Aug 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

KENYA

Foreign Minister's Speech at Dinner in Honour of Dr. Munyua Waiyaki

The Minister of External Affairs, shri Y. B. Chavan, made the following speech at the dinner in honour of His Excellency Dr. Munyua Waiyaki, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kenya in New Delhi on August 26, 1976:

We are very happy that Dr. Waiyaki, the distinguished Foreign Minister of Kenya, Mrs. Waiyaki, and their respected friends have been able to pay us this visit. Excellency, I recall how, ever since your appointment as the Foreign Minister of Kenya, we have been expecting you to visit us. Therefore, we are happy indeed that long after the private visit of the Foreign Minister of Kenya to India five years ago, you have been able

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to visit us. The visit is very short but the occasion has been very useful for exchange of views and for consolidating further the relations between our countries.

Kenya and India are not only neighbours on the Indian Ocean. The history of our two peoples is intertwined from the days of British colonialism. There are many Kenyan citizens of Indian origin. Our national air-

line, Air India, flies to Nairobi thrice a week and nearly all the Indian visitors going to Africa by air first come to your beautiful capital.

The name of President Jomo Kenyatta, the founding father of your nation, is a household word in India. Years ago when he was leading the liberation movement of your country from colonialism, his name was etched in the minds of the Indian people as one of the bravest fighters for freedom and racial equality. We recall how Shri Jawaharlal Nehru sent his friend and a distinguished lawyer, Diwan Chaman Lal, to defend Mr. Jomo Kenyatta, when the colonial regime had imprisoned him.

After the independence of Kenya, the progress and prosperity achieved by Kenya under the enlightened leadership of President Kenyatta has been remarkable. The qualities of statesmanship of President Kenyatta will be long remembered by historians.

It is our regret that the people of India have not had the occasion to welcome President Jomo Kenyatta. Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi has met him on various occasion, the last being in 1970 in Kenya. We understand the reasons of health and age which prevent President Jomo Kenyatta from travelling to India. We would like you to convey to him the deep affection and regard of the Government and people of India for him.

Excellency, it is a matter of great satisfaction to us that relations between India and Kenya are excellent. Our countries have been working closely for our common objectives of building a world free from economic and political exploitation. This cooperation has been shown at the Colombo Conference of Non-aligned countries which we have just attended. I am sure the delegations of India and Kenya will work together at the coming session of the United Nations. The IV UNCTAD Conference which was held in your country some months ago showed once again the urgent need of bringing about a quick change in the economic conditions of the developing countries in order to free them

from the continuing effects of economic exploitation during their colonial period. In the spirit of self-reliance and cooperation among developing and Non-aligned countries India and Kenya, I am happy to say, have been cooperating. We look forward to greater cooperation in economic, technical, cultural, commercial and other fields. I am sure that your visit will be another step forward on the road of strengthening Indo-Kenyan relations in all these fields.

May I now request you, ladies and gentlemen, to drink a toast to the health of President Jomo Kenyatta, Dr. and Mrs. Waiyaki, their distinguished companions, and to the evergrowing friendship between India and Kenya?

KENYA USA INDIA SRI LANKA

Date : Aug 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

LESOTHO

India-Lesotho Economic Cooperation Agreement

The following press release on the India-Lesotho economic cooperation agreement was issued in New Delhi on August 5, 1976:

The Minister of External Affairs, Shri Y. B. Chavan, and the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Government of the Kingdom of Lesotho, His Excellency The Hon'ble Mr. C. D. Molapo, signed here today an agreement on Economic and Technical Cooperation between the two countries.

The Agreement provides for a broad framework under which economic and tech-

nical cooperation between India and Lesotho could be developed further. It also provides for deputation of Indian experts to Lesotho, training facilities for Lesotho personnel in India and cooperation in the field of exchange of technical know-how and industrial collaboration. The Agreement is valid for a period of five years and be extendable by tacit approval.

There is already a substantial degree of economic and technical cooperation between Lesotho and India. More than 20 Indian experts are already working in Lesotho in diverse fields, such as teaching, engineering and medical. Similarly, Lesotho has been sending increasing number of his students for studies and training in Indian institutions.

As a result of the signing of the Agreement, the cooperation in economic and technical fields is likely to be strengthened further in the future. Lesotho has expressed trade interests in seeking Indian cooperation in the field of setting up small scale industries in Lesotho.

LESOTHO INDIA USA

Date : Aug 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

LESOTHO

India-Lesotho Joint Communiqué

Following is the text of the India-Lesotho joint communiqué issued in New Delhi on August 10, 1976 at the conclusion of the official visit of Mr. C. D. Molapo, Foreign Minister of Lesotho, to India:

At the invitation of the Minister of External Affairs of the Republic of India,

Shri Y. B. Chavan, His Excellency Mr. C. D. Molapo, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Government of the Kingdom of Lesotho paid an official visit to India from August 4 to 10, 1976.

The Foreign Minister of Lesotho was accorded a cordial welcome by the people and Government of India, reflecting the friendly relations existing between the two countries. During his stay in Delhi, the Foreign Minister of Lesotho was received by the President, Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, the Vice-President, Shri B. D. Jatti, and the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi.

During their stay in India, the Foreign Minister of Lesotho and his party visited some of the places of industrial and historical interest.

The Foreign Minister of India and Lesotho assisted by their senior officials, held talks which covered bilateral relations and international developments of mutual interest. The talks were held in an atmosphere of friendship and understanding and revealed close identity of views.

The two sides expressed satisfaction over the continuing validity of non-alignment which had made a positive contribution to the common struggle for peace and security of nations. They reaffirmed their faith in the policy of non-alignment as an effective instrument for promoting greater understanding among nations and underlined the need for adherence to the principles of the non-aligned movement to assure its success and efficacy. They agreed to cooperate actively in furthering this objective at the forthcoming Summit Conference at Colombo.

The two sides reviewed the world economic situation and stressed the need for restructuring the international economic order. They called upon the developed countries to cooperate in putting their economic relations with developing countries on a just and equitable basis. They reaffirmed their belief that economic, technical and scientific cooperation among the developing countries should be further strengthened for speedier progress.

The Foreign Minister of Lesotho and the Minister of External Affairs of India expressed their happiness at the independence of the African States of Mozambique, Angola, Guinea Bissau, Cape Verde, Sao Tome and Principe from the Portuguese colonial rule. They also welcomed the emergence as independent nations of Comores, Surinam, Papua New Guinea and Seychelles Islands.

They condemned all forms of colonialism, neocolonialism, racial discrimination and the policy of apartheid and expressed their resolute support for the people of Zimbabwe, Namibia and South Africa. They strongly

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abhorred the brutal murder and suppression of black people by racist South Africa, recalling particularly the recent massacre in Soweto, and stressed their determination to work for the elimination of racism and repression in Southern Africa.

The two Foreign Ministers reiterated their support to the declaration of the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace, free from foreign military bases and great power rivalry and tension. They called on the great powers and major maritime users to fully cooperate with the littoral and hinterland states in achieving this objective. The two Foreign Ministers expressed concern at the continued expansion of military facilities in Diego Garcia.

The two Foreign Ministers hailed the reunification of Vietnam and were confident that this would contribute to the establishment of peace, stability and cooperation in the region.

The two Foreign Ministers while reaffirming their adherence to the relevant United Nations Resolutions, reiterated that a just and lasting peace in West Asia could be achieved only through Israeli withdrawal from all occupied Arab territories and the restoration of the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people.

The two Foreign Ministers expressed their deep sorrow at the serious situation in

Lebanon and hoped that the differences between the various parties would be speedily resolved through peaceful means and negotiations, in such a manner as to ensure that the sovereignty, territorial integrity and non-aligned status of Lebanon would be preserved.

The Minister of External Affairs of India informed the Foreign Minister of Lesotho of the progress made by the Indian people through the implementation of the socioeconomic measures taken by the Government of India to develop the country's economy and to improve the social conditions of the Indian people and of India's foreign policy based on principles of non-alignment and peaceful co-existence. The Minister of External Affairs of India also mentioned the progress made by India and normalising its relations with all its neighbours.

The Foreign Minister of Lesotho expressed full understanding of the efforts of the Government and the people of India at solving the complex socioeconomic problems facing the country. He also expressed appreciation for the peace-loving foreign policy of India, its important role in the non-alignment movement and its great contribution in strengthening world peace. The Foreign Minister of Lesotho welcomed India's initiative in normalising relations on the sub-continent.

The Foreign Minister of Lesotho explained the problems and challenges posed by Lesotho's geopolitical situation in Africa. The Minister of External Affairs of India expressed appreciation of Lesotho's commitment to the eradication of colonialism, racial discrimination and white minority rule in Southern Africa and its efforts to create a society in which People of all races can live in peace and harmony with one another.

The two sides reviewed their bilateral relations especially economic and technical cooperation. They expressed satisfaction at the progress achieved and were convinced that there existed further possibilities of its expansion. With this objective in view, an Agreement for Economic and Technical Cooperation was signed between the two coun-

tries.

The Foreign Ministers of India and Lesotho expressed their satisfaction on the result of their discussions which had contributed towards a better mutual understanding and strengthening of the existing friendly relations between India and Lesotho.

The Foreign Minister of Lesotho expressed his deep appreciation of the warm welcome and hospitality accorded to him and his party during his visit to India. He extended an invitation to the Foreign Minister of India to visit Lesotho which was accepted with great pleasure.

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LESOTHO INDIA USA SRI LANKA ANGOLA MOZAMBIQUE CAPE VERDE GUINEA GUINEA-BISSAU
SAO TOME E PRINCIPE SEYCHELLES ZIMBABWE NAMIBIA SOUTH AFRICA VIETNAM ISRAEL
LEBANON MALI

Date : Aug 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

MAURITANIA

Speech by the President at Banquet in Honour of President of Mauritania

The President, shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, made the following speech at the banquet in honour of His Excellency Dr. Moktar Ould Daddah, President of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, in New Delhi on August 24, 1976:

With great pleasure and honour I welcome amidst us this evening Your Excellency and the distinguished member of your party.

Excellency, you are not only the architect of an independent Mauritania but also a renowned statesman of the whole of resur-

gent Africa. You have led the Mauritanian people to their independence from the colonial rule and given them their honoured place in the comity of free nations. You have brought about remarkable economic advancement of your people through development of your national resources which has greatly improved their living standards. Your study and knowledge of Arabic language and history are respected everywhere. We admire your sustained efforts to foster unity and cooperation in Africa and your conciliatory and mediatory role in regional and subregional affairs of West Africa. I hope that the Mauritanian people as well as all the peoples of Africa will continue to benefit for many long years from your wise and far-sighted leadership.

Mauritania and India belong to different continents and are separated by great distances. This has not been an impediment to commercial and cultural intercourse as it revealed in ancient chronicles of the Greek and Roman travellers. The dark age of colonial domination and exploitation by setting up artificial barriers made us, however, temporary strangers of each other. This unfortunate chapter is now practically ended and our two countries should now be able to look forward to their future with hope, faith and confidence based on ever-growing ties of cooperation and friendship which should be but natural taking into account our common experience of struggle for independence and share objectives of harnessing the progress of science and technology for the welfare of our peoples.

The continent of Asia, like Africa, has also vast problems of development, a legacy from alien rule and neglect. We need a climate of freedom, peace, justice and equality for national reconstruction. In this situation, friendship and amity among all countries and especially our neighbours is not only a lofty ideal but a paramount necessity. In the subcontinent, we have taken a number of initiatives to enlarge the areas of accommodation and cooperation among all our neighbours among which we count some of the most important and populous countries of the world. We have set in motion a process

of normalisation of relations with those of our neighbours with whom we have had problems. We have strengthened the already friendly bonds of association with those with whom we had traditional ties of amity. This has created a new climate in which we hope all our peoples can devote themselves to the important tasks of enrichment of their social, economic and cultural life.

The Colombo Summit Conference of non-aligned nations where our two countries cooperated fully has charted the course of action for the next few years. The policy and principles of non-alignment continue to remain valid in the present international situation. We, non-aligned and developing countries, need to pursue with renewed vigour cooperation among ourselves and to this end define with greater precision areas of cooperation and contribution which non-aligned countries individually or in cooperation with others can make towards this end. Further, we the non-aligned countries must relentlessly carry on the struggle to end apartheid and racial discrimination in Southern Africa till complete victory is attained. My country pledges its wholehearted support to attainment of these objectives.

The size and the population of our country make our own problems also of continental proportions. In the three decades of our existence as an independent nation, we have, often against heavy odds, made noteworthy progress in laying the foundation of a self-reliant economy to assist in the realisation

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of social, cultural and technological advancement of our peoples. We do feel a certain degree of pride in our achievements in industrial and scientific fields although we are conscious that we have to travel much farther on this road. Convinced as we are that the developing countries must primarily rely on their own resources, ingenuity and skills for their development, we are ready to cooperate with all developing countries in the field of technical and economic cooperation within the limits of our own resources.

Our country is engaged today with determination, discipline and confidence in creating a new society based on economic and social justice under the leadership of our Prime Minister. Ours is a secular State but that does not mean that we are indifferent to and neglect religious beliefs and faiths of our peoples. There is complete freedom of religion and our People practice the religions of their choice and belief without the slightest fear or restraint or persecution. We hope that in your stay, short as it is, you will get a glimpse of the dynamics of our multi-religious and multi-lingual secular society.

Excellency, you are among friends and brothers. We hope your stay with us will be enjoyable and the talks which you hold with our Government will bring our two countries closer and strengthen the fraternal ties which so happily exist between our two countries and our two peoples.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, may I now request you to join me in a toast to the health of His Excellency President Moktar Ould Daddah, to the well being and prosperity of the Mauritanian people and ever lasting friendship and cooperation between India and Mauritania.

MAURITANIA INDIA USA OMAN PERU MALI SRI LANKA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Aug 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

MAURITANIA

Mauritanian Presidents Reply

Replying, the President of Mauritania delivered the following speech:

I am indeed very happy for the oppor-

tunity you have given me to visit your beautiful and hospitable country. May I express to Your Excellency and to the brotherly people of India my gratitude and thanks for the sentiments of friendship and fraternity shown to me and to the people of Mauritania.

I would also like to say how much we in Mauritania appreciate the solid and active' contribution made by the great Indian people in the liberation of the Third World and in the struggle it is waging for the recognition of its heritage and values.

In this respect I would like to underline our admiration for the impact your great leader Mahatma Gandhi has made on the contemporary civilisation in general, and on the destiny of the Third World in particular and how much his teachings and actions have helped us in Africa and in the Arab world in our political struggle against colonialism.

The late Jawaharlal Nehru exercised a tremendous influence on the world events. He was one of the pillars of the policy of non-alignment which today finds a tremendous response in the countries of the Third World as shown by the Conference of the non-aligned countries in Colombo, the capital of Sri Lanka. Mr. President, we in Mauritania share with you the same ideals and aims and we are gratified to see that our two countries not only stand together in the non-aligned movement, they also condemned the Israeli aggression on the Arab Nations and the occupation of the Palestinian people's land by these Zionists Israelis.

Our two countries oppose the policy of racial discrimination in South Africa, the occupation of Namibia and usurping of power by the white minority in Rhodesia. We are seeking to create a world where peace would prevail and where problems would be settled in a peaceful manner. We are seeking to create a world in which the flags of justice would flutter; where poverty, ignorance and disease would vanish and where gulf between the industrial nations and the countries of the Third World would be narrowed.

The Islamic Republic of Mauritania

basing its actions in its people's desires for peace and concord has always deployed every effort in order to strengthen its relations with its neighbours within the realm of regional organisation and groupings as well on the level of bilateral relations. Our country

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is thus a founding member of the Organisation of African Unity, of Economic Organisation of West African States and the Organisation for the Development of the Senegal river. And we are a member of the League of Arab States as well as Consultative Commission of Maghreb States.

It is in this spirit of brotherhood that we have solved all our differences with the brotherly kingdom of Morocco. We have concluded agreement with it which has made it possible for both the countries to retrieve their territorial integrity and legitimate rights in accordance with the UN Resolutions and Charter and the International Court of Justice's advisory opinion on the matter.

Unfortunately a brother neighbouring country was not happy about these agreements, although the same country had expressed its clear approval of them during the Arab Summit Conference in Rabat.

After the agreement were concluded, this country has engaged in training and giving full moral and material support to bands of mercenaries which it has recruited in order to endanger the peace and security in our region and thus tried to impose its opinion on the Mauritanian question.

But despite this attitude it is our fervent hope that this brotherly country will understand the necessity of restoring normal fraternal relations between our peoples as required by our shared interest.

Mr. President, I am sure that my present visit to your brotherly country shall strengthen the brotherly relations of friendship which unite our two countries as it would contribute in the consolidation of the non-aligned movement in the interest of peace and harmony in the world. May I request

you, ladies and gentlemen, to stand with me in honour of His Excellency the President, and for the solidarity between the people of India and the people of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania.

MAURITANIA INDIA USA SRI LANKA ISRAEL SOUTH AFRICA NAMIBIA SENEGAL MOROCCO

Date : Aug 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

MAURITANIA

India-Mauritania Joint Communiqué

Following is the text of joint communiqué issued in New Delhi on August 30, 1976 at the conclusion of the state visit of Mr. Moktar Ould Daddah, President of Mauritania, to India:

At the invitation of Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, the President of India, His Excellency Mr. Moktar Ould Daddah, President of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, paid a State visit to India from August 24 to 30, 1976. The President was accompanied by H.E. Mr. Abdoul Aziz Sall, President of the National Assembly, H.E. Mr. Hamdi Ould Mouknass, Foreign Minister, H.E. Mr. Mohamed Ali Cherif, General Secretary, Mr. Ell Hadji Thiarn, Chief, Office of the President, H.E. Mr. Mohamed Ould Sidy Aly, Ambassador, H.E. Mr. Bakar Sidi Ould Haiba, Ambassador and other senior officials. The President of Mauritania and his party visited places of cultural and industrial interest in Delhi, Agra, Hyderabad, Bangalore and Bombay and were given a warm and cordial welcome wherever they went, indicative of the friendly feelings entertained by the people of India towards the people of Mauritania.

During his stay in Delhi, the President

of Mauritania held talks with the President of India and the Prime Minister of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi. He received the Minister of External Affairs, Shri Y. B. Chavan. The wide-ranging talks which were held in an atmosphere of friendship, cordiality and mutual understanding, covered matters of bilateral relations and a review of the international situation, especially in Africa and revealed a close similarity of views held by the leaders of the two countries.

During the talks both sides reaffirmed their adherence to the Principles of the United Nations Charter and to the principles of sovereign equality of all States and non-interference in their internal affairs. They reiterated their faith in the policy of non-alignment and expressed satisfaction at the outstanding success achieved by the recent Conference of Heads of State and Government of Non-Aligned countries held in Colombo. They were confident that the declarations issued by the Conference would have wider acceptance and lead towards the creation of a just international order.

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The President of Mauritania and the Prime Minister of India stressed the need to achieve complete and universal disarmament including nuclear disarmament under effective international control. They stressed the importance of harnessing nuclear power for human welfare and agreed that the benefits and knowledge of nuclear technology should be available to all countries.

The Prime Minister of India informed the President of Mauritania of the progress made by the Indian people in developing a self-reliant economy and in improving their social conditions. The President of Mauritania gave an account of the progress made by the people of Mauritania in diverse fields since independence. The President and the Prime Minister agreed that their two countries assist each other in the task of social and economic development by strengthening bilateral contacts and through cooperation in multilateral organisations.

The Prime Minister of India explained the steps taken by India to normalise and

improve relations between the countries of the Indian sub-continent in order to create an environment of peace and friendship. The President of Mauritania appreciated these steps and expressed the hope that the co-operative efforts of the countries of the sub-continent would make this a region of peace and stability.

President of Mauritania informed Prime Minister of India of the tension which exists in the Maghreb and emphasised the deep pre-occupation of Mauritania with the attempts on her territorial integrity and national sovereignty. The President and the Prime Minister expressed the hope that the tension in the region would be replaced by mutual understanding and cooperation among the brotherly States of the region.

The President of Mauritania and the Prime Minister of India expressed grave concern at the continued conflict and tension in Middle East. They expressed firm support to the Palestinian people in their struggle to secure their legitimate rights, including the right to establish their own state. They called for withdrawal of Israeli troops from all occupied Arab territories. They called on all parties concerned to end the fratricidal conflict in Lebanon.

The two sides reviewed the serious situation created by the practice of the policy of apartheid and racial discrimination in Southern Africa. They reiterated their firm resolve to continue their principled support to the struggle to liquidate apartheid and racial discrimination and colonial exploitation and domination in South Africa. To this end, the President and the Prime Minister expressed their determination to assist the liberation movement in Southern Africa by all possible means.

The Prime Minister of India explained efforts made by India and other littoral and hinterland states to create a zone of peace free from foreign Military bases and Great Power rivalry and tension in the Indian Ocean. The President of Mauritania supported their resolve to create such a zone of peace. The President and Prime Minister

called on the Great Powers and other maritime users to fully cooperate in achieving this objective.

Reviewing their bilateral relations, the two sides agreed that great possibilities existed to develop further their economic, technical and cultural ties. They agreed to conclude necessary arrangements to promote co-operation in these fields. They also agreed to increase their contacts through exchange of visits at all levels.

The President of Mauritania thanked the President of India and the Prime Minister of India for the warm hospitality extended to him and his delegation during their stay in India. The President of Mauritania extended invitation to the President of India and to the Prime Minister of India to visit Mauritania. The invitations were accepted with thanks. The dates of the visits will be finalised through diplomatic channels.

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MAURITANIA INDIA USA UNITED KINGDOM SRI LANKA MALI ISRAEL LEBANON SOUTH AFRICA

Date : Aug 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCES

Prime Minister's Statement at Non-Aligned Summit Inaugural in Colombo

Following is the text of the statement made by the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi at the inaugural session of the fifth Conference of Heads of State Government of Non-aligned Countries in Colombo on August 16, 1976:

I should like to join the eminent representatives who have spoken before me to

felicitate you, Mr. President, on the manner in which you have followed up the decisions taken in Algiers and the purposeful direction that you have given during your presidency.

It is indeed a pleasure to support the name of Mrs. Bandaranaike, our hostess and a leader of experience, ability and dedication, one who is leading the people of Sri Lanka towards a better future in the face of difficulties - to take the chair and guide our deliberations. In this I speak not only for myself but echo the sentiments of all present. Her gracious presence will help us to iron out knotty problems and draw up a positive plan for action in a spirit of understanding and friendship. She will have our good wishes and full support in her stewardship of the movement.

It is understandable that Asia which has suffered so much in the era of foreign domination, should be the first to rally under the banner of non-alignment. Sri Lanka was amongst the early advocates of this movement. We remember how this country under the eloquent personality of Mr. S.W.R.D. Bandaranaike followed by that of the present Prime Minister, Mrs. Sirimavo Bandaranaike, has given unwavering strength and sagacious guidance to our counsels and our endeavours.

Sri Lanka has spared no efforts in preparations for this conference. Those of us who have for long years been committed to non-alignment are at one with our hosts at our concern for its success. The eyes of millions of people are focussed in Colombo and their hopes on our deliberations. There are also those who would like to find cause for criticism!

At this stage I shall not speak of the basic issues which have been raised and will be discussed at this conference. India's views and its firm, consistent, and principled stand, sometimes in the face of tremendous odds, are well-known. We have always been, in word and in deed, on the side of freedom, justice, equality and co-operation. We have strongly fought against all forms of colonialism and racialism, and have resisted poli-

tical and economic pressures, whether obvious or in more subtle disguise.

In her thoughtful address this morning Madame Bandaranaike described the challenges that confront us and defined with clarity, and vision the goals towards which we must strive. A call to statesmanship and co-operation for a more equitable and socially just international economic and political order must go forth from Colombo. The record of our achievements as the conscience of mankind is already significant. We have to think in larger terms and eschew divisive approaches. Leaders from more than half the nations of the world have gathered here to vitalise our movement - to make non-alignment a more effective instrument of peace and equality among nations, and to achieve meaningful co-operation among ourselves. I am sure that under Madame Bandaranaike's presidentship we shall succeed in our purpose.

If I may paraphrase a verse from the ancient Rig Veda:

Let our aim be one and single,
Let our hearts be joined in one -
The mind at rest in unison -
At peace with all, so may we be.

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SRI LANKA USA ALGERIA INDIA

Date : Aug 01, 1976

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NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCES

Prime Minister's Address to Non-Aligned Countries Conference in Colombo

Following is the text of the Prime

Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi's address to the conference of Heads of State Government of Non-aligned Countries in Colombo on August 17, 1976:

I cannot compete with the eloquence of the many well-known poets and writers who have extolled the beauty of this jewel of an Island, but I can say that Sri Lanka lives upto all expectations and that its loveliness is matched by the large hearted friendliness of its talented people. May I take this opportunity to thank the Prime Minister, Her Government and the people of Sri Lanka for the warm welcome we have received and the excellent arrangements made for our stay and for the Conference.

As I stand on this tribune, before such a distinguished gathering of leaders, there is a feeling, of exhilaration at the destiny which brings us together again. Since those early days after the last world war which saw the beginnings of freedom for our nations, our long road has been arduous at times, yet also resolute and purposeful. In 1947 the countries of Asia met in New Delhi for the first time to affirm their solidarity and their vision of the world they hoped to fashion. On that momentous occasion Jawaharlal Nehru gave utterance to the ardent yearnings of the peoples of Asia when he declared that they would no longer be petitioners in foreign chancelleries, not, pawns of anyone. He said, "We propose to stand on our own legs and to cooperate with all others who are prepared to cooperate with us." Taking the wide world, view for which our people are justly proud, he said, "Asia stretches her hand out in friendship to Europe and America as well as to our suffering brethren in Africa"... "The universal human freedom also cannot be based on the supremacy of any particular class. It must be the freedom of the common man everywhere and full opportunities for him to develop."

There we saw the first seeds of the concept we call non-alignment which germinated in the Bandung Conference and grew firm roots in Belgrade. From Belgrade through Cairo, Lusaka and Algiers, the non-aligned movement has grown in strength and effectiveness. The present Conference marks

further advance of that vision, embodying as it does the global sweep of non-alignment. In a fast changing world, non-alignment remains the bulwark of an ever-widening area of peace, a shield against external pressures and a catalyst of a new world economic order based on equality and justice. It promotes and hastens change, itself remaining unchanged. 'Ale represent nations which, amidst their colourful diversity, are united in their unvarying search for freedom, equality, peace and stability, for their own peoples and for all the world. Non-alignment is the courage of true independence.

It is apt that having girdled the globe, this Conference should now return to our continent and onto the verdant isle of Sri Lanka. I bring to you, Madame President, and to your people the warm greetings of the Government and people of India. In convening this Conference in Colombo, we pay tribute to the steadfast and constructive role played by your gallant country, first under its dynamic leader, Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike, and now under your able guidance, in international affairs and within the non-aligned movement. The friendship of India and Sri Lanka dates back several centuries and embraces a kinship enriched by the interaction of religion, culture, art and literature. After freedom it has been stimulated by mutual trust and cooperation.

I take this Opportunity to thank our good friend President Boumedienne of Algeria for the energetic leadership he has provided in the furtherance of our objectives during the last three years.

It is a matter of gratification to have, amongst us President Tito, one of the founding fathers of our movement, whose continuing guidance we value.

It gives me special pleasure to see amongst us a host of new leaders of triumphant liberation movements and pioneer nation-builders. We all extend a warm welcome to the representatives of Angola, Cape Verde, Comoros, Democratic Peoples' Republic of Korea, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, Panama, Sao Tome and Principe, Seychelles

and the P.L.O. We note with particular satisfaction the presence of the delegation of the

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Socialist Republic of Vietnam, We rejoice in the historic victory of the peoples of this part of Asia and the reunification of Vietnam.

The concept of non-alignment was shaped in the long years of our national struggle, much before the Cold War developed and blocs were formed. The Cold War has ended, but has its legacy? Colonial rule has almost gone, but have its consequences? Many of our nations remain politically vulnerable to external pressures. The effort to undermine the power of nationalism and political cohesion, to discredit and remove leaders and governments who symbolise independent thinking and self-reliance, and to install more pliable individuals and parties, is unabated. Economic exploitation persists in old and new garbs. So do the technological disparities and psychological complexes bred by colonialism. Instead of diminishing, military presences are being extended, and theories of imagined power-vacuums are mooted to justify such action. All countries around the Indian Ocean, who wish this area to be a zone of peace, are perturbed by the establishment of bases and intrusion of rivalries. The aim of the non-aligned movement is to reinforce the strength of each of our nations to measure up to challenges. At the same time we stand for responsive cooperation. We are neither a bloc nor a Third World, but a part of this our only world. The task of the Conference should be to fortify the defences of peace by enhancing friendship and reducing divisions and disparities.

We fully share the grave concern over unresolved problems and continuing conflicts in various regions which have been mentioned by previous speakers. A message of support should be sent from here to the victims of racist terror in Southern Africa. We in India had links with this struggle since even before our own freedom movement.

The era of the Cold War proved the soundness of non-alignment as perhaps the

only practical policy for the preservation of the newly-won independence of many countries. To us, choice between one military bloc or another seemed irrelevant and unreal. Our choice was between independence and dependence, between progressing through co-operation or perishing through confrontation. That most States which achieved independence have joined the non-aligned family is vindication of the conceptual validity of non-alignment.

We must counsel ourselves to a sober introspection of the cause of the success of our movement and to an appraisal of how to carry it forward. If today the non-aligned do constitute a force (albeit a moral one), it is because we represent a major dynamic of history. We stand for the inherent right of every nation, no matter how weak, to exist and progress in spite of notions of ideological conformity or the inevitability of war so compellingly propagated by the strong. We represent the spirit of cooperation. And our assessment has been proven more correct than the analyses of those who try to enforce their own ideological obsessions. Non-alignment, with its politico-economic basis, has a more powerful appeal. Unity amongst ourselves is essential for our movement to retain its utility. A united non-aligned group will make an impact on world peace and on the evolving of a new economic order for the millions of poor. A new international economic order can be realised only with a cohesive political driving force which recognises diversity, but looks at the situation beyond the mere technical solution of problems of trade, finance and raw materials. Unity will benefit our own countries as well as nations and peoples everywhere. In the absence of a united front, our voices will go unheard and unheeded. Therefore, our Summit should preserve the integrity of our movement and show courage and determination in consolidating our unity through closer coordination and cooperation.

The very success of our movement has led to efforts to divide and weaken us and to dilute the political content and positive thrust of our work. In recent months the non-aligned as a group and individual coun-

tries of the non-aligned movement have faced a variety of pressures. There has been angry criticism of our concerted stand at the United Nations and other international forums, and attempts at the destabilisation of established governments, amounting even to subversion. These must be resisted. Non-aligned countries should strongly repudiate any extension of outside presences and exertion of pressure. Domestic changes should be decided by peoples themselves, not dictated by the strategies and compulsions of others. In the process of gaining new adherents and sympathisers, we should not deviate from the basic

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philosophy which has given this movement its vigour and indeed its *raison d'être*.

The vitality, efficacy and achievements of the non-aligned movement have been due largely to its flexibility of action. Our deliberate rejection of bureaucratisation and rigid procedures has allowed us to concentrate on our objectives, rather than being entangled in procedural wrangles and jealousies.

Since we have questioned the logic of Cold War belligerency, it is but natural that we should be glad at the many moves towards rapprochement, which are cumulatively described as *detente*. The Helsinki Agreement is a welcome event. The present *detente*, which is limited in content and geographical scope, must be consolidated and extended to the rest of our globe. How can *detente* in Europe endure if other parts of the world are ravaged by proxy wars and competitive infiltration? *Detente* should include respect for nonalignment by others. It cannot co-exist with the destabilisation of non-aligned States. Nor can it usher in real peace, without a serious effort at total disarmament. *Detente* should result in active co-existence and cooperation in which blocs and spheres of influence become redundant.

The peace that was arranged after World War II did not hold because it totally ignored a vast part of mankind which includes all our nations. In any compacts for peace, our

views cannot be set aside merely because we are economically and militarily weak. Neither balance of power nor deterrence by terror offers lasting solutions. Time and again, the human spirit has prevailed over military power. A small Asian nation has given yet another triumphant demonstration of the strength of the strengthless. Peace can be attained only by harnessing the cooperation of all nations. The non-aligned have always been allies of peace.

Emerging polycentrism has generated rivalries no less fierce than bipolar confrontations. We should be vigilant against attempts to split our movement, to violate its integrity or to introduce discords from outside. We should not allow such differences as may exist between some members on certain issues to affect our unity. With so many leaders, the Conference is too important to spend time on bilateral matters. There are risks when national goals completely supersede the collective purpose. India has always refrained from bringing up bilateral problems in the non-aligned or any international forums. We should all continue to observe the salutary practice of keeping out of our discussions any problems that might dilute our solidarity. Internal problems should be dealt with or resolved through patient bilateral negotiations, insulated from external complications.

In the 1950s and 1960s, the rallying cry of deprived peoples was independence. Today it should be self-reliance. As we seek a rightful place for ourselves in the contemporary world and are occupied in building our economies with the help of new knowledge, our development is impeded by the disparities and frustrations of the old order. Our people are not, nor can we expect them to be, tolerant of the present status quo of dependence and inequality. The world must evolve a new equilibrium of equitable interdependence in which the political independence and economic self-reliance of the weakest and smallest nations are fully protected. It implies the creation of a degree of mutual dependence which is of mutual benefit, without loss of identity or sovereignty.

Since we last met in Algiers there have been important developments in international economic relations. These have demonstrated that the possession of resources does not by itself match the advantage of those who command technology. It is only fair to demand a more just return for our commodities, but we cannot relax our efforts at reaching higher levels of self-reliance. Technological progress is not unthinking duplication of the designs of life prevalent in affluent countries. Consumerism is no blessing to us. Our objective should be a level of technology which provides the minimum material and cultural needs of our people and which will enable us to withstand threats to freedom, political pressures and unequal economic deals. The development of human skills to harness material resources within a nation is helped by more purposive cooperation amongst nations. As non-aligned countries we have been tirelessly advocating friendships which rise above political blocs. As non-aligned developing countries we should promote greater economic cooperation between developed and developing countries, and discourage ideas of economic confrontation. The community of

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nations should jointly and peacefully achieve that elusive equation between global production and consumption that yields the right share for each nation.

The response of advanced countries to the compulsions of a new world economic order has so far been apathetic. Patchwork remedies are no substitute for genuine reform. We need a global perspective plan which will relate resources to human needs and provide a system of early warnings of imbalances and disasters. Improved terms of trade and credit, easier access to markets and better value for raw materials and industrial goods are all essential to secure greater equity in the distribution of benefits. Cooperation between and among our fraternity will enhance our strength in the dialogue with the economically stronger.

At Algiers and since, we have formulated programmes of concrete action for intra-non-aligned cooperation. It is time now to

pool our resources and our experience. The focus should be on the scope of functional cooperation. The Non-aligned News Agency Pool is an example of our determination to be better informed about each other on political events as well as economic development. I hope we shall evolve new patterns of sharing our technological skills and resources as a means of gaining individual and collective strength, and finally break away from clinging colonial legacies and values. On its part India has offered economic and technical cooperation to many countries and has provided technical experts and training facilities.

We are confronted with challenge and opportunity. The challenge - despite tremendous pressures, to reinforce our basic unity and integrity, to rededicate ourselves to the principles that have served us so well. The opportunity - through collective power and united will, to achieve enduring peace and freedom for all - peace through detente, disarmament and cooperation, and freedom through development, maintaining our distinctive personalities.

Let non-alignment give a lead in true independence, in new ideals for a harmonious world society in a new concept of human emancipation and in new designs for national progress.

Years ago Jawaharlal Nehru said:

The door is open and destiny beckons to all. There is no question of who wins and who loses, for we have to go forward and together as comrades and either all of us win or we all go down together, but there is going to be no failure. We go forward to success.

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BANGLADESH

Official Statement on Indo-Bangladesh Talks on Farakka Issue

The official spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs made the following statement in New Delhi on September 4, 1976:

The Foreign Secretary, Shri J. S. Mehta, handed over yesterday a Note Verbale to the High Commissioner of Bangladesh to India renewing Government of India's invitation to the Government of Bangladesh for holding further talks on the Farakka issue in New Delhi as soon as convenient to the latter. In the Note, the Government of India reiterated their readiness to have talks without pre-conditions and stated that they were prepared to discuss and examine, with an open mind, the proposals made by the Government of Bangladesh. At the same time, the Government of India hoped and expected that the Bangladesh Government would give similar consideration to India's proposals. The Government of India also remained convinced that the question of sharing of the Ganga

waters during the period of shortage would be greatly facilitated by a joint and objective study of the requirements for beneficial uses by the two countries and of the effects of Farakka withdrawals in Bangladesh.

The Note Verbale was in response to Bangladesh's Note of August 25, 1976, in which the Government of Bangladesh had expressed their readiness to hold talks with the Government of India but had wished the talks to be confined to their own proposal for augmenting the dry season flow of the Ganga for meeting the requirements of both the countries.

The Government of India have renewed their invitation for holding talks in keeping with their consistent policy that problems between close neighbours can be best solved bilaterally and notwithstanding the recent moves of the Government of Bangladesh to internationalise the Farakka issue.

BANGLADESH INDIA USA

Date : Sep 01, 1976

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BANGLADESH

Official Statement on Indo-Bangladesh Talks

The official spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs made the following statement in New Delhi on September 10, 1976:

In response to the invitation of the Government of India, a delegation from Bangladesh led by Rear Admiral M. H. Khan, Chief of Naval Staff and Deputy Chief Martial Law Administrator, visited New Delhi from 7 to 10 September 1976. The Indian delegation was led by Shri Jagjivan Ram, Union Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation.

The Government of India had taken the initiative to hold talks with an open mind and without precondition with a view to reaching an equitable and amicable solution to the question of the utilisation of Ganga waters at Farakka during the lean season.

The Government of India had sincerely hoped and expected that the Bangladesh delegation would give serious consideration to their proposals both for the short term and the long term.

India has a clear entitlement to a preponderant use of these waters. However, the Indian delegation made a far-reaching proposal offering to reduce the withdrawals at Farakka during the lean season to accommodate Bangladesh. Unfortunately, the Bangla-

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desh delegation showed no disposition even to consider any of India's proposals. They insisted that, pending a long-term solution, the flow of the Ganga during the dry season should be restored to Bangladesh: this would imply that the Farakka Barrage should be shut down for years to come.

As regards a long term solution, Bangladesh, again was not prepared to consider a joint study of all possibilities, proposed by either side, including the construction of a canal linking the Brahmaputra with the Ganga.

Contrary to the understanding reached between the two countries in the Joint Declaration of May 1974 to seek a solution based on the concept of optimum utilisation of the water resources of the region available to the two countries, Bangladesh insists that augmentation of the flow should be exclusively from the Ganga itself.

India's sincere efforts and desire to reach a settlement in a spirit of amity and mutual accommodation evoked no response from Bangladesh. Indeed, Bangladesh persisted in its inflexible position. Quite evidently, Bangladesh is seeking to internation-

alise the issue at the UN, instead of reaching an agreement with India through serious negotiations and in a good faith.

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CONVENTION ON MARITIME SATELLITES

India Signs, Convention on International Maritime Satellite

The following press release on the Convention on Maritime Satellites was issued in New Delhi on September 13, 1976:

India has signed a Convention to establish the International Maritime Satellite Organisation (INMARSAT), which will for the first time use satellites, to ensure the safety and efficiency of the world's merchant fleet.

46 other countries including the U.K., the U.S.A., the Soviet Union, France, Japan, Australia and Brazil, have also become signatories to the Convention, which was signed in London recently, after a three-day conference.

India would have a two per cent share in the working of the Organisation, which will have an initial budget of \$ 200 million (Rs. 180 crores). The proposed system is planned for operation in the early 1980s.

The Indian delegation to the Conference was led by Shri S. B. Lal, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Communications and included Shri P. G. Damle, Director-General, Overseas Communication Service.

The Ministry of Communications has been playing a crucial role over the last four years in evolving an acceptable framework for the proposed organisation. Thanks to

their efforts, the differences among the participating countries were ironed out. India's contribution was openly acknowledged by the Chairman of the London Conference. He complimented Shri Damle, who as President of the Inter-session Working Group, helped to bring about an agreement on several problems.

A chain of satellites orbiting the earth would make contacts with ships on the high seas faster and easier. The proposed organisation would improve communications on distress and safety of life at sea, efficiency in the management of ships and maritime correspondence facilities. The system could also provide navigational assistance at a later stage.

The system is of particular interest to Indian maritime shipping. Tankers, ore and bulk carriers, general cargo and passenger

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ships will be fitted for using the new system. Telecommunication traffic over the new system is expected to be 50 per cent in the Atlantic and 25 per cent each in the Pacific and Indian ocean areas.

India has 14 coastal stations to maintain communications with ships passing through the Indian ocean. She has thus a significant interest in providing the new facilities to assist and attract ships calling at her harbours and those passing through the Indian ocean. With better communication facilities, more foreign ships could be expected to avail of Indian port and repair facilities.

TERMINAL EQUIPMENT

It is pointed out that India has the capacity to manufacture the ground station facilities and the onboard terminal equipment to be carried by the ships for contacting the satellite. Since there will be a global changeover of technology in this field, India, with her good base in communication industry, can expect a share in the world market for shipboard satellite terminals.

INMARSAT will cooperate with similar

arrangements being made by the European Space Agency and the United States.

The preparatory Committee of the Conference will meet in January next.

INDIA USA UNITED KINGDOM FRANCE JAPAN AUSTRALIA BRAZIL CENTRAL AFRICAN
REPUBLIC RUSSIA

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INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Shri R. Jaipal's Statement at UN on Farakka Barrage

Following is the text of the statement of India's Permanent Representative at the UN, Shri R. Jaipal, on Farakka Barrage, made in the UN General Assembly on September 24, 1976:

My delegation desires to express its reservations concerning the decision of the General Assembly to include in its agenda item 121, proposed by Bangladesh and entitled "Situation arising out of unilateral withdrawal of Ganges waters at Farakka".

In the General Committee my delegation explained in detail the reasons for its opposition to the inscription of this item. I should like to restate them briefly here for the record.

The explanatory memorandum of Bangladesh makes certain allegations against India which we reject as being entirely without foundation in fact or in law.

India has consistently endeavoured to reach a mutually acceptable solution to the problem. Bilateral negotiations concerning withdrawals of water at the Farakka barrage began in 1974. There was an agreement concerning withdrawals of water only during the

lean season of 1975. Thereafter no agreement was possible because of lack of co-operation from Bangladesh. India therefore has not violated any agreement.

The explanatory memorandum of Bangladesh alleges that much damage was caused in certain parts of that country. Unfortunately, Bangladesh did not co-operate with India in making a joint, detailed assessment of the scope and extent of damage attributable directly to withdrawals of water at the Farakka barrage, so that remedial action could have been considered jointly where necessary.

Bangladesh has more than enough water, through abundant rainfall and three major river systems, to cover the entire country in a column of water 30 feet deep. In its eastern region India has to depend on only one major river system and on uncertain rainfall. The survival of our own people - 100 million of them - in that region depends

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upon our ensuring for them availability of adequate water during the dry season. We have a responsibility to our own people; we have to provide them the water necessary for their survival, through withdrawals at the Farakka barrage - something that we are fully entitled to do.

We think it is reasonable to expect Bangladesh, which has so much surplus water, to make optimal use of its own water resources to meet its requirements in the first instance.

There is, of course, a community of interests between the two countries. India has in fact offered to co-operate fully with Bangladesh in the development of the water resources in the region. We have shown our sincerity and our good faith, in negotiating with Bangladesh the sharing of the limited quantity of water available in the Ganga River during the period of its minimum flow on a fair and equitable basis, taking into account the legitimate interests and reasonable requirements of both countries. We have

made far-reaching proposals in this regard in order to accommodate Bangladesh to the maximum possible extent, but unhappily Bangladesh has rejected them outright.

Bangladesh's attitude appears to be that India should make available to it the entire natural flow of the River Ganga at Farakka, which would inevitably result in the closing down of the Farakka barrage, with all the ensuing consequences to the port of Calcutta and to the livelihood of the people of that entire eastern region. Bangladesh has, of course, no right of veto over our use of our own waters for beneficial purposes.

The nature of the problem is such that it can be solved only through bilateral talks in a spirit of mutual understanding, friendship and co-operation. The involvement of any third party, including the United Nations, is bound to complicate the situation, delay the solution and possibly worsen relations between the two countries.

In our opinion, the General Assembly would be well advised to leave it to the two parties to resolve the problem through discussions without any external interference.

INDIA BANGLADESH USA

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INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION CONFERENCE

Shri Om Mehta's Address to IPU Conference at Madrid

Following is the text of the Union Minister of Home and Parliamentary Affairs, Shri om Mehta's Address to the Inter-Parliamentary Union, Conference at Madrid on September 24, 1976:

At the outset I would like to express my feelings of happiness at the decision to hold this Conference of the Inter-Parliamentary Union at Madrid, the Capital of Spain. This is not the first time that Spain has hosted this Conference. The 29th Conference of the Union was held here in 1933, and the 100th Session of the Council in 1967. Spain, as we all know, has played an important role in the history of Europe; but, apart from this, we in India have admired Spain for her distinct culture and rich literature. I, and the other members of my delegation, look forward to knowing the friendly people of this beautiful country more intimately during our brief stay and sojourn here. I must also express our gratitude for the kindness and hospitality that the Government of Spain has already so lavishly bestowed on us.

We live in a fast moving world. The quest for abiding peace among nations is a constant exercise. The era of cold war and Power Blocs has proved its irrelevance, with

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the release from colonial domination of hundreds of millions of people who represent a resurgent world community today. We cannot, at the same time, overlook the fact that economic exploitation of some of the nations representing these peoples persists in one form or other, making them vulnerable to external pressures and influences. It is to be regretted that a posture of confrontation is created in certain areas by unwanted military presence. What is needed is a passion for peace and for civilized conduct in international relations. World peace to be real must encompass every nation, and the desire for detente has to be understood in this spirit. It is only through mutual trust and cooperation among all nations that a stable peace can be achieved.

Everyone assembled here is well aware of the racial discrimination and apartheid practised by the racist regimes of South Africa and Rhodesia. Systematic and inhuman denial of basic rights to the indigenous peoples in Southern Africa has troubled the

conscience of every thinking, sensitive individual in the world. Actually, it was Mahatma Gandhi who first launched the non-violent resistance movement against these discriminatory and uncivilized practices late in the 19th century. It was India which even before her own independence took up the issue of apartheid in the United Nations in 1946. It is our fervent hope that the oppression in Southern Africa will end and Namibia and Zimbabwe will soon join the ranks of civilized, independent nations and there will be majority rule in South Africa as well.

Turning for a moment to the subcontinent from where I come, I am happy to say that we are striving towards establishing a new era of fruitful cooperation and friendliness with our immediate neighbours. We have succeeded in restoring the communication links and resuming diplomatic relations with Pakistan, thus paving the way for cordiality and cooperation between the two countries. As observed by our Prime Minister Indira Gandhi:

Between neighbours problems are apt to arise sometimes. What is important is that solutions should be sought in a spirit of understanding and cooperation. We can only harm each other by pursuing a path of confrontation and hostility.

It is in this spirit that we have sought to work towards lasting peace in the sub-continent.

I might now proceed to refer to a notable event that took place very recently in Asia. I refer to the Conference of Heads of State Government of Non-aligned countries held in Sri Lanka in August last. This Conference was of particular significance to all developing countries. It is perhaps necessary to reiterate that the concept of non-alignment in no way represents a desire, or even an idea, of a separate bloc or a "Third World". In fact, this concept had taken shape in the long years of our national struggle much before Power blocs were formed. If I may quote Prime Minister Indira Gandhi again, "In a fast changing world, non-alignment remains

the bulwark of an ever-widening area of peace, a shield against external pressures and a catalyst of a new world economic order based on equality and justice". A large number of countries which are among the non-aligned are countries, it should be remembered, which had been dominated and crushed by colonial subjugation. The transition for these nations to independence and self-reliance is not an easy path.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, for quite some time we have been working to establish a new international economic order based on equality, sovereignty and interdependence of nations. I would particularly refer to the programme of action adopted during the Sixth and Seventh Special Sessions of the United Nations, and lately the negotiations conducted at the UNCTAD-IV. However, I must say that the real challenge lies in the implementation of various resolutions mentioned above. The developed nations had agreed to transfer to developing countries 1% of their GNP, with 0.70% as official development assistance on concessionary terms. From a little over 0.5% in 1973, the percentage of total financial resource transfer to total GNP from the developed to the developing countries declined to about 0.3 per cent in 1974. In this regard, the expectations that UNCTAD-IV would settle the principles and guidelines of debt relief have been belied. It would be recalled that the Second General Conference of UNIDO held in March, 1975 had recommended that the

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share of developing countries in manufacturing industry which was 7% in 1975 should increase to about 25% by the year 2000 AD. Here also progress has been tardy. Instability of the International Monetary System, in particular the uncertainty of the exchange rates, has already affected adversely the trade of developing countries. So far no effective steps seem to have been taken which would guarantee the real value of currency resources of the developing countries, nor is visible any effort towards securing effective participation of the developing countries in the decision making process concerning In-

ternational Monetary System.

The result unfortunately is that the gap between the developed and the developing countries continues to widen. The developing countries which constitute 70% of the world's population account for only 30% of the world income - there are indications that this share is going down. These trends, Mr. Chairman, do not contribute to a stable economic order in the world nor do they help in heralding an era free from tension. We are of the view that there exists a wide range of economic problems where solutions delayed means justice denied. Further, current events have brought into sharp focus the realisation that the interests of the developed nations and those of the developing countries can no longer be isolated from each other, and there is a closer inter-relationship between the prosperity of the developed countries and the growth and development of the developing countries. In this context, we must call upon the developed countries to implement the resolutions which they have subscribed.

I would now state a few subjects about which we - and I hope I reflect the feelings of the most of the developing countries - are particularly concerned and where urgent action on time-bound basis is called for. The first is the question of transfer of real resources and technology to the developing countries. Although major burden of development efforts has to be borne by the developing countries themselves, the external resources will be needed for quite some time to play an important supporting role. What may, however, be of considerable help to the national effort is the international framework within which these transfers operate. In this context, the Fifth Replenishment to IDA (International Development Agency) assumes special importance. IDA is the only window serving resource needs of the least developed countries and any set-back to its funding operations would retard general development efforts in such countries. We need to pay special attention to work out a code on Transfer of Technology without further delay. Urgent comprehensive action is called for to promote trade in commodities and manufacturing goods. Decision on connected issues

like the diversification of exports, access to markets, generalised scheme of preferences, non-tariff barriers, increase in the rate of growth of trade, become vital. Pending a long-term agreement on all these values, what is required to be done immediately is the enlargement of the scope of coverage and assurance on continuity of the generalised scheme of preferences.

The last decade has witnessed an increasing shortage of foodgrains in a large number of countries. It is generally felt that unless sufficient buffer stocks of foodgrains are maintained on a worldwide or regional basis it may become difficult to stave off starvation in some countries particularly those hit by various natural calamities. Financing such buffer stocks should engage our serious attention and particularly of the developed countries.

Agriculture forms the most dependable base for achieving self-reliance and sustained growth for most developing countries. In my own country, India, by adopting improved methods in the crop production technology during the past 10 years, making available inputs for intensive agriculture and pushing through an ambitious programme of land reforms vigorously, we have been able to generate a new wind of self-confidence. Through these and a series of other measures we have arrested inflation though the pressures of this global phenomena had led to several disturbing factors. We are also taking positive action to check population growth a step so vital to any planned development for many countries in similar situation. International support to agricultural development should receive a high priority and deserves special attention of the developed countries. It will go a long way in helping sustained growth of the developing countries.

I have dealt with the subject of international economic order at some length because of its importance as forming the

most relevant and reliable basis of economic relations between all peoples and all nations.

It needs to be emphasized that the prosperity of the international community as a whole depends upon the prosperity of all its constituent parts.

SPAIN INDIA USA NAMIBIA ZIMBABWE SOUTH AFRICA PAKISTAN SRI LANKA RUSSIA

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MONGOLIAN PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC

Indo-Mongolian Joint Communique

Following is the text of the Indo-Mongolian joint communique issued at the conclusion of the official visit of Shri Y. B. Chavan, Minister of External Affairs, to the Mongolian People's Republic from September 4 to 8, 1976:

At the invitation of the Government of the Mongolian People's Republic, His Excellency Shri Y. B. Chavan, Minister of External Affairs of the Republic of India, paid an official and friendly visit to the Mongolian People's Republic from September 4 to 8, 1976.

The Minister of External Affairs of the Republic of India called on His Excellency Mr. Jambyn Batmunkh, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Mongolian People's Republic and conveyed to him the greetings of the Prime Minister of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi.

During their stay in the Mongolian People's Republic, the Minister of External Affairs of the Republic of India and his party visited several industrial and agricultural enterprises and also some cultural establishments in Ulan Bator and Darkhan.

The Minister of External Affairs of the Republic of India and the Foreign Minister of the Mongolian People's Republic had talks which were held in an atmosphere of friendship, cordiality and complete mutual understanding. In the course of these talks, the two Foreign Ministers exchanged views on bilateral relations as well as on topical international issues of mutual interest. They noted with deep satisfaction the broad coincidence of their views.

The two Foreign Ministers expressed deep satisfaction at the continuing fruitful development of relations of friendship between Mongolia and India for the benefit of the peoples of the two countries and in the interests of the cause of peace and international security. They reaffirmed the determination of their governments to further strengthen and expand the political, trade, cultural and other ties between the two countries in the spirit and on the basis of the principles embodied in the Joint Declaration issued in 1973 at the time of the visit to India of the Prime Minister of the Mongolian People's Republic.

The Foreign Minister of the Mongolian People's Republic informed the Minister of External Affairs of the Republic of India of the achievements recorded by the Mongolian people in their economic and cultural development and of the new tasks put forward at the 17th Congress of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party and also acquainted him with the activities of the Mongolian People's Republic in the field of foreign policy in the interest of promoting peace and security in Asia and the world over. The Minister of External Affairs of the Government of India expressed his government's deep appreciation of the successes achieved by the Mongolian people under the leadership of the Government of the Mongolian People's Republic in social and economic

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development and of the foreign policy, based on peace and international cooperation, pursued by the Mongolian People's Republic.

The Minister of External Affairs of the

Republic of India informed the Foreign Minister of the Mongolian People's Republic of the Progress made by the Indian people through the implementation of various measures taken by the Government of India for developing the country's economy and for improving the living standards of the Indian people. He also informed his Mongolian counterpart of the initiatives taken by the Government of India to normalise and improve relations with neighbouring countries in the interests of promoting peace, mutual understanding and good-neighbourliness. The Foreign Minister of the Mongolian People's Republic expressed his government's full sympathy and support to the efforts of the people of India and their government aimed at solving the socioeconomic problems facing the country and its high appreciation of the peace-loving foreign policy of India based on the principles of non-alignment and peaceful co-existence between the states. He also expressed his government's high appreciation of the efforts and initiatives taken by the Prime Minister of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, towards normalising and improving relations among the countries in the Indian sub-continent.

The Minister of External Affairs of the Republic of India informed his Mongolian counterpart of the significant achievements of the Fifth Summit Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-aligned countries held in Colombo, Sri Lanka, in August, 1976. He emphasised the importance attached by the Government of India to the development and strengthening of the non-alignment movement. The Foreign Minister of the Mongolian People's Republic expressed his government's appreciation of the consistent policy of the Government of India in upholding the principles of non-alignment and promoting peace in the world. Both Foreign Ministers agreed in their appraisal of the positive contribution made by the non-alignment movement to the common struggle for peace and security of Nations, for the elimination of the vestiges of colonialism, neo-colonialism, racial discrimination and the policy of apartheid, in defence of independence and freedom of all peoples and for the establishment of relations between states on

the basis of respect for national sovereignty, equality and mutual benefit.

The two Foreign Ministers welcomed the successful conclusion of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe which constitutes a land-mark in the relaxation of international tensions and expressed their confidence that the process of detente will spread to other regions of the world.

The two Foreign Ministers paid special attention to the situation in Asia. The two Foreign Ministers attached special importance to strengthening peace and stability by common efforts and promoting mutually beneficial economic cooperation among the States of Asia.

The two Foreign Ministers reaffirmed their support for the concept of the establishment of the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace and came out against the setting up of foreign military bases in the area.

They reiterated their support to the aspiration of the people of South-East Asia to live in conditions of peace, independence and cooperation among them without external interference and for the withdrawal of foreign troops and the liquidation of military bases in the region. In particular, they noted with satisfaction the fact that the restoration of peace in Indo-China has greatly contributed to the stabilization of the situation throughout Asia and the world. They welcomed the reunification of Vietnam and expressed their full support for the speedy admission of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam as a member of the United Nations. They also welcomed the emergence of the Lao People's Democratic Republic as well as Democratic Kampuchea.

The two Foreign Ministers expressed concern over the situation in the Korean peninsula and consider that there is an urgent need for creating conditions that would facilitate the establishment of lasting peace and the peaceful reunification in conformity with the aspirations and interests of the Korean people.

The two Foreign Ministers expressed concern over the situation in West Asia. They emphasised that a just political settlement of the crisis can come about only on the basis

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of the speedy withdrawal of Israeli troops from all the Arab territories occupied by Israel in 1967, on meeting the legitimate demands of the Palestinian people, including the right of all states of the region to independent existence and development. In this connection, the two Foreign Ministers declared themselves in favour of the early resumption of the Geneva Peace Conference with the participation of all parties concerned, including the Palestinian people represented by the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

The Foreign Ministers expressed the need to bring about an immediate and lasting cease-fire in Lebanon and for the settlement of the crisis situation in that country on the basis of strict respect for the Independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Lebanon.

The two Foreign Ministers agreed that the Cyprus question should be settled through the implementation of the relevant United Nations resolutions and on the basis of independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Cyprus.

The two Foreign Ministers agreed on the imperative need for the cessation of the arms race and the realisation of general and complete disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament. They welcomed the finalisation in the Committee of Disarmament of the draft International Convention on the prohibition of military or any other hostile use of environmental modification techniques. They also expressed their support for the conclusion of an agreement on prohibition of the production of new types of weapons of mass destruction. They also reiterated their support for the conclusion of a world treaty on the non-use of force in international relations. They came out in favour of the early convening of a World Disarmament Conference.

The Foreign Ministers expressed their strong support for the struggle of the peoples of Southern Africa against colonialism, neo-colonialism, racial discrimination and apartheid. They noted the importance of the victory of the progressive national forces under the leadership of MPLA in Angola in the struggle against armed intervention and for the establishment of the sovereign state of the People's Republic of Angola. They also expressed the hope that the peoples of Zimbabwe and Namibia will soon shake off the yoke of colonialism and racial domination and take their lawful place in the comity of nations.

The Foreign Ministers came out in support for the establishment of a new international economic order free from discrimination and exploitation and based on justice and equality.

The two Foreign Ministers reaffirmed their determination to work for the further strengthening of the United Nations as an important instrument of maintaining peace and security and for enhancing its role and effectiveness on the basis of strict compliance with the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter.

The two Foreign Ministers expressed their confidence that the visit of the Minister of External Affairs of the Republic of India to the Mongolian People's Republic and the talks held during the course of the visit would promote the further development of the friendly relations and cooperation between the two countries.

The Minister of External Affairs of the Republic of India expressed his deep gratitude to the Government of the Mongolian People's Republic for the hospitality and warm welcome extended to him and to the members of his party. He extended an invitation to Foreign Minister of the Mongolian People's Republic to pay an official visit to India. The invitation was accepted with thanks.

MONGOLIA USA INDIA MALI SRI LANKA CHINA VIETNAM KOREA ISRAEL SWITZERLAND
LEBANON CYPRUS ANGOLA NAMIBIA ZIMBABWE

Date : Sep 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

NAURU

India-Nauru Agreement on Phosphoric Acid Plant

The following press release on the India-Nauru agreement ml phosphoric acid plant was issued in New Delhi on September 27, 1976:

India and the Republic of Nauru have agreed to set up a joint venture project for the production of Phosphoric Acid in India following discussions here between Shri K. D. Malaviya, Minister for Petroleum, who is currently holding charge of the Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilisers also, and H.E. Mr. Mammer DeRoburt, Minister for Development and Industry of the Republic of Nauru.

A Memorandum of understanding to this effect was signed here today by Shri K. D. Malaviya on behalf of the Government of India and by H.E. Mr. R. B. Detedamo, Minister of Works of the Republic of Nauru. The two Governments have agreed that they would designate the Corporation which would participate in the share capital of the new company to be formed for the purpose of implementing the proposed joint venture.

The total capital cost of the Phosphoric Acid project was estimated at around Rs. 40 crores. The limited foreign exchange component of the estimated capital cost of the project was expected to be adequately covered by the equity contribution from Nauru who may be allowed to hold equity in the new company to the extent of 40 per cent, in accordance with the normal policy of the

Indian Government in such cases.

On the basis of an initial capacity of 1,00,000 tonnes of P2O5 the annual requirement of Rock Phosphate was expected to be 3,00,000 tonnes. It was indicated during the talks that Nauru might be able to supply large quantities upto 1 million tonnes of Rock Phosphate if mutually acceptable terms could be worked out.

Regarding price of Rock Phosphate to be supplied by Nauru, it was agreed that this should take into account the interests of the new company to be formed as also of the two participants in the company viz., Nauru which would be supplier of Rock Phosphates and the Indian corporation which would be the user of the Phosphoric Acid produced in the plant.

The delegations of the two countries agreed to pursue the matter further in the light of discussions held during the last four days. Discussions will be resumed at a very early date with a view to finalise the joint venture proposal as quickly as possible.

NAURU INDIA USA

Date : Sep 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Indo-Soviet Protocol on Supply of Steel Plant Equipment

The following press release on the Indo-Soviet protocol on supply of steel plant equipment was issued in New Delhi on September 14, 1976:

A formal agreement was signed here last night between India and the Soviet Union, under which this country will supply 30,000

tonnes of metallurgical equipment for steel plants to the Soviet Union. The formal protocol was signed by Mr. Semenov, Soviet Deputy Minister for Heavy Machine Building, and Shri Mantosh Sondhi, Secretary, Department, of Heavy Industry, Government of India.

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The equipment will be manufactured by the Heavy Engineering Corporation, Ranchi, and the supply will be spread over a period of years from 1977 to 1980. Initially, the Soviet Union is placing orders for 15,000 tonnes of equipment with the HEC. The order for the remaining quantity will be placed in due course of time. This is the biggest export order that the HEC has ever received. It marks the implementation of the concept of complementarity in production between the Soviet Union and India, which was envisaged during the discussions in the third meeting of the Indo-Soviet Joint Commission. With its high standards of technological accomplishment and efficiency, the Heavy Engineering Corporation, Ranchi, is confident of meeting all the requirements of the Soviet Union in conformity with the stringent Soviet specifications and also to maintain the delivery schedules.

The Soviet team, headed by Mr. Semenov, has been in India since September 3, 1976. They have visited the HEC plants at Ranchi and seen for themselves the designing and manufacturing capabilities. They had high praise for Indian designers and technicians.

INDIA USA RUSSIA

Date : Sep 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

UNITED KINGDOM

Foreign Minister's Speech at Dinner in Honour of Mrs. Thatcher

The Minister of External Affairs, Shri Y. B. Chavan, made the following speech at the dinner in honour of the Rt. Hon'able Mrs. Margaret Thatcher, Leader of the Conservative Party of the United Kingdom in New Delhi on September 22, 1976:

It is with great pleasure that I rise to welcome our very distinguished guests to India. The Rt. Honourable Mrs. Margaret Thatcher, Leader of the British Conservative Party, is no stranger to this country. We had the privilege of receiving her in 1973 as Secretary of State for Education & Science. We have watched with interest and admiration her sure-footed rise to leadership. As a nation that has always respected women and has tried to give them their due place in all fields of human endeavour, we are happy that a woman should have reached the top of one of the great political parties of Britain.

We are happy that Mr. Thatcher, who has had a distinguished career in business and industry, is accompanying you. To him as well as the other members of Your party may I extend a hearty welcome and say how Pleased we are to have them with us.

Our relations with your country have always been close. We are separated by geography but history brought us together. As the world grows more interdependent, we look forward to a cooperative future. We both believe in the progress and development of the human family in peace and dignity. We value our friendly and multifaceted relationship which is not confined to the two Governments but encompasses a broad sweep of people to people contacts at all levels. We appreciate the economic assistance that Britain gives us on generous terms and the cooperation that the British nation has extended in a variety of ways for our economic development. A number of your countrymen are still living and working in India, making their due contribution to India's development and progress. They pursue their vocations

undisturbed and carry back memories of Indian warmth and tolerance. We hope that the large number of Indians who have made Britain their home and have made an undoubted contribution to British life will also

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be enabled to integrate themselves and live in peace and harmony.

You have personally campaigned for the responsibilities that must be borne and the duties that must be undertaken before one can demand rights. You have championed the right of the enterprising, the hardworking and the thrifty to succeed and to reap the rewards of success and pass some of them on to their children.

During your stay here you will, therefore, understand what we, in India, are trying to do. We want to build a society in which benefits of new technology, economic progress and indeed prosperity will be shared by all. We too seek for our people the encouragement they deserve for skill, hard work and discipline. Economic and social justice is the real foundation of liberty for the broad masses. To this task we have dedicated ourselves and nothing can deflect us from the goal. In our development we regard national commitment as a vital factor.

It is a pity you are spending so little time in India. But even in this short period you will see how spontaneously and enthusiastically the large majority of the Indian people have given their support to the measures that the Government has taken against disruptionist forces which threatened the integrity of our country and our democratic way of life. The people of India have welcomed and extended their full cooperation to the economic, political and social programmes which have brought impressive gains by any yardstick and have filled all of us with hope, confidence and a sense of purpose.

We are a peace-loving country. Peace is essential for our future. We do not seek to dominate any one or to deliberately create

difficulties for others. We seek only to preserve our identity, independence and unity and to ensure that we are able to develop and progress in peace. It is in keeping with these ideals that we promote non-alignment which the Prime Minister has aptly described as "the courage of true independence". We earnestly believe in the efficacy and need for increased international understanding and co-operation in order to reduce divisions and disparities. And we welcome all initiatives which promote a dialogue among nations towards the consolidation of peace. We cherish our association with the Commonwealth which has developed into a unique multi-racial association of independent nations with a distinctive role to play in promoting international understanding.

May I once again say how happy we are to have you with us? I am confident that your visit, which is in the tradition of friendly Indo-British exchanges, will further enrich them and add to mutual understanding.

May I request you to join me in a toast to our distinguished guests the Rt. Hon'ble Mrs. Margaret Thatcher and Mr. Denis Thatcher and to wish them both health, happiness and much success in the service of their country and of Indo-British friendship.

INDIA OMAN CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC USA

Date : Sep 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

UNITED KINGDOM

Mrs. Thatcher's Reply

Replying, the Rt. Hon. Mrs. Margaret Thatcher, Leader of the Conservative Party

in the U.K., made the following speech:

I last came to India in April 1973 as Secretary of State for Education and Science in the Conservative Government of that time. In the course of my stay I visited several universities and technical colleges and was able to travel a little more extensively than my very brief visit allows me on this occasion.

I obtained a fuller appreciation of the importance of agriculture and the rural areas to the whole Indian economy. I was particularly interested to learn of the work being done in agricultural development, which is so vital to the success of the green revolution.

On that first visit I felt and understood the strong attraction which India had for so many of my countrymen. Lord Curzon summed up his feelings on this when he wrote to Alfred Lyttelton, the father of Lord Chandos: "No one is an Englishman who has not been to India. It is a vast mystery, a prodigious experience, a genuine glory." All too few Englishmen nowadays are fortunate

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enough to visit your country. This is one reason why I was so pleased to receive, and to be able to accept, the invitation from your Government to come here in my new role as Leader of the Conservative Party.

The stories of our two nations are written together on some of the pages of history. That history has taken on new patterns in the last thirty years. Today we find ourselves facing some of the same economic problems: world recession, inflation, the impact of dramatic increases in the price of oil. In the last 18 months you have met with considerable success in tackling these seemingly universal problems. Inflation is no longer a main worry, and your balance of trade is healthy. Like us, you are striving in the hazardous conditions of offshore waters to reduce your dependence on others for your oil supplies. You are broadening and strengthening the whole economic base.

But other problems differ in kind and

scale. You have a massive population which must be fed regardless of the vagaries of nature, and who naturally will hope for a higher standard of living in the future.

It is sometimes difficult for us to appreciate the size and scale of your problems, and only those who know them from experience can prescribe the remedies. Even when nations have successfully abolished poverty, ignorance and disease, difficulties remain. All of us have to learn the responsibilities as well as the rights of citizenship.

The way forward is so often the one in which changes are made in accordance with the customs and conventions of the country, working always towards a goal which accords human dignity and respect to its people.

In the same way as you have a number of British people working here, so we have an Indian community in Britain which, by engaging in many different occupations and professions, makes a real contribution to the life of the nation.

Like you, we look to a harmonious future which can only be achieved by recognising that we are all equal before the law, and equally entitled to live our own lives in freedom and dignity.

One purpose of my visit is to build a deeper understanding between us. I particularly look forward to meeting once again your Prime Minister. It always gives me personal pleasure to know that we share a common experience in education, having both spent some time at Somerville College'. Oxford.

Without personal contact between leaders I believe that real understanding is not possible. My present visit is all too short, but I know that I shall leave with happy memories of a kind and generous hospitality and a fuller appreciation of India and her peoples. This must serve to strengthen the ties between our two countries in the years ahead.

UNITED KINGDOM INDIA USA

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Date : Oct 01, 1976

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CANADA

Indo-Canadian Grant and Loan Agreements

The following press release on the Indo-Canadian grant and loan agreements was issued in New Delhi on October 27, 1976:

India will receive a grant of C\$ 6 million for import of rapeseed oil and a loan of C\$ 10 million for import of potash fertilizer from Canada. Two agreements were signed here today between the two countries by Shri M. G. Kaul, Secretary of the Department of Economic Affairs in the Ministry of Finance and His Excellency Mr. John R. Maybee, Canadian High Commissioner in India.

Today's grant agreement supplements a similar grant for C\$ 6 million received in June this year. The total Canadian grant for wheat and rapeseed oil taken together has been of the order of C\$ 50 million annually in the last three years.

The loan is on the usual soft terms applicable to Canadian Development assistance. It is repayable in 50 years with a grace period of 10 years and carries no interest, commitment or service charges.

Under the terms of the loan agreement the Canadian International Development Agency will finance the cost of the Potash fertiliser in addition to payment of ocean freight for the shipment.

Today's loan of C\$ 10 million is the fourth special loan extended to India by Canada in the last four years for the import of fertilizer from Canada. Out of the

earlier three loans, two were utilised by India for the import of potash and one was partly for potash and partly for sulphur.

Canada agreed in the Consortium meeting held in Paris in May this year to provide to India aid to the extent of C\$ 60 million in the current year. Against this commitment, Canada has since made available to India wheat grant worth C\$ 40 million and rapeseed oil grant worth C\$ 6 million. With the signing of today's agreement the total Canadian assistance for the current year rises to C\$ 62 million.

In 1974-75, India received grants of C\$ 25 million for wheat and C\$ 21.70 million for rapeseed oil from Canada. Last year Canadian grants for wheat and rapeseed oil had amounted to C\$ 45.20 million and 8 million respectively. In 1974-75, India received loans of C\$ 10 million for import of fertilizer and the same amount was also received last year for fertilizer. Besides, last year India also got loan of C\$ 3 million for Oil and Natural Gas Commission.

CANADA INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC FRANCE

Date : Oct 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

CONVENTION ON WELD LIFE

India Signs Convention on Wild Life

The following press release on India signing the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora was issued in New Delhi on October 23, 1976:

The Government of India has signed the 'Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and

Flora', with a view to prevent commercial exploitation of wild life through global trade, both legal and illegal. India has thus become a party to this Convention from the 18th of October this year, after having deposited the instrument, of ratification.

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The Convention provides for strict regulation over export, particularly of those species of animals which are threatened with extinction. It also includes those species which although not imminently threatened may become so unless trade in them is subject to strict regulation. The Convention, further includes all species which any party identifies as being subject to regulation within its jurisdiction for the purpose of preventing or restricting exploitation, and those needing the cooperation of other countries in the control of trade.

Each country, under the Convention, is required to designate the competent authorities for granting permits and certificates. Those appointed by the Indian Government are the Inspector General of Forests and the Director of Wild life Preservation, both of the Union Department of Agriculture. The Scientific authorities selected are the Botanical Survey of India, the Zoological Survey of India and the Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (Cochin).

The other 26 countries which have ratified the Convention are: United States of America; Nigeria; Switzerland; Tunisia; Sweden; Cyprus; United Arab Emirates; Ecuador; Chile; Uruguay; Canada; Mauritius; Nepal; Peru; Costa Rica; South Africa; Brazil; Madagascar; Niger; German Democratic Republic; Morocco; Ghana; Papua New Guinea; Federal Republic of Germany; Pakistan and Finland.

INDIA USA NIGER NIGERIA SWITZERLAND TUNISIA CYPRUS SWEDEN UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
CANADA CHILE ECUADOR URUGUAY COSTA!!NEPAL PERU SOUTH AFRICA BRAZIL CENTRAL
AFRICAN REPUBLIC MADAGASCAR GHANA MOROCCO GERMANY GUINEA FINLAND PAKISTAN

Date : Oct 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

DENMARK

Indo-Danish Joint Communiqué

Following is the text of the Indo-Danish joint communiqué issued at the end of the visit of Mr. Ivon Norgaard, Minister for Foreign Economic Affairs of Denmark, to India from October 25 to 30, 1976:

H.E. Mr. Ivon Norgaard, Minister for Foreign Economic Affairs of the Government of Denmark, visited India from 25th October to 30th October, 1976, at the invitation of Prof. D. P. Chattopadhyaya, Minister of Commerce, Government of India. The Danish Minister, who was accompanied by a delegation comprising officials, representatives of Danish trade associations and companies, and media representatives, held wide-ranging discussions on Indo-Danish trade, economic and industrial co-operation, and multilateral issues. The discussions took place in a friendly and cordial atmosphere.

The Danish Minister was received by the Indian Prime Minister and the Ministers of External Affairs and Industries of the Government of India.

The discussions with the Minister of Commerce covered a review of bilateral trade, industrial and economic co-operation, and multilateral issues, including those relating to UNCTAD, EEC and the CIEC.

Both the Ministers agreed that the level of Indo-Danish trade and economic co-operation was not commensurate with the potential of the two economies. It was agreed that both sides would take active measures

to expand and diversify trade and economic co-operation.

The Danish side expressed the hope that credits extended would be utilised at an early date, and preferably for large value projects. The Indian side took note of the Danish suggestion and explained the steps being taken in that direction.

In the official discussions and discussions arranged between the business delegation from Denmark and the Indian industrialists by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry, a number of areas

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for cooperation were identified, which include fishery development, feed mill machinery. Food and meat processing, coal-based boilers, foundry equipment, liquid ammonia plants, furniture manufacture, and machinery for garment industry. It was agreed that the contacts established between the businessmen of the two countries would be continued through the trade associations of the two countries. In this connection, the Danish delegation informed the Indian delegation of the financing facilities available to investors for setting up joint ventures through the Danish Industrialisation Fund for Developing Countries. The Indian side appreciated it and agreed to make known the possibility to Indian investors.

On multilateral issues, there was an exchange of views on the follow-up of the decisions at UNCTAD-IV on commodity, debt problems, and other issues. The Indian side expressed appreciation of the positive and constructive stand taken by Denmark in various international forums on these issues. There was mutual agreement on the need to take early steps to resolve major issues confronting the developing countries in a spirit of cooperation so as to further the efforts towards the establishment of the New International Economic Order.

DENMARK INDIA USA RUSSIA

Date : Oct 01, 1976

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HUNGARY

Indo-Hungarian Protocol on Equivalence of Degrees

The following press release on the Indo-Hungarian protocol on equivalence of degrees was issued in New Delhi on October 23, 1976:

A protocol was signed in New Delhi between the Republic of India, and the Hungarian People's Republic on October 23, 1976, on the equivalence of certificates, degrees and diplomas awarded by secondary schools, universities and other higher institutions of equal standard. Prof. S. Nurul Hasan, Minister of Education, Social Welfare and Culture, has signed on behalf of the Government of India. Dr. Karloy Polinszky, Minister of Education, Hungarian People's Republic who is on a short visit to India, has signed on behalf of the Government of Hungarian People's Republic.

According to the protocol, the Higher Secondary School Leaving Certificate Pre-University Certificate in India will be equivalent to the certificate awarded after passing the final examination at the end of 12-year schooling in gymnasium or a specialized secondary school in the Hungarian People's Republic. Ph.D. degree awarded by universities and institutions of higher learning in India will be treated as equivalent to the degree of 'Candidate of Science' awarded by the Committee for Scientific qualifications in the Hungarian People's Republic. The degree of Doctor of Science, Letters, Literature and Laws awarded by universities in India will be recognised as equivalent to the Doctor of Science degree awarded by the Committee for Scientific qualifications in the Hungarian People's Republic.

The protocol is yet another milestone in the process of further strengthening of friendly relations and promoting the mutually beneficial cooperation in the field of higher education between the peoples of both the countries. It will enable exchange of scholars between the countries for study and research and for employment in educational, scientific or research institutions.

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INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Foreign Minister's Address to UN General Assembly

Following is the text of the statement made by the External Affairs Minister, Mr. Y. B. Chavan, at the plenary session of the UN General Assembly on October 4, 1976:

Mr. President: Let me begin by extending to you my Government's warm congratulations on your unanimous election to be President of the 31st session of the General Assembly. We are happy indeed that this high office has been filled by your country this year, and that the choice has fallen on you in particular. It is a mark of international tribute to Sri Lanka and its noteworthy role in the United Nations. It is also yet another mark of recognition of your own wide experience and skill in conference diplomacy. We feel sure that the success of the 31st session is in safe hands.

I wish to place on record also our appreciation of the work of your distinguished

predecessor, the Prime Minister of Luxembourg, who under difficult circumstances maintained a high standard of leadership and objectivity.

It is customary for us to say a few words about our distinguished Secretary-General, Dr. Kurt Waldheim. He has tried always to represent the United Nations as accurately as possible. He has reaffirmed his faith in the United Nations when it was most needed. His loyalty to the principles and purposes of the United Nations has been demonstrated on many an occasion, when a lesser man might have faltered. We wish him many more years of dedicated service to the United Nations.

We are glad to welcome Seychelles, our youngest member. The attainment of its independence through peaceful constitutional means is a tribute to the maturity of its people and its leaders.

It is unfortunate that Vietnam and Angola have not yet been admitted to the United Nations, despite their clear entitlement to membership. The peoples of these two countries have had to wage prolonged and bitter struggles for winning their national independence, and having won their birthright, their Governments have applied for admission to the United Nations. This is a remarkable manifestation of their belief that the best guarantee of their independence and future developments lies in joining the United Nations. And yet, our doors remain closed to them for reasons that do not carry conviction. We feel sure, therefore, that there will be a change of heart. We reaffirm our support for the admission of Vietnam and Angola and we have every expectation that they will soon be seated among us.

An important recent event was the Fifth Non-aligned Summit Conference held in Colombo in August, 1976. It was the largest ever of its kind and demonstrated that despite their diversity, non-aligned countries are united in their struggle for freedom, equality and peace. The fact that most states on attaining independence from colonial rule have joined the non-aligned family

is proof of the continued validity and importance of nonalignment. My Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi stated at the Colombo Summit that in a fast changing world non-alignment remains the bulwark of the ever widening area of peace, a shelter against external pressures and a catalyst for a new world economic order based on equality and justice. The action programme of economic co-operation adopted by the Colombo Summit is a significant achievement and provides a basis for further collective action.

Mr. President, the United Nations has now been in existence for 30 years and it has seen dramatic changes in the world. It has survived the years of the cold war and has entered a period of detente between the great Powers. It has managed to contain situations of active hostilities and in the process it has acquired useful experience in peace-keeping operations. Its membership has increased rapidly and the United Nations has become a hallmark of independence of countries that have liberated themselves from colonial rule.

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The United Nations stands for the promise of peace, equality, justice and full opportunities for the common man everywhere. When one examines the resolutions adopted by the United Nations on a wide variety of subjects, one sees that a quiet revolution has been taking place during the last 20 years - a revolution in the realm of ideas about the quality of peace and the quality of life for all in the future.

On the one hand, the United Nations has been trying to cope with current problems and controversies. Sometimes these are issues that could be resolved outside the United Nations by the countries concerned. It is our belief that if the United Nations is to survive and grow into a co-operative organisation equipped to deal with problems of the future, we should not unduly burden it with issues that lend themselves to solutions outside the United Nations in conformity with the principles of its Charter. After all, Article 2, para 3 of the Charter stipulates that all members shall settle their disputes

themselves by peaceful means in such a manner that international peace and security and justice are not endangered.

On the other hand, there are other types of issues that concern a number of countries and they seem to need the healing hand of the United Nations. But the experience of dealing with even such issues indicates that in the final analysis it is necessary for the parties directly involved to sit together and negotiate practical and reasonable solutions to their mutual benefit. This is as true of the Cyprus question as it is of the Korean question or any other such question for that matter. We wish to draw attention to this basic fact of life, because it is often forgotten in the early stage of most problems. As a consequence the credibility of the United Nations is placed under increasing strain.

Mr. President, issues that directly pose a continued threat to international peace and security merit our attention as a matter of priority. The situation in the Middle East has been a source of grave anxiety. Another war in that region will affect all of us in one way or other. It will almost certainly plunge the peoples of that region into disasters of unprecedented magnitude. The continuing civil war in Lebanon makes us very sad, because of the heavy loss of life and destruction of property. It has also added a new dimension to an already complex situation.

There is no doubt that peace must come eventually to that troubled part of the world. The essential ingredients for a peace settlement have already been set out in Security Council resolutions 242 and 338. In subsequent resolutions the United Nations has recognised the national rights of the Palestinian people and affirmed the vital importance of the exercise of those rights for the maintenance of peace in that region. The root of the problem, of course, is the continuing occupation of Arab lands and territories by Israel. Ways and means must be found soon for implementing the Security Council resolutions and a proper climate for their implementation should be quickly created by an early resumption of the work of the Geneva conference.

The process of decolonisation has maintained its momentum everywhere, except in southern Africa. We had hoped that after the withdrawal of Portuguese colonialism, white minority rule elsewhere in southern Africa would quickly yield to majority rule. But it would seem that our hopes were based on wrong premises. The National Liberation Movements have been left with no option but to resort to armed struggle. It is particularly sad that the peoples of southern Africa should have to make many more sacrifices before winning their freedom, because it is within the competence of the United Nations to prevent them by taking enforcement action.

In Zimbabwe the time is overdue for the introduction of majority rule. The question of a constitution, safeguards for minorities, etc., surely must follow the establishment of majority rule. Diplomatic efforts are being made by frontline African states and others to resolve the problem democratically and peacefully through negotiations. The regime of Ian Smith clearly has no basis in law (or) the will of the people, and it must yield to majority rule without any delay if further bloodshed is to be avoided. The United Kingdom whose legal responsibility continues could play a helpful role at the present juncture.

It is necessary to remind ourselves that the territory of Namibia has international status and that South Africa's presence there is illegal. South Africa's open challenge to the authority of the United Nations has remained unanswered in effective terms. Al-

most every member of this Organisation agrees that steps should be taken to retrieve in practice what the United Nations locally holds in trust, which is the territory of Namibia and the destiny of its people. But nothing has been done so far except to adopt recommendatory resolutions. Nothing could cause greater harm to the credibility of the United Nations than its failure to assume

in practice responsibility for what belongs to it in law. The implications of this should be squarely faced by those countries that support the legal position but are not prepared to enforce it. Here again, diplomacy seems to be at work to bring together representatives of the people of Namibia to discuss and agree upon the process towards their independence within a short period of time. The United Nations cannot afford to fail in Namibia, because the members of this organisation have a collective legal responsibility for its independence.

The infamous policy of apartheid, which is the device employed by the white minority regime in South Africa to perpetuate its rule, has been roundly Condemned by nearly all members of the United Nations. That policy, racist in concept and rooted in slavery, contains within itself the seeds of its own violent destruction. It is a flagrant violation of the concept of equality of human beings regardless of colour Or race. We see already the beginning of its end and we hope it will be peaceful. We extend our sympathies to the victims or racist oppression in Soweto and Cape Town.

We hope that the white rulers in South Africa in order to avoid further loss of life and property will give up the policy of apartheid and replace it with a forward-looking enlightened policy that will enable all persons, regardless of race or colour, to live together on a basis of complete equality. The intention of the white South African Government to grant so-called independence to Transkei and to create similar Bantustans is no solution. It is nothing more than the logical extension of the policy of apartheid and is intended to create satellite black areas without any real independence. It will intensify racial discrimination rather than eliminate it, and it should be rejected by the United Nations.

Turning now to some other important problems, may I mention that while we have welcomed the state of detente in East-West relations, we have always stressed that efforts to consolidate and intensify detente should respond positively to the anxieties and aspirations of the rest of the world. This can best be done through meaningful disarmament.

ment measures, through implementing agreed measures for securing a rational and equitable new economic order, and through non-interference in the internal affairs of developing countries. It is only through such steps that detente can spread to all regions and create its own momentum for establishing mutually co-operative and beneficial relations between all states.

The frightful dilemma facing mankind today is the incredible accretion of enormous military power by a few countries and their seeming inability to de-escalate the arms race. They seem to be under a strange compulsion to race faster and faster in order to remain in the same position of parity. The price of this parity is reported to be of the order of US dollars 300 billion per annum. at present. Despite the astronomical waste involved in the diversion of vast resources for achieving the so-called balance of strategic power or mutual deterrence, war continues to remain a likely consequence. It is significant that the United States Secretary of State should have cautioned that "any one of the current regional crises could blossom into a larger conflict".

The rest of the world cannot remain insensitive to this prospect. It seems unlikely that there will be significant progress in social reform and economic development in developing countries as long as world military expenditure continues to grow at the present rate. My delegation has been among the foremost to propose a variety of disarmament measures since 1950 but it is regrettable that little progress has been made. The need for a world disarmament conference has become increasingly urgent. It might be useful by way of preparation to have a special session of the General Assembly to be devoted exclusively to disarmament. If we can have world conferences on space, atomic energy, environment, human settlements, trade and development, and so on, there is even greater reason and greater urgency for organising a world conference on disarmament.

Mr. President, several speakers have referred to the problem of the non-prolifer-

ation of nuclear weapons. India has consistently supported efforts in the direction of achieving nuclear disarmament. We are surprised that attempts are continuously being made to confuse the question of non-proliferation of nuclear weapons with the legitimate rights of all member states to engage themselves in programmes involving peaceful uses of nuclear energy. We reject the thesis that access to the benefits of nuclear energy should be limited only to a few nations, or that only some countries can be trusted to behave in a responsible manner in embarking upon and implementing programmes in the area of the peaceful uses of the nuclear energy.

The initiative of the USSR in proposing a treaty of non-use of force in international relations is a positive step and deserves the most careful consideration by the General Assembly. It is in fact an attempt to elaborate the principle already enshrined in Article 2, para 4 of the Charter that all members shall refrain from the threat or use of force in their international relations.

Another initiative of the USSR, which is of direct interest to us, is the statement made by the Foreign Minister of the Soviet Union the other day that this country has "no intention of building any military bases in the Indian Ocean area and that it is prepared, together with other powers, to seek ways of reducing on a reciprocal basis the military activities of non-coastal states in the zone of the Indian Ocean". This is a welcome statement. We trust that it will be reciprocated by other great Powers so that existing foreign military bases such as Diego Garcia are eliminated and the declaration of the General Assembly that the Indian Ocean shall be a zone of peace can become a reality.

India attaches great importance to the work of the U.N. Conference on the Law of the Sea. While it has succeeded in evolving a consensus on many important issues, the search for a consensus is still continuing on the remaining issues like the system of ex-

exploitation of the international sea bed area and its resources which are the common heritage of mankind. The developing countries, which have suffered from the consequences of colonial domination and the arbitrary operations of an unjust economic order, cannot be deprived of their legitimate share in the vast sea bed resources by technologically advanced countries unilaterally exploiting these resources.

I should like to say a few words about a problem that has been recently plaguing many countries and affecting the lives of all travellers. It is the pernicious practice of making hostages of innocent persons for political or other reasons. I feel sure that this practice deserves to be condemned by all states in the strongest terms. But what is more important is that we should all do something more to put an end to it. The initiative taken by the Federal Republic of Germany to propose an international convention against the taking of hostages is timely. The terms of such a convention should be so drafted as to secure the widest possible support.

In our part of the world, India has been pursuing a deliberate policy of normalising and improving relations with all its neighbours. We intend to continue to persist in developing good neighbourly relations with all.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs of Pakistan referred the other day to the so-called dispute relating to Jammu and Kashmir, which is an integral part of India. He also referred to the resolutions of the Security Council of 1948 and 1949. Those resolutions, Mr. President, were not implemented at that time because Pakistan did not fulfil certain essential preconditions that had been laid down in them. As a consequence the resolutions became obsolete and this was repeatedly made clear to the Security Council. In our opinion it is now entirely unrealistic to harp back to those resolutions. The Simla agreement, however, provides a practical and realistic basis for overcoming all impediments to friendly and co-operative relations between India and Pakistan. The

implementation of that agreement has already resulted in a large measure of normalisation of relations in several fields. It is our intention to persist in this process because we believe that it can lead to stability and durable peace in the subcontinent.

With Bangladesh we wish to develop, on a basis of equality, close and friendly relations to our mutual benefit. Unfortunately Bangladesh has chosen to bring before this General Assembly certain misconceived allegations concerning the equitable sharing of

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the waters of the river Ganga during the lean period of the dry season every year. My delegation expressed our views on this issues when the question of the inscription of the item came up before the General Assmby. I should like to take this opportunity to reiterate our firm belief that the discussion of this question in the United Nations will only serve to complicate the situation and come in the way of bilateral negotiations.

I should like to turn now to the struggle in the United Nations for a square deal for developing countries - a struggle that has already entered its second decade with no promise or even hope of an early solution. The grievances and expectations of developing countries have been clearly set out in previous sessions of the General Assembly and in various other conferences.... Seem to be convening one conferences after another for no ostensible reason other than to repeat and re-affirm earlier resolutions. Developing countries find themselves in a state of political independence in an economic environment over which they have little control and which they have inherited through historical circumstances. They are in the grip of forces manipulated by developed countries largely for their own benefit. Such a situation is likely to lead to the permanent impoverishment of developing countries, while developed countries continue to prosper at the expense of others. This state of affairs is both immoral and intolerable. Decisions taken and measures agreed at ear-

lier conferences should be speedily implemented through constructive negotiations.

The indebtedness of developing countries had exceeded 150 billion US dollars with repayments increasing every year. Developing countries now face the dilemma of either not repaying their debts, or suspending altogether the process and tempo of their national development. This problem can be resolved only if the international community as a whole draws up mutually agreed norms for affording realistic and immediate relief to debtor countries. Even a five percent reduction in the military budgets of developed countries could facilitate the transfer of much needed resources and open for two-thirds of mankind vast opportunities for development.

The survival of mankind in all its many splendoured diversity depends on planned expansion of areas of equitable inter-dependence. My Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi observed recently at the Colombo Summit conference of non-aligned countries: "The community of nations should jointly and peacefully achieve that elusive equation between global production and consumption that yields the right share for each nation. Patchwork remedies are no substitute for genuine reform. We need a global perspective plan that would relate resources to human needs and provide a system of early warning of imbalances and disasters. Improved terms of trade and credit, easier access to markets and better value for raw materials and industrial goods are all essential to secure greater equity in the distribution of benefits".

To that end we need to evolve a global ethic, a code of conduct and a set of principles for managing interdependence for the purpose of sustaining economic development. We need also the sort of inter-dependence among nation states that preserves their sovereignty, transcends political ideologies harmonises the actions of states for common ends, strengthens the weak and prevents their exploitation by the strong, prohibits policies which beggar one's neighbours and envisages an equal share in decision-making.

Recognition of this mutuality of interests and of the need to rearrange the present economic system on a more equitable basis should influence the attitudes of the affluent countries in such a manner that their people respond readily and positively to the modest national objectives of developing countries. Unfortunately, the response of the developed countries so far indicates a certain wavering of political will to meet the full dimension of the challenges and opportunities inherent in the present situation, as evidenced by the slow progress made by the Paris conference. Perhaps fear of the unknown future, or reluctance to reduce wasteful consumption, is at the root of their inadequate response.

Surely, they must realise that there can be no freezing of the status quo of dependence between the developed and developing countries. The present situation must inevitably evolve into a new order of equitable interdependence and mutual benefit. Self-serving short term remedies will not meet the long term requirements of the present

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situation. So far as the developing countries are concerned, they should be prepared to safeguard their own interests through a higher level of individual and collective self-reliance as well as mutual co-operation.

The strength of the developing countries rests of course entirely on their own unity and their sense of purpose. Theirs is not the strength that comes from numbers alone but rather from the shared awareness that they form the backbone of peace-loving nations. They represent not only the majority of the nation states of the world but also the majority of the world's population. Their aspirations, therefore, acquire a special meaning for mankind's future, for they represent the hard core of suffering humanity. Their collective position should make an appropriate impact on the attitudes of developed countries and their peoples.

As the United Nations enters the fourth decade of its existence, I would like to recall

in conclusion the words of our former Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru, who said on the first day of our Independence "Peace is said to be indivisible, so is prosperity and so also is disaster in a world that can no longer be split into isolated fragments".

INDIA USA SRI LANKA SEYCHELLES VIETNAM ANGOLA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC CYPRUS
KOREA LEBANON ISRAEL PERU SWITZERLAND ZIMBABWE NAMIBIA SOUTH AFRICA GERMANY
MALI PAKISTAN BANGLADESH FRANCE

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INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Foreign Minister's Statement on Apartheid

The Foreign Minister, Mr. Y. B. Chavan addressed the UN Special Committee Against Apartheid at its special meeting on October 5, 1976 convened to honour India on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of UN consideration of the question of racial discrimination and apartheid brought before it by India in 1946. Following is the text of the statement made by the Foreign Minister:

On behalf of the Government of India may I express my deep sense of appreciation to you and to the members of the Special Committee against Apartheid for the signal honour in convening a special meeting to commend my country for its contribution to the world struggle against apartheid in South Africa.

It is true that it was India which first brought before the United Nations in 1946 the question of racial discrimination in South Africa. We claim no merit for it, because at that time practically the whole of Africa and large parts of Asia were still under colonial domination. It was therefore

India's duty on attaining independence to come to the United Nations and enlist the support of other member states in the common struggle against colonialism and racism.

I would also recall that the struggle for India's independence owed a good deal to the experience gained by Mahatma Gandhi in South Africa in the Organisation and conduct of passive resistance campaigns against unjust laws. It was therefore natural that India should have come to the United Nations to internationalise the campaign against racial discrimination. The fact that this was done during his life-time must have been a source of some satisfaction to Mahatma Gandhi.

The committee will be glad to know that this meeting is being held two days after the 107th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. I feel moved by this coincidence to recall a few experiences of Mahatma Gandhi in South Africa, experiences which brought him face to face with the ugly realities of racism.

At Maritzburg in South Africa he was attacked and forcibly ejected from a railway carriage reserved for whites. At Pardeburg he was brutally assaulted by an armed white policeman for walking on a footpath reserved for whites. At Durban he was nearly lynched by a white mob. At Johannesburg he was beaten nearly to death by a white official. During the Zulu war against the British, Mahatma Gandhi was told by a British doctor that no European would nurse the wounded Zulus, and so Gandhiji organised an Indian ambulance unit to take care of the wounded Zulus.

These early experiences shaped Mahatma Gandhi's eventual destiny as the Father of the Indian nation. It was in South Africa that he conceived the idea of militant non-violence as a political instrument against

cacism. Later in India he fashioned this instrument into an effective weapon for use by the masses against British rule.

Mr. Chairman, you have said that some pseudo-liberals regard the South African problem as complex in the same way that India's independence appeared to be complex to them. Actually the problem in South Africa is far from complex. It is artificial and was created by the white man. Apartheid is a word coined by the Afrikaner National Party as a political slogan and refined into the unnatural ideology of separatism on the basis of race. In 1963 the then Prime Minister of South Africa said of apartheid: "It means that we want to keep South Africa white. Keeping it white means white domination, not leadership. It means white supremacy and control, and not guidance".

Neither science nor religion recognises any fundamental division in the human species on racial grounds. Nor do they postulate the superiority of any one race over others. Mahatma Gandhi defined race in the following words: "All those who can have children of one another belong to the same race." Mahatma Gandhi was the universal man.

The evolution of the jurisprudence of the United Nations on the question of racial discrimination makes interesting reading and I should like to recall some of the important stages. It is not often remembered that at its very first session the General Assembly adopted a resolution declaring that "It is in the higher interests of humanity to put an immediate end to racial persecution and discrimination".

India's initiative in 1946 in the United Nations established three conclusions, first that racial policies are not matters within the domestic jurisdiction of member states, secondly that racial policies impaired friendly relations between states, and thirdly that the treatment of all racial groups within a state should be in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

In 1952 India together with 12 Asian and Arab countries declared in the United Nations that a race conflict in South Africa

resulting from the policy of apartheid would constitute a threat to international peace and security. That view was widely accepted by the General Assembly nine years later in 1961.

Eleven years ago, in 1965, the General Assembly for the first time drew attention of the Security Council to the fact that action under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter was essential in order to solve the problem of apartheid. In 1967 the General Assembly condemned apartheid as a crime against humanity.

In 1968 the General Assembly recognised the right of the People of South Africa as a whole to self-determination and to majority rule based on universal suffrage. In 1970 the General Assembly recognised the legitimacy of the struggle of the people of South Africa to eliminate apartheid by all means at their disposal. The General Assembly also declared that the racist regime of South Africa was illegitimate and had no right to represent the people of South Africa.

This committee has thus been given a very clear mandate by the General Assembly to do everything possible in conformity with the United Nations Charter to eradicate the evil of apartheid. It can look back on the twelve years of its work with much satisfaction, though not yet with a sense of fulfilment.

I congratulate this committee and its chairman for their work in publicising the campaign against apartheid and the situation regarding political prisoners, in spearheading the move for an arms embargo, and in extending support and solidarity to the Liberation Movements. This committee is also the driving force behind the United Nations Trust Fund for South Africa.

It gives me much pleasure to announce that India will substantially increase its contribution to this fund. Furthermore, the Government of India will be glad to assist in the wider dissemination of the publications of the United Nations on apartheid.

Mr. Chairman, the struggle in South Africa against apartheid is entering its final phase. There is no doubt that it will succeed. Apartheid is a lost cause, and it stands universally condemned. The struggle for freedom and racial equality began in the minds of men centuries ago. There is no

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substitute for freedom, and there is no alternative to equality. Man's unfinished revolution is in South Africa and this committee has a major role to play in bringing it to a successful conclusion. I wish this committee speedy success in what is perhaps the noblest and oldest cause in the United Nations.

INDIA SOUTH AFRICA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

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INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Foreign Minister's Statement at 31st Anniversary of UN

Addressing the 31st Anniversary Celebrations of the United Nations, the Minister of External Affairs, Shri Y. B. Chavan, made the following statement in New Delhi on October 25, 1976:

We are assembled here today to celebrate the 31st anniversary of the founding of the United Nations. The Ministry of External Affairs takes great pleasure and pride in organising this function every year. It reflects our deep and abiding faith in the United Nations and our desire to rededicate ourselves, from year to year, to the purposes and principles enshrined in the UN Charter. May I also say how happy I am

to have here today my distinguished predecessor in the Office of the Minister of External Affairs, Sardar Swaran Singh, who has very kindly consented to preside at the function.

It is customary on such occasions to look at the record of the United Nations and to attempt to draw a balance-sheet of its successes, and failures. The United Nations is by no means a perfect Organisation. There have been occasions when it has been weak or ineffective, unable to de-fuse conflicts or to resolve crises. However, these failures have not been of the UN but rather of its member-States who have, on occasions, not demonstrated the necessary political will to find solutions. The effectiveness of the United Nations, after all, depends on what the member-States make of it in the pursuit of common objectives.

As the United Nations enters the fourth decade of its existence, I think one can say with confidence that it has amply proved its utility and indeed its indispensability. As our late Prime Minister, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, told the UN General Assembly in 1960, and I quote: "If there had been no United Nations today, our first task would be to create something of that kind". The United Nations provides a forum for consultations and exchange of views through which differing view points can be harmonised and constructive solutions worked out. Over the years, it has contributed to the relaxation of international tensions and to the promotion of international cooperation. As I mentioned in my statement at the UN General Assembly some weeks ago, when one examines the Resolutions adopted by the United Nations on a wide variety of subjects, one sees that a quiet revolution has been taking place during the last 30 years - a revolution in the realm of ideas about the quality of peace and the quality of life for all in the future.

The United Nations has been concerning itself with a large number and a wide variety of issues and problems. Some of these can perhaps best be dealt within the framework of the United Nations. For instance, the United Nations has played a useful role in

maintaining the peace, however precariously, in the Middle East and Cyprus. It can provide an important impetus to the economic negotiations under way in the different international fora and pave the way for the establishment of a new international order. On the other hand, there are issues which, by their very nature, only lend themselves to solutions through bilateral negotiations between the parties directly concerned. It is our belief that if the United Nations is to survive and grow into a co-operative Organisation equipped to deal with the problems of the future, we should not unduly burden it with issues that lend themselves to solutions outside the United Nations in conformity with the principles of its Charter. In the final analysis, it is necessary for the parties directly involved to come together and negotiate practical and reasonable solutions to their mutual benefit.

Mr. President, the primary task of the United Nations in terms of its Charter is the preservation of peace and international security. However, in the changed circum-

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stances of today when the vast majority of the membership of the United Nations is composed of developing countries, the preservation of peace is only half the battle. The other half is the imperative necessity to build a new world order in an environment of peace - an order which would be just and equitable and would encompass not only the political but also the economic and social spheres. While several initial steps in this direction have been taken at the sixth and seventh Special Sessions of the UN General Assembly, the discussions at UNCTAD IV and the dialogue in Paris, the lack of tangible progress makes it abundantly clear that without a greater political will on the part of all concerned, the new international order cannot become a reality. One of the challenges before the United Nations, therefore, is to generate a greater awareness among the "have" countries of the world of the urgent needs to share their prosperity and, development with the "have-nots" through fairer terms of trade, the transfer of technology

and measures aimed at the eradication of mass poverty, unemployment, illiteracy and malnutrition. In the new world order that is envisaged, peace and prosperity must come about through the meaningful democratisation of international relations and a more equitable process of sharing and cooperation. In an inter-dependent world, the rich few can no longer be insulated or isolated from the effects of poverty, hunger and the economic inequality and insecurity that exist in the vast majority of the world's nations. The United Nations must galvanise its efforts towards the promotion of greater international collective responsibility for the problems of economic inequality and development. This is in everybody's interest - whether developed or developing.

Mr. President, I have just returned from New York after participating in the current 31st Session of the UN General Assembly. We were glad that one further step was taken at this Session towards universality of membership of the United Nations by the admission of Seychelles as its 145th Member. We hope that Vietnam and Angola, who are fully entitled to UN membership in every respect, will also soon join in this comity of nations.

We welcome the relaxation of tensions and the beginnings of the process of detente in East-West relations. But we cannot show any over-optimism so long as detente remains fragile and limited to certain countries and areas. We hope that the spirit of detente and cooperation would encompass all regions of the world so that it may indeed herald a new era in which all pockets of crises and threats to peace can be effectively defused without resort to war and destruction.

Detente, to be meaningful, must also be accompanied, by an equal measure of understanding and cooperation in the field of disarmament. What we are witnessing, on the other hand, is the continuing stockpiling of increasingly dangerous weapons of destruction. At present, an astronomical amount of more than US \$ 300 billion per annum is spent by the countries of the world on various armament programmes. Every additional resource committed to the arma-

ments industry represents a diversion from what could have been spent on social reform and economic development and a better life for millions. It is indeed regrettable that little progress has been made in the vital field of disarmament. The need for a world disarmament conference has become increasingly urgent. We have also supported the call for a Special Session of the UN General Assembly devoted exclusively to questions of disarmament.

Mr. President, there are several issues today that continue to pose a threat to international peace and security and, therefore, merit our attention as a matter of priority. The situation in the Middle East, which has for long been a source of grave anxiety, has been further complicated by the recent developments in Lebanon. There can be no lasting peace in the region until Israel vacates all the Arab territories occupied by aggression and the legitimate inalienable rights of the people of Palestine are restored. In Cyprus too, the continuation of the present stalemate is fraught with dangers to the sovereignty and the territorial integrity of that country. Similarly, in the Indian Ocean area the existence of foreign military bases, such as Diego Garcia, against the expressed wishes of the littoral and the hinterland States of the Indian Ocean, is a cause of serious concern. We have welcomed the statement of the Soviet Foreign Minister at the UN General Assembly the other day that his country has no intention of building any military bases in the Indian Ocean area. We hope that it will be reciprocated by other Great Powers and the major maritime users of the

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Indian Ocean so that the Indian Ocean becomes a zone of peace.

We have welcomed the great progress made in the area of decolonisation since the end of the second World War. But we cannot rest, and the United Nations cannot rest, until the last vestiges of colonialism and racism are eradicated from the face of the globe. The situation is particularly critical in Southern Africa and it is imperative that

white minority rule should quickly yield to majority rule. The national liberation movements have been left with no option but to resort to armed struggle.

The illegal regime in Zimbabwe has no basis in law or in the will of the people and it must yield to majority rule without any delay if further bloodshed is to be avoided. Diplomatic efforts are being made by the frontline African States and others to resolve the problem democratically and peacefully.

South Africa's illegal occupation of the UN-mandated territory of Namibia poses an open challenge to the authority of the United Nations. The UN must take concrete steps to assume in practice responsibility for what belongs to it in law. The members of the UN have a collective responsibility to ensure that the legal position in respect of Namibia, which they support, is enforced.

The UN must also consider practical measures to eradicate apartheid and racism from South Africa. Racism and racial discrimination are an affront to the dignity of the human race. Our hearts go out to the victims of racist oppression in Soweto and Capetown. The intention of the minority South African Government to grant so-called independence to Transkei and to create similar Bantustans is no more than an extension of the policy of apartheid and racial discrimination.

Mr. President, I cannot conclude without making a reference to an important event of recent times - the Summit Conference of Non-aligned countries held in Colombo in August 1976. The Heads of States and Governments of Non-aligned countries assembled in Colombo reaffirmed their faith in the United Nations and their adherence to the purposes and principles of the UN Charter. They recognised the importance of the United Nations as an effective instrument for promoting international peace and security, developing cooperation and establishing equitable economic relations between States, and promoting fundamental rights and freedom.

Mr. President, it is misleading to say, as one sometimes hears, that the Non-aligned constitute a bloc within the United Nations and exploit their strength in numbers. The objectives of the Non-aligned Movement encompass the promotion of the purposes and the principles of the UN Charter. Non-aligned countries have stressed the cooperative approach and not the confrontationist approach. They have expressed, and with moderation, their urges and their hopes with the legitimate expectation that countries more fortunately placed would recognise it as their duty and obligation to help their less fortunate brethren. We have to get away from this talk of confrontation and deadlock and move into new fields of co-operative endeavour. Let us not confront each other in the United Nations, but let us together confront the problems facing us.

Mr. President, we in India have great faith in the United Nations system. We recognise that there are no easy solutions to the world's problems. Our efforts will be directed towards strengthening the United Nations and making it a more effective organisation. There will be successes and frustrations, achievements and failures, but what is important is that we must not lose hope or allow a sense of defeatism and cynicism to overcome us. As our late Prime Minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru once said, and I quote: "The practical choice offered to the world is to cooperate or perish. The choice is of peaceful coexistence or no existence at all.... We have to undertake the vast task of encouraging this new thinking, this new approach of cooperation, not on a mere ideological basis, but on a practical basis of sheer survival".

Mr. President, the 31st Anniversary of the United Nations should be a day of rededication to the ideals and objectives of the UN and of reaffirmation of our faith in the United Nations and our resolve to make it a more effective instrument in the direction of world peace, progress and prosperity.

INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC CYPRUS FRANCE SEYCHELLES ANGOLA VIETNAM
LEBANON ISRAEL ZIMBABWE SOUTH AFRICA NAMIBIA SRI LANKA

Date : Oct 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Statement by Permanent Representative of India on Non-Use of Force in International Relations

Following is the text of the statement made by India's Permanent Representative to the U.N., Ambassador R. Jaipal during the general debate in the First Committee on October 25, 1976:

In commenting on the item at present before this Committee, it is necessary for us to bear in mind the fact that it has been brought before the General Assembly by a Permanent Member of the Security Council, the Soviet Union, as "an important and urgent question". In terms of Article 24 of the Charter Permanent Members of the Security Council have a continuing responsibility for maintenance of international peace and security. Proposals by any one of them concerning the strengthening of world peace, therefore, acquire special significance.

In the present case, the Soviet Union has stated in its letter of the 28th September 1976 that "Hot-beds of war still exist as a consequence of aggression and use of force, and it is necessary to make additional efforts to ensure strict observance of the principle of non-use of force or threat of force by all states". This statement, which constitutes an appraisal of the contemporary situation by a Permanent Member of the Security Council, should not be ignored nor should it be dismissed as propagandist. On the contrary, it deserves our serious consideration.

It is interesting that this appraisal of the world situation by the Soviet Union is not very different from that of the Prime Minister of Norway, who speaking at the Plenary on the 21st October said the following:

"Many of the hopes voiced in San Francisco in 1945 for a safer and better world have not been fulfilled... Peace to the extent that it has been achieved is based on a balance of power rooted in increasingly sophisticated and frightening weapon systems instead of being based on international law and order. . . Today the most important task of the U.N. is peace-building".

My delegation believes that the strengthening of world peace is of paramount importance at any time. It is even more important at a time when the world is burdened with the unacceptable risk of a nuclear war, and the United Nations is helplessly looking on at the ever-increasing arms race in nuclear and other weapons. One of the ways of strengthening world peace is by promoting the rule of law and the strict observance of the obligations of Member States under the Charter of the United Nations.

In that context the progressive development and elaboration of the principles of the Charter and their universal application is essential for securing their more effective implementation. It is also essential for maintenance of internal peace, especially the elaboration of the principle of non-use of force or threat of force.

The fact that this principle is already enshrined in Article 2, para. 4 of the Charter should not preclude further action by the General Assembly to secure its more effective application. Since the establishment of the United Nations, there have been several conflicts and hostilities and if a world treaty, as suggested by the Soviet Union, would help to improve the climate for peace, then it should be examined with all seriousness. And if it would reduce the risk of an outbreak of a world war, that is even greater reason

for examining with every care the proposition before us.

The objective situation in the world today does not inspire one with a great deal of faith in the existing machinery for maintenance of international peace. We are living in an international community of nation states with different political, economic and social systems, and different levels of development. Such a situation is inherently fraught with possibilities of confrontation of one kind or another between Member States. In these circumstances, it is always a good thing on the one hand to promote friendly relations and cooperation between Member States, and on the other hand to strengthen the rule of law with measures designed to prevent breaches of international peace.

It is from this perspective that we view the Soviet Union's proposal for a world

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treaty on the non-use of force in international relations. The draft treaty formulated by the Soviet Union may need further elaboration in order to take into account various situations in which the principle of non-use of force or threat of force should be applied.

The Government of India have not yet had time to give this matter the detailed examination it is entitled to, but we support the initiative in principle. Also we support the idea that Member States should have more time to send their considered views on this proposal to the Secretary-General, so that the General Assembly might continue its examination of this question at the next session. The draft resolution submitted by the USSR in A/C.1/31/L.3 meets our expectations and has our full support.

INDIA USA NORWAY PERU CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Oct 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

IRAN

India-Iran Protocol on Railway Cooperation

The following press release on the India-Iran protocol on railway cooperation was issued in New Delhi on October 31, 1976:

A protocol has been signed here today providing for technical cooperation between the Indian and Iranian State Railways in the fields of track maintenance, renewals and research.

The protocol was signed between Dr. Pakdaman, President of the Iranian State Railways and Shri G. P. Warriar, Chairman, Railway Board.

Dr. Pakdaman, President of the Iranian State Railways, has been on a visit to the Indian Railways, at the invitation of Shri G. P. Warriar, Chairman, Railway Board. He called upon the Minister for Railways, Shri Kamalapati Tripathi, and the Minister of State for Railways, Shri Mohd. Shafi Qureshi, and held discussions with them.

Earlier, Dr. Pakdaman had visited and gone in detail into the working of the various Production Units and Maintenance Establishments on the Indian Railways, as also the Research, Designs and Standards Organisation at Lucknow.

IRAN INDIA USA

Date : Oct 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

IRAQ

Indo-Iraqi Industrial Cooperation Agreement

The following Press release on the Indo-Iraqi industrial cooperation agreement was issued in New Delhi on October 19, 1976:

Many specific areas of cooperation in the industrial development of Iraq were identified in an agreement signed at Baghdad by Shri T. A. Pai, India's Minister of Industry and Mr. Flayeh Hassan Al-Jassim, Iraqi Minister for Industry and Minerals. Under the terms of this accord, India will assist

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Iraq in the setting up of various industrial projects through technical experts, equipment and project reports. Shri Pai told the Iraqi Minister that immediate steps would be taken for sending experts required by that country. A team of specialists would also be sent to Iraq to evaluate the requirements of tractor components with a view to establishing a workshop for the manufacture of these parts in Iraq. He assured Mr. Flayeh Hassan Al-Jassim that India was in a position to assist Iraq fully in meeting the requirements of technical experts. An official team will visit Iraq shortly to collect necessary information for preparing a project report.

The two Ministers also discussed the question of supply of iron-ore pellets for the Iraqi steel complex at Basrah. Shri Pai told the Iraqi Minister that he would discuss the matter with the Indian Minister for Steel, Shri Chandrajit Yadav, so that any problems may be resolved quickly. He suggested that the Iraqi Government might send experts to India for holding discussions with their counterparts in this connection.

During his stay in Baghdad, Shri T. A.

Pai also met Mr. Amir Abdel-Qadir, Minister for Municipal and Rural Affairs, and Mr. Adnan Al-Hamdani, Minister for Planning. During the talks, Shri Pai outlined the schemes of the development of backward areas in India and the long Indian experience of the planning processes. He also drew attention to the working of the sprawling Indian railway system which was running 11,000 trains everyday, covering a distance equivalent to twice the circumference of the Earth. He pointed out that India had developed a big capability for the manufacture of sophisticated and complicated equipment and the construction of railway systems on turn-key basis. It was emphasised by him that the technical consultancy by the Indian Railways compared very favourably with other similar organisations in the world.

Shri Pai stressed India's keen desire to participate in the development of various food-processing industries in Iraq, such as flour mills, bakeries, vegetable oils and hydrogenated oils, sugar and confectionary and the distillary industries.

Addressing the Indian community in Basrah, Shri Pai exhorted them to contribute fully to the development and economic prosperity of the country where they were living and working.

IRAQ USA INDIA RUSSIA

Date : Oct 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

MALAYSIA

India-Malaysia Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement

The following press release on the India-Malaysia double taxation avoidance agreement was issued in New Delhi on October

25, 1976:

An agreement for the avoidance of double taxation and the prevention of fiscal evasion with respect to taxes on income between the Government of India and the Government of Malaysia was signed here today by Shri Pranab Mukherjee, Minister of Revenue and Banking and His Excellency Tan Sri Haji Abdul Khalid bin Awang Osman, High Commissioner for Malaysia in India.

It is a comprehensive agreement covering all types of income and all taxable entities and shall come into force after the exchange of diplomatic notes at Kuala Lumpur certifying that all formalities necessary to give the agreement the force of law have been completed in both the countries.

The main purpose of negotiating such agreements is to stimulate the flow of trade,

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capital, technology and personnel from country to the other for accelerating economic and industrial development and to remove the tax obstacles that may be inhibiting such flow. Apart from providing convenience to investors as well as the Tax Administration, the Double Taxation Avoidance Agreements are a recognised medium for fruitful international economic cooperation. Foreign investors are generally subject to tax in the home country as also in the country of investment. The tax treaties endeavour to relieve the burden of double taxation arising from the overlap of the tax jurisdiction of the two countries.

Like India, Malaysia has also embarked on the path of overall economic planning and development. The two countries have a long-standing history of friendship and economic cooperation. The conclusion of the tax treaty between the two countries will pave the way for greater economic cooperation.

India has already entered into similar agreements with a number of countries like

Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Federal Republic of Germany, Greece, Japan, Norway, Sweden, Sri Lanka and U.A.R. Limited agreements in respect of aid and or shipping profits have been entered into with Afghanistan, Iran, Italy, Lebanon, Romania and Switzerland.

MALAYSIA INDIA UNITED KINGDOM MALI USA AUSTRIA BELGIUM DENMARK FINLAND FRANCE GERMANY GREECE JAPAN NORWAY SRI LANKA SWEDEN AFGHANISTAN IRAN ITALY LEBANON OMAN ROMANIA SWITZERLAND

Date : Oct 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

MAURITIUS

Prime Minister's Speech at Banquet in her Honour in Port Louis

The prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, made the following speech at the Banquet given in her honour by the Prime Minister of Mauritius, Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam in Port Louis, on October 9, 1976:

Thank you, Prime Minister, for your affectionate words about my country and myself and the warmth of the welcome which you and the Mauritian people have given to me, my family and my party. We have witnessed a renewed demonstration of the charm of Mauritius and the large-heartedness of its people.

Small and big made little difference to a country's contribution to human progress. In ancient times India and China, and in the modern world the United States and the Soviet Union have influenced world events, but no less have small kingdoms and countries, through the great men and the great ideas and movements which they cradled.

Recently both our countries have participated in the impressive gathering of

nations on another famous island of this historic ocean, Sri Lanka. Almost all countries represented there were newly free, although many are heirs to ancient civilisations. Our allegiance to non-alignment took us to Colombo. That plain and unpretentious word, non-alignment, sums up many vital ideals and aspirations. It connotes the spirit of freedom which animates Asia and Africa and other continents. It stands for equality among nations and or resistance to pressures. It signifies unshakable commitment to peace and international cooperation.

Mauritius, India and other members of the non-aligned family wish to be ourselves without any kind of interference from outside. However small a nation, and whatever its economic or military power, it has a right to exist and prosper, to make its own decisions.

It is sometimes said that ours is a century in which the common man has come into his own. Certainly it is a century in which the small nations are coming into their own.

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The law of the jungle, whether it be the lush primeval forest or the recent one of the modern city, favours the powerful. Strength of muscle has largely yielded place to the power of resources combined with technology, which is used to frighten or induce others to follow certain paths. But history is a record of man's progressive attempt to overcome fear. Mankind will have a future only if men and nations learn to restrain their own power, and respect the rights of others.

International organisations and conventions are groping somewhat tentatively to bring about such a change in attitude, yet military might and destructive potential are increasing. Even desirable steps towards peace, the European detente and the Helsinki conference, are reluctant essays which some would like to depreciate or disown. Developing countries, so long exploited and drained of their lifeblood, ardently desire

peace to pursue development without diverting resources for defence. We want no confrontation, for in the fight of elephants, it is the grass that gets trampled. We wish the spirit of detente to be strengthened and extended. We view with grave misgivings the strengthening of military presence in the Indian Ocean. All littoral states have a deep interest in its being a zone of peace, not a minefield or rivalry and malevolence.

Peace is endangered by the stockpiling of arms and equally so by the persistence of disparities. Stability cannot rest on disparity. The speedy development of poorer nations is essential for durable world peace. Each nation has to base its development on its own efforts. May I give our own example? In 27 years of planning, average foreign credit for development amounted to only 14%. In the current Five Year Plan this has come down to 3% of the total national outlay. Thus the major part of our gigantic effort is that of the Indian people themselves. However, we shall continue to need help in sophisticated areas. It is important that international economic forces should not put fresh impediments in the path of developing nations. We do notice evidence of vision and sympathy in the management of credit flows for development, yet trade terms are becoming more heavily weighted in favour of the rich and against the poor. The recent Colombo Conference called for imaginative initiatives to solve global economic problems with full awareness of their inter-relationship. Can we hope that this counsel of co-operative progress will not be ignored?

Prime Minister, your leadership and unceasing endeavour to build out of so many diverse strands a united, forward-looking Mauritius is widely appreciated. As a visitor after an interval of six years, I can vividly see that Mauritius has made further progress under your dedicated guidance.

Today the eyes of all freedom-loving peoples are focussed on Zimbabwe and Namibia. The rights of Africans can no longer be blocked. India has always stood with the people of Africa in their quest for freedom, dignity and full opportunity for development. We shall continue to do so and to give what-

ever support it is in our power to give. I am glad that at this time, when Africa is on the threshold of important political developments, your wisdom and experience are being availed of by the Organisation of African Unity. I wish you success in your work for Mauritius and for Africa. Mauritius and India are involved in a common quest. May we always march together.

Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen: I request you to raise your glasses to the health and long life of Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam and to the well-being and prosperity of the friendly, talented and energetic people of Mauritius.

MAURITIUS USA CHINA INDIA SRI LANKA FINLAND MALDIVES ZIMBABWE

Date : Oct 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

MAURITIUS

Prime Minister's Inaugural Address at Gandhi Institute in Port Louis

Following is the text of the speech of the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, at the inauguration of the Gandhi Institute in Port Louis on October 9, 1976:

This Institute is felicitously named, for the significance of Mahatma Gandhi will come to be recognised more clearly as the years roll on.

He was India's great son but he is rightly acclaimed as one of the most radiant political and moral liberators in history. The Institute symbolises the silken but unbreak-

able strands of friendship which exist bet-

ween Mauritius and India.

During my last visit I learnt of Mahatma Gandhi's own brief sojourn in Mauritius. Like Mauritius itself, Mahatma Gandhi was a link between two continents. Of his life of dedicated service he spent a little more than twenty years in Africa and some thirty in India. In both places, his work was to awaken people who had been reduced to supine submission and apathy by oppression. Mahatma Gandhi showed that power grows out of people's yearning to shape their destiny, and their readiness to stand up for it. His own objective was not power. His lifelong mission was to teach people to live without fear and hatred, to combat old evils, to seek a higher life.

The Indian renaissance was Pioneered in the nineteenth century by a galaxy of remarkable thinkers and reformers. From the mid-1880's, the Indian National Congress put forward, with force and eloquence, the concept of Swaraj, self-government. But in the twenties of our century it was Mahatma Gandhi who gave a mass base to our movement. A magnet draws iron filings with a definite pattern, so does inspired leadership orient a people. The magnetism of Mahatma Gandhi, and his success in shaping a nation out of diverse elements, is one of the great miracles of recent times.

Mahatma Gandhi was very much in the long line of the great Hindu teachers, but he made a deep study of the Bible, the Koran and the books of other religions and was as greatly influenced by them as by the Gita. The first article of his faith was the political as well as spiritual equality of all People. Some of the greatest Islamic scholars of our time were among his close supporters. Our political struggle was enriched by the participation of eminent people from all religions. Dr. Ansari, Maulana Azad, Dadabhai Naoroji are some names which come immediately to mind.

Because Mahatma Gandhi clothed his utterances in familiar and religious idiom, many took him to be a traditionalist. The fact is that he was one of the foremost poli-

tical revolutionaries of all time. What was India when he returned from South Africa? Oppressed and humiliated, fragmented and apathetic. He reached out to all classes and all castes, to the educated and the illiterate, the landed gentry and the landless Villager, to the small number of successful Professionals as well as the millions of the most backward and under-privileged. He was emphatic that no man has a right to rule over another, that the difference between the educated person and the unlettered, between the city-dweller and the villager, between the high-born and the outcaste was not as wide as the privileged classes in their arrogance would have us believe. Women, sheltered and timid, responded to his call and came out in hundreds of thousands to shoulder responsibility, to bear abuse smilingly, to brave the baton and the bullet. Without arms, without funds, he generated self-confidence and moulded this motley crowd into a unified, disciplined and dedicated force. He imbued it with social vision and a political goal. The marvel of it was that he allowed no violent act, no word of hatred. He made heroes out of common folk, so that every Indian felt taller for being his follower.

We are too close to him and too small to fully gauge his stature. Calling him a saint does not add to it. The saddest part, though not unknown in history, is that those who lay the loudest claim to be his disciples seek to imprison him in the narrow confines of their own limited horizons, even to the extent of going contrary to his stated point of view. A mind so alert and dynamic could not but be constantly occupied not only by the big and urgent problems but a multitude of small and seemingly inconsequential ones. How can we sum up Mahatma Gandhi's beliefs or thoughts in a few words?

Yet, if I were asked what was most important to him I would unhesitatingly point to his overwhelming concern for the weakest, whether the weakness was due to poverty, caste or disease, his strong belief in the fundamental unity of religions and his desire to ensure not only religious tolerance but respect for all religions and equal rights and opportunities for their adherents, his abhor-

rence of violence in action, in word and in thought. Even hatred and bitterness he regarded as violence. He was especially concerned with rural uplift. He wanted people to be self-reliant, to eschew ostentation. He believed in friendship with all.

After independence, there was an effort to turn Mahatma Gandhi away from Jawaharlal Nehru, but with his keen insight

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into human nature, how could he not be aware of Jawaharlal Nehru's sincerity, his deep love for the Indian people, his capacity for service and sacrifice in their cause? Also, with his finger so accurately on the pulse of the nation, how could he fail to recognise Jawaharlal Nehru's tremendous popularity, his power to attract and hold together all sections of the people, especially the young and the intellectually daring? Even more, he knew that Jawaharlal Nehru would hold steadfast to the ideals he had outlined. Here are Mahatma Gandhi's words: "I have said for some years and say now. Jawaharlal will be my successor. He says that he does not understand my language, and that he speaks a language foreign to me. This may or may not be true. But language is no bar to a union of hearts. And I know this that when I am gone he will speak my language."

Jawaharlal Nehru did not speak the Mahatma's language in words but he did so in action. His obsession, like Mahatma Gandhi's was to change the face of India's poverty and to restore her dignity. Like Mahatma Gandhi, he saw India as a part of the world and regarded all human problems as his own. He wanted India to contribute to the solution of these problems, not only because this was important in itself but because it was necessary to create the proper conditions for our own growth and development. Hence his belief in non-alignment. How well I remember the early years - what contempt the very mention of the word evoked. Non-alignment is the translation in international affairs of the Gandhian con-

cept of tolerance, for it connotes constant effort towards peaceful co-existence and co-operation. We have stood firmly by our principles. We see independence, not in the superficial aspect of having a government run by Indian, but in the real sense which means making our own assessments, judging each issue on its merit and in the light of our national interest and that of world peace. Because we care so deeply for our own independence we can appreciate similar feelings in others. That was the meaning of Panch Sheel. The culmination of years of persistence has been our recent success, still groping and somewhat uncertain but, a significant step in speedier normalisation of relations with our neighbours.

In national life, the stress was on secularism. Many modern nations have recognised the importance of separating church from state. But Indian secularism goes further. Centuries ago the Mauryan Emperor, Ashoka, had proclaimed in our land that no one could truly respect his own religion if he did not equally respect the religions of others. We are a nation which is the composite product of many religious, linguistic and ethnic elements. Our population is so vast that even the word minority loses its traditional connotation, for we have 60 million Muslims, 15 million Christians and 10 million Sikhs, besides Buddhists, Jains, Zoroastrians, Jews and so on. Secularism is an indispensable feature of Indian democracy. We regarded any encouragement to religious fanaticism as an intolerable affront to democracy. We may not have reached the ideal of changing people's hearts and eradicating all injustice, but not for a moment have we slackened our effort in spite of political pressures and campaigns of calumny. Today we can be justifiably proud of the fact that in our country, members of the minority communities not only can but do hold some of the highest and most important positions. The road was not smooth, for we had to fight, as indeed we still do, communal parties, groups and individuals every inch of the way. And even now, it is all too easy for some to arouse communal feelings and hatred in the name of religion or caste, region or language, or it may be none of these, any

excuse is good enough. Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty, so is it with communal harmony.

It is in programmes of development that we are most strongly attached and accused of deviating from the Gandhian way. Jawaharlal Nehru realised that India could not strike at the roots of penury without the help of modern science and technology. Nor could India preserve its hard-won freedom in a world marked by tensions and pressures without technological self-reliance. So Nehru laid the foundations of basic industries and basic science. He did realise that European technology was not always suitable for India, that a nation cannot be built through imitation and derivation and that we had to find Indian solutions to Indian problems. In the economic realm, he balanced big industry with small, modern production with cottage crafts. In the political realm he built up

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Panchayati Raj to provide the grass-root base for the structure of Parliamentary government adumbrated at national and state level in our Constitution.

There are no universal models for democracy or development. No two nations face identical situations. Out of its own experience, each nation has to evolve patterns suited to its special needs. Colonialism is dead or dying, but not the attitudes of mind from which it arose, the feelings of superiority, the exploitation of others, the desire for quick profit, even at the cost of the interests of others.

Life is a process of learning from oneself and from others. Freedom is always earned, never conferred. The struggle for development is even harder. The approval or disapproval of others must not divert us into unconsidered courses of action. Praise is not often bestowed nor blame visited without motivation. We have recently seen that those who have unabashedly given moral, material and military support to dictatorial regimes and some who have even aided in the upsetting of democratically elected re-

gimes, have been loud in their criticism of some steps which we in India have had to take to preserve our republic. The very people who castigated us as a soft state find fault with us for hard decisions in managing the national economy, which have achieved visible success.

We are concerned only with results, with creating conditions in which there can be all-round development, gradually sweeping away age-old inequalities and bringing opportunities to the underprivileged to stand on their feet. The masses of our people want to be assured that policies are in the correct direction and are being conscientiously pursued.

True development should be all-round development. We cannot be content merely with increase of per capita income. National income can increase without reduction of disparities and without building a base of self-reliance. Can we afford to produce more in the short run by seriously imperilling the balance of nature, as large-scale deforestation and the pollution caused by industrialisation have shown? The non-material aspirations and aesthetic instincts of people form part of development. For the blossoming of the future, the spirit of the nation has to be nurtured with care.

One of Mahatma Gandhi's great qualities was to ask fundamental questions about civilisation and values. His virtue was not "fugitive and cloistered, unexercised and unbreathed." His life was an examined life. An institute named for so wondrous a personality must help the intellectual and spiritual unfoldment of the people of Mauritius. It is a pleasure and privilege to declare it formally open.

MAURITIUS USA INDIA SOUTH AFRICA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC MALI

Date : Oct 01, 1976

Volume No

MAURITIUS

India-Mauritius Joint Communiqué

Following is the text of the joint communiqué issued on October 12, 1976 at the conclusion of the visit of Shrimati Indira Gandhi, Prime Minister of India, to Mauritius:

The Prime Minister of the Republic of India, Her Excellency Shrimati Indira Gandhi paid a visit to Mauritius from 8th October, 1976 to 11th October, 1976 at the invitation of the Prime Minister of Mauritius, H.E. Dr. the Rt. Hon. Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam. The Prime Minister of India was accompanied by Shri Bansi Lal and Shri and Shrimati Sanjay Gandhi.

The Prime Minister of India was accorded an enthusiastic and warm welcome by all sections of people in Mauritius during her extensive tours in the island. On 9th October 1976, the Prime Minister of India inaugurated the Mahatma Gandhi Institute in the establishment of which the two countries had cooperated. She was accorded a civic reception and the University of Mauritius conferred on her the degree of D.C.L. (honoris causa).

The Prime Minister of India recalled her memorable visit to Mauritius in 1970 and congratulated the Government and people of Mauritius for their success in pre-

serving the unique personality of the country through the harmonious integration of diverse cultures and races and the enrichment of its multi-lingual heritage.

The two Prime Ministers reviewed the international situation and the progress of bilateral relations between the two countries.

The Prime Minister of India felicitated the Prime Minister of Mauritius as the current chairman of the O.A.U. The OAU conference hosted by Mauritius in June 1976 was held at a historic moment in the final liberation of Africa from the remnants of colonialism, racialism and the minority rule.

In the wake of the collapse of the Portuguese colonial empire, the struggle of Zimbabwe and Namibia has reached a decisive phase in the realisation of these legitimate rights and cherished aspirations of their people. At this crucial hour not only the African countries but the entire non-aligned world must stand true to their pledge to support the representatives of the people of Zimbabwe, so that effective majority rule is established as expeditiously as possible. The two sides reaffirmed their continued moral and material support to the struggle of the Namibian people under the leadership of SWAPO for the liberation of Namibia from the illegal occupation by South Africa. The triumph of liberation in Zimbabwe and Namibia, they were confident, would lead to the end of apartheid and racial discrimination in South Africa.

The two Prime Ministers expressed disappointment at the slow pace of progress at the UNCTAD-IV conference at Nairobi and the Paris conference on international economic cooperation. The tardy response of the developed countries had seriously affected the prospect of establishing a new world economic order. Both sides called for effective measures for the implementation of the action programme as adopted at the fifth Non-aligned Summit at Colombo.

The two sides expressed their deep concern over the escalation of foreign naval presences in the Indian Ocean and their regret at the continued military build-up in Diego Garcia. Together with the other littoral and hinterland states of the Indian Ocean and the non-aligned countries, they agreed to strengthen their efforts and cooperation towards realization of their desire to maintain the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace.

The two Prime Ministers expressed satisfaction at the progress achieved in the development of the bilateral relations between India and Mauritius. In keeping with the historical and traditional links and aspirations as independent countries, they were convinced that beneficial cooperation between the two countries could be further strengthened and widened. They agreed that the possibilities of promoting ties in the fields of education, culture, trade, information, science and technology be further explored in the interest of all sections of the peoples.

The Prime Minister of Mauritius described the various measures taken for the consolidation of their unity and the economic and social development of the people of Mauritius and promotion of self-reliance. The Prime Minister of India conveyed her appreciation and admiration of the success achieved and stated to the extent possible and in a mutually agreed manner, India would be willing to assist in the realization of these objectives.

The Prime Minister of India described the steps taken to contain the forces of disruption and de-stabilisation in India. These measures have received the overwhelming support of the people of India and have significantly improved the prospects of economic progress and social justice in the country. She also informed the Prime Minister of Mauritius of the various bilateral initiatives taken by India to normalise and improve relations in the sub-continent. The Prime Minister of Mauritius expressed his appreciation of the measures taken and felt confident that these trends would lead to the consolidation of peace and understanding in the region.

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The Prime Minister of India thanked the Prime Minister, the Government and people of Mauritius.

The Prime Minister of India extended an invitation to the Governor-General of Mauritius, His Excellency Sir Raman Osman,

and the Prime Minister of Mauritius, H.E.
Dr. the Rt. Hon. Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam to visit India. These invitations were cordially accepted.

MAURITIUS USA INDIA NAMIBIA ZIMBABWE SOUTH AFRICA KENYA FRANCE SRI LANKA MALI

Date : Oct 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

MOZAMBIQUE

India-Mozambique Agreement on Economic Cooperation

Following is the text of the India-Mozambique agreement on economic, technical and scientific cooperation signed in Maputo by Deputy Minister of External Affairs (India) and Minister of Development and Economic Planning (Mozambique) on October 8, 1976:

The Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the People's Republic of Mozambique:

CONSIDERING that the unity and strength of the developing countries have played an effective role in bringing about the end of colonialism,

RECOGNISING the need to maintain this unity for promoting a socially just new international economic order,

CONSIDERING that the people of India and the people of Mozambique have a common commitment to these goals and can contribute to them through cooperation for mutual benefit on the basis of equality,

CONVINCED that exchange of technical knowledge and skills between the two countries shall be a step towards realization

of these objectives,

CONVINCED that closest possible co-operation between the two countries in the technical, economic and scientific fields is of significant advantage to them,

CONVINCED firmly that such co-operation between the peoples of the two countries is in the spirit of non-alignment and the Declaration of the Group of 77 as adopted by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development,

HAVE AGREED as follows:

ARTICLE 1

The Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the People's Republic of Mozambique shall, in conformity with the provisions of this Agreement, promote and facilitate technical, economic and scientific cooperation between their two countries for the purpose of assisting each other in realizing the goals of self-reliance and social justice.

ARTICLE 2

The technical, economic and scientific cooperation between the two countries shall be effected through separate arrangements to be concluded between authorised institutions or organizations in the two countries. Such arrangements shall be subject to the approval of the respective Government and in conformity with laws and regulations in force from time to time in the respective country and in accordance with its international legal obligations in the matter.

ARTICLE 3

The two Governments have agreed that the form of payment for the operations resulting from this agreement shall be studied and agreed upon case by case.

ARTICLE 4

The technical, economic and scientific cooperation between the two countries shall, inter alia, include the following activities as well as any other activities as may be mutually agreed upon between them:

- (a) exchange of personnel for training purposes in technical schools, scientific and other institutes, factories and other production centres in each country, grant of scholarship, etc.,
- (b) exchange of visits by experts, technicians and other personnel for the purpose of lecturing, instructing and acquiring expert knowledge in the other country,
- (c) provision of the services of experts,
- (d) exchange of technical documentation and supply of necessary equipment, including the exchange and supply of corresponding information,
- (e) provision of consultancy services for specific projects in accordance with the plans and priorities of either country,
- (f) cooperation between scientific institutions and bodies of the two countries in regard to scientific research, and exchange of information, books and scientific publications,
- (g) cooperation between the production enterprises under State control in finding the most suitable technical solutions and attaining increased productivity, and
- (h) establishment of industrial collaboration between the two countries.

ARTICLE 5

The two Governments have appointed the following for purposes of implementation of the technical, economic and scientific co-

operation as provided for in this Agreement: On behalf of the Government of the Republic of India, "the Ministry of External Affairs"; and on behalf of the Government of the People's Republic of Mozambique, "the Ministry of Development and Economic Planning". These authorities shall keep in touch with each other on all questions relating to the realisation of the approved programme of technical, economic and scientific cooperation between the two countries.

ARTICLE 6

In order to establish periodically the quantum and conditions of mutual technical, economic and scientific cooperation and to review the progress made, the representatives of the authorities mentioned in Article 5 of this Agreement shall meet either in New Delhi or in Maputo as and when necessary. The decisions taken at these meetings shall be subject to the approval of the competent authorities of the two countries as constituted by the two Governments under Article 5 of this Agreement.

ARTICLE 7

The terms and conditions of the services of experts and trainees and of all other forms of technical, economic and scientific co-operation referred to in Article 4 of this Agreement shall be agreed upon in each case between the respective institutions and organisations of the two Governments in the individual arrangements as contemplated in Article 2 of this Agreement. Where necessary, these terms and conditions shall also provide for prohibition of disclosure of such knowledge or information as may be acquired by the recipient party.

ARTICLE 8

The experts, technicians and other personnel as referred to in Article 5 of this Agreement shall be required to comply with the laws and regulations in force from time to time in the country in which they perform their duties, render or carry on their activities.

ARTICLE 9

Each Government shall, in accordance with its laws and regulations, extend to the experts and or trainees of the other Government all such courtesies and facilities as may be reasonably necessary for an efficient discharge of their duties under this Agreement.

ARTICLE 10

The present Agreement shall come into force on the date of signing. The present

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Agreement shall remain in force for a period of five years. Thereafter, it shall be automatically renewed for periods of one year, unless either Government terminates it by giving the other a written notice through diplomatic channels of its intention to terminate this Agreement, at least six months prior to the expiry of any of the aforesaid period of validity of this Agreement.

In case of expiry of the present Agreement, its provisions shall continue to be applied to the obligations not yet terminated and resulting from the contracts of economic, scientific and technical cooperation concluded during the period of validity of this Agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the representatives of the two countries, duly authorised by their respective Governments, have signed this Agreement.

Done at Maputo on the 8th October in the year one thousand nine hundred and seventy six, in duplicate, in the Hindi, Portuguese and English languages, all the texts being equally authentic.

MOZAMBIQUE INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Oct 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

Indo-Pakistan Joint Communique on New Delhi Talks on Salal Project

Following is the text of the joint communique issued in New Delhi at the conclusion of talks between the delegations of India and Pakistan on October 7, 1976:

At the invitation of His Excellency Shri J. S. Mehta, Foreign Secretary, Government of India, a Pakistan delegation led by His Excellency Mr. Agha Shahi, Foreign Secretary, Government of Pakistan, visited New Delhi, from October 3 to 7, 1976 to hold talks concerning differences over the design of the Salal Hydro Electric Project to be built by India on the River Chenab.

The Pakistan Foreign Secretary was assisted by the following: His Excellency Mr. Fida Hassan, Pakistan Ambassador in India, Mr. Khalilur Rehman, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Fuel, Power and Natural Resources, Mr. Hayat Mehdi, Director-General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Habibur Rehman, Pakistan Indus Water Commissioner, Mr. Shahid M. Amin, Minister, Embassy of Pakistan, Mr. Mujahid Hossain, Counsellor, Embassy of Pakistan, and Mr. Zafar Hilaly, Director, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The Indian Foreign Secretary was assisted by the following.: Shri Y. K. Murthy, Chairman, Central Water Commission, Shri K. S. Bajpai, Ambassador of India in Pakistan, Shri C. C. Patel, Additional Secretary, Department of Irrigation, Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, Shri K. S. Subramanyam, Member, Central Electricity Authority, Dr. I. P. Singh, Joint Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, Dr. S. P. Jagota, Joint Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, Shri O. P. Chadha, Joint Secretary, Department of Irrigation, Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, and Commissioner for Indus Waters, Shri R. C. Bhargava, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Energy, Shri A. N. Harkauli, Member

(Design & Research), Central Water Commission, Shri K. Doshi, Counsellor, Embassy of India, Islamabad, Shri M. N. Venkatesan, Director (Monitoring), Central Water Commission and Mrs. L. K. Ponappa, Under Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs.

During his stay in New Delhi, His Excellency Mr. Agha Shahi was received by the Prime Minister of India, Smt. Indira Gandhi. He also called on Shri Jagjivan Ram, Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation, Shri K. C. Pant, Minister of Energy and Shri

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P. N. Haksar, Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission.

The two delegations held several rounds of detailed discussions with a view to arriving at a mutually satisfactory settlement of their differences regarding the design of the Salal Plant, in terms of the Indus Water Treaty 1960.

The discussions were held in an amicable atmosphere.

The two Foreign Secretaries noted that the spirit of accommodation shown by both sides had enabled differences to be considerably narrowed. They recognised that despite their best efforts it had not been possible to agree on all points relating to the design of the plant in the short space of the current round of negotiations. They agreed that the matter should be discussed further. For this purpose the Pakistan Foreign Secretary has extended an invitation to an Indian Delegation led by the Indian Foreign Secretary to visit Islamabad from 19th October to 21st October, 1976.

The Pakistan Foreign Secretary expressed his sincere thanks to the Indian Foreign Secretary for the warm hospitality extended to the Pakistan delegation.

PAKISTAN INDIA USA LATVIA CHAD

Date : Oct 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

PAKISTAN

Indo-Pakistan Joint Communiqué on Islamabad Talks on Salal Project

Following is the text of the joint communiqué issued on October 21, 1976 at the conclusion of talks between the delegations of India and Pakistan held in Islamabad:

Pursuant to the invitation extended by His Excellency Mr. Agha Shahi, Foreign Secretary, Government of Pakistan, at the conclusion of the talks held in New Delhi from 3 to 7 October 1976 on the design of the Salal Hydro-Electric Project, an Indian delegation led by His Excellency Mr. Jagat S. Mehta, Foreign Secretary, Government of India, visited Islamabad from 19 to 21 October, 1976.

The Indian Foreign Secretary was assisted by the following: H. E. Mr. K. S. Bajpai, Ambassador of India in Pakistan, Mr. C. C. Patel, Secretary, Department of Irrigation, Mr. Y. K. Murthy, Chairman, Central Water Commission, Dr. I. P. Singh, Joint Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, Mr. O. P. Chadha, Joint Secretary, Department of Irrigation and Commissioner for Indus Waters, Mr. R. C. Bhargava, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Energy, Mr. Kiran Doshi, Counsellor, Embassy of India, Mr. Nareshwar Dayal, Counsellor, Embassy of India, Mr. M. N. Venkatesan, Director, Central Water Commission, Dr. R. K. Dixit, Director, Ministry of External Affairs and Mrs. L. K. Ponappa, Under Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs.

The Pakistan Foreign Secretary was assisted by the following: His Excellency Mr. S. Fida Hassan, Ambassador of Pakistan

assisted by the following: His Excellency in India, Mr. Masrur Hasan Khan, Secretary, Ministry of Fuel, Power and Natural Resources, Mian Khalilur Rehman, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Fuel, Power and Natural Resources, Mr. Hayat Mehdi, Director General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr. S. Habibur Rehman, Pakistan Commissioner for Indus Waters and Mr. Z. A. Hilaly, Director, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

During his stay in Islamabad His Excellency Mr. Jagat S. Mehta was received by the Prime Minister of Pakistan Mr. Zulfikar Ali Bhutto. He also called on Mr. Aziz Ahmed, Minister of State for Defence and Foreign Affairs.

The two delegations resumed discussions on various points relating to the design of the Salal Project. The discussions, which were comprehensive in nature, succeeded in creating a better understanding of each other's viewpoint and in resolving some of the outstanding points. It was recognised that certain aspects needed to be studied further. They, therefore, agreed that the two delegations should meet again as soon as these studies had been completed.

The talks were held in the same amicable atmosphere as prevailed during the

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discussions in Delhi. The Foreign Secretaries expressed satisfaction at the earnest efforts made to resolve the remaining differences in keeping with the letter and spirit of the Indus Waters Treaty of 1960. They expressed the hope that during the next round of talks the two delegation would be able to arrive at a mutually satisfactory solution.

The Indian Foreign Secretary expressed his sincere thanks to the Pakistan Foreign Secretary for the warm hospitality extended to the Indian delegation,

PAKISTAN USA INDIA LATVIA CHAD IRAN

Date : Oct 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

POLAND

Indo-Polish Long-Term Trade Agreement

The following press release on the Indo-Polish long-term trade agreement was issued in New Delhi on October 21, 1976:

A protocol on the programme of trade development between India and Poland for the period 1977-80 was signed, here today, by the Union Minister of Commerce, Prof. D. P. Chattopadhyaya, and Dr. J. Olszewski, Polish Minister of Foreign Trade and Shipping on behalf of their respective countries. The four-year agreement which will commence from January 1, 1977, will be the first of its kind with Poland, India's second largest trading partner among the socialist countries.

In accordance with the new trade plan, Poland would supply to India essential raw-materials like urea and sulphur, non-ferrous metals like zinc and electrolytic copper, ships, mining machinery, machine tools, textile machinery, various chemicals including DDT and caprolactum. India's exports cover a large range of manufactures and engineering products as well as some of the traditional commodities for which Poland has become a steady market. India would export machine tools, textile machinery, electronic equipment, pneumatic handtools, electric equipment for domestic and commercial use, steel pipes and malleable castings, aluminium core conductors, builders, hardware and sanitary fitting various chemicals, pharmaceuticals and drugs, finished leather and leather goods, mica and products, cotton textiles including cotton knit-wear, rayon and synthetic fabrics, carpets, sports goods,

stationery and handicrafts, etc. Amongst the traditional commodities included are de-oiled cakes, tea including tea bags and packets, coffee, jute, shellac and linseed and castor oil and iron ore.

TARGETTED TURNOVER

For the commodities included in the plan, an annual trade turnover of Rs. 2,300 million rising to Rs. 2,600 in 1980 is envisaged at constant prices.

Meanwhile the annual plan relating to trade exchanges during 1977 was also signed, here today, by Dr. P. O. Alexander, Foreign Trade Secretary, and Dr. E. Wisniewski, Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade and Shipping of Poland, on behalf of their respective governments. The protocol has listed several commodities, including the core commodities specified in the long-term trade plan, for which a total turnover of about Rs. 2,600 million is expected.

The idea of having a long-term trade plan with Poland was mooted when Prof. Chattopadhyaya visited Warsaw in November last year. As a result of his discussions with Dr. Olszewski, it was agreed that in order to lend stability to trade and to promote proper planning of commodities and

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products with longer cycle, it would be useful to frame a longer term trade plan for the core commodities. The present protocol has been the culmination of several rounds of talks held here and in Warsaw during the last one year.

PRODUCTION COOPERATION

In addition to the trade involving exchange of commodities, discussions have taken place for cooperation for production in several fields for exports like fisheries, derivatives of agricultural products, production of meat for exports and the possibility of cooperation for production of chemicals and pharmaceuticals for exports have been explored and technical level discussions have

been held. It has been felt that with the development of the respective economies and their changing needs and capabilities it is necessary to lend new dimensions to the content and coverage of trade and economic co-operation. Cooperation in several other sectors including mining have of course been discussed under the aegis of the Indo-Polish Joint Commission earlier.

The Polish trade delegation led by Dr. Olszewski had talks with Indian delegation led by Prof. Chattopadhyaya from October 19 to 21, 1976. Dr. Olszewski also held discussions with Ministers of several Economic Ministries and Indo-Polish Chamber of Commerce. He visited certain industrial establishments in Faridabad including those set up with Polish technical collaboration.

Poland is the second largest trading partner of India among the socialist countries. India also occupies the top position in Poland's trade with the developing countries. Twenty per cent of the total volume of Polish trade with the third world account for trade with India.

The trade between India and Poland has risen steadily over the last decade. From a figure of Rs. 310 million in 1963, the mutual trade rose to Rs. 860 million in 1973 and Rs. 1330 million in 1974. In 1975, there was a record trade turnover of Rs. 2,000 million.

STRUCTURAL CHANGE

In the fifties and sixties, the structure of Indo-Polish trade was of traditional type covering mainly agricultural raw materials in our exports and industrial products in our imports. In the present decade the structure of our exports is shifting in the direction of non-traditional items. A large number of non-traditional items have been included in the new long-term trade agreement.

Indo-Polish trade is governed by bilateral trade and payments arrangements based on non-convertible Indian rupees. The present arrangement which began from

January 1975 is valid for an initial period of three years. The accounting procedures for the arrangement has also been streamlined. Within the framework of these arrangements, individual protocols for every calendar year are concluded for imports and exports. The trade protocol for 1976 was concluded in November 1975.

POLAND INDIA USA RUSSIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Oct 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

POLAND

Indo-Polish Agreement on Plan of Survey of Fisheries

The following press release on the Indo-Polish agreement on plan of survey of fisheries was issued in New Delhi on October 27, 1976:

India and Poland have signed a Plan of survey of fisheries resources of the North-west Coast of the country. The agreement was signed here today by Mrs. Anna R. Malhotra, Additional Secretary in the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation on behalf of the Government of India and Mr. Jan Celarowski, Economic Director, Deep-sea Fishing Company, on behalf of the Polish People's Republic.

Under the agreement an industrial survey of the fisheries resources along the Maharashtra and Gujarat Coasts in the depth range of 30 to 200 fathoms will be taken up with Polish assistance commencing early next year. The survey, which will last a year, will be conducted by a chartered Polish vessel and two supporting Indian ves-

sels. Sea-floor, columnar and surface fisheries resources will be covered by the survey.

SURVEY REPORTS

The survey will be conducted by Polish experts who will have Indian personnel attached to them, who will benefit from the former's technical expertise.

There will be six survey cruises each of about 40 days. At the end of each cruise reports on the results will be prepared and made available to the fishing industry. These will be in addition to the final report which will be given by the Polish side within five months of the completion of the surveys.

The cooperative survey is expected to help immensely to obtain detailed information on deep sea fisheries resources, the inadequacy of which has hampered the development of the deep-sea fishing industry in the country till now. It will assess the factors causing fluctuations in the availability of fish and aid to raise National capability in fishing technology.

OTHER AREAS

With regard to other areas, a project for the survey of pelagic fisheries resources on the South-west coast with UNDP assistance is already functioning. Steps have also been taken to secure assistance for similar surveys on the North-east coast with Norwegian assistance and on the South-east Coast with UNDP assistance.

It is expected that the results of these surveys will lead to a major breakthrough in deep-sea fishing and the operation of a larger number of deep-sea fishing vessels by the Indian fishing industry.

POLAND INDIA LATVIA USA

Date : Oct 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

TANZANIA

Prime Ministers Speech at Banquet in Her Honour in Dar-es-Salaam

Following is the text of the Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi's speech at the banquet given in her honour by Dr. Julius K. Nyerere, President of the United Republic of Tanzania, in Dar-es-Salaam on October 11, 1976:

Mr. President, you are recognised not only as the creator and leader of resurgent Tanzania, but as a symbol of Africa's devotion to freedom, of its yearning for equality and of its commitment to humanity. At every international gathering which it has been my privilege to attend along with you, I have seen how greatly the statesmen of the world value your wisdom and advice. We in India have greatly admired your vision of a united mankind and your life-long work to combat injustice and inequality. The Nehru Award, which you graciously accepted, is a mark of our appreciation of your contribution. I have benefitted by your judgements and consider your friendship a privilege. I bring you the good wishes of the Indian people.

The last time I was here thirteen years ago, Tanganyika was newly free and the Tanzanian Union was about to be formed. In fact Africa itself had just begun to emerge from the eclipse of colonialism. Today, most of Africa is master of itself except for a few countries where racism, the worst form of colonialism, is making a last-ditch stand. It is exciting to be back on the mainland of Africa when the final battle is about to be joined. There can be no doubt as to its outcome. What we are concerned with is that the travail should not be unduly prolonged.

Let me reiterate India's solidarity with the freedom fighters of Africa.

The relationship between Africa and India goes back to ancient times. The life and work of Mahatma Gandhi in the last decade of the last century and the first 15 years of this century are a further link in the common destinies of our two continents. In our own generation, we have both fought against colonialism. Today our countries are striving to build new societies composed of diverse strands.

Whether we like it or not, to some extent we are all foster-children of Western technology. It would be futile and unwise to refuse the enormous advantages of modern science for our people. But the pace of technological change is so overwhelmingly rapid that it is necessary for older cultures to make conscious efforts to safeguard their personalities. So we must discriminate between what in the Western legacy is beneficial and what is unsuitable for us, and similarly in our own heritage and ways of life how much that is obsolete needs to be discarded and what should be preserved because of its continuing relevance, utility and beauty.

The general claim of Western nations, which dominated Asia and Africa for nearly two centuries, is that they brought science, law and democracy to us. The British tried to replace Indian institutions by their own models of political and administrative institutions which had developed in entirely different geographical and historic conditions. Some of their values were beneficial, some were practical, but many were positively harmful. When British engineers built our first railways, they were so ignorant of the natural water-courses of our terrain that large tracts of our country were rendered barren. In their passion to reduce India's complexity to the manageable proportions of their own comprehension, they formulated laws and codes which broke down the structure of social obligations. For example, the maintenance of ponds, canals and forests,

which until then had been regarded as the collective, voluntary duty of the people, became Governmental responsibility, which meant their falling into neglect. The colonialists' lack of understanding of village organisation, and their deliberate destruction of our village economy was perhaps the greatest damage they did to India. Earlier we had production by the masses. Colonial rule and Western technology disturbed this with its obsession with labour-saving methods.

The revival of rural India was one of the most significant lessons taught us by Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru. If poverty is to be conquered, it must be eradicated in the village, without causing exodus from village to city. Mahatma Gandhi also rediscovered the vitality of the old system of village self-government. The village councils or panchayats provided people the opportunity to participate in decisions of importance to their own lives. They settled personal and property disputes with practical wisdom and an ingrained sense of fairplay. Jawaharlal Nehru tried to revive panchayats: so that they could serve as a grass-roots layer of democracy, buttressing the elected national Parliament and State Assemblies which our Constitution provides.

In colonies ruled by Britain there was a historical conditioning in favour of the Westminster form of parliamentary government. The prevalence of English as the language of education and administration also gave an edge to British and American political literature. Most of our own educated persons believed that what worked for Britain and United States must necessarily be suitable and good for us. Dealing with mass poverty and providing social justice while national economic strength is in the process of being built brick by brick, is a challenge which is not part of the political experience of the West. There the industrial revolution occurred before the political revolution, and capital could be accumulated with impunity through the exploitation of their own people and those of their colonies. In our countries, political awareness has come first. Our very nationhood is a consequence and

expression of this awakening. It is obvious that we cannot tread the road of capitalist growth taken by Europe and America. We have to hew our own path, recognising that political processes and institutions which are allied to laissez faire economic doctrines cannot provide answers to our problems. Our democracy is an extension of our freedom struggle. Democracy in essence is the sovereignty of the people exercising itself and controlling Government. We cannot accept

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the presumption that foreign inspectors should certify our actions.

There was a time when we were regarded as lesser breeds beyond the law. Now we are told that the rule of law is one of the sedimentary benefits of colonialism. In India we have had the ancient concept of dharma, which meant both law and right, to which even kings and governments must bow. But the idea of personal rights, enforceable by courts, was brought from the West. In practice, we find that our legal system has favoured the forces of status quo and large property. The law has remained inaccessible to the large majority of our population. In many areas of our economic and political life, legislations and litigation became methods of circumventing the noble ideals which inspired the founding fathers of our Constitution. In fact, advantage of the freedom vouchsafed by our Constitution was taken by some groups to nullify and fragment our very structure. This we have now realised and are trying, within the framework of the Constitution, to amend some imported principles and procedures to prevent law from becoming self-defeating. These changes have the broad support of our national opinion.

It is our experience that in evolving national patterns of life to solve our distinctive problems, foreign political institutions, whether of the so-called free world or of the Marxist-socialist world, are only of limited utility. Many of the assumptions underlying these systems are already obsolete, for they

did not take into account the technological and social changes that have so altered the world in the last few decades, let alone the shocks of the future.

In Tanzania you are engaged in a task, like our own, of building institutions suited to your national genius. Your concepts of freedom and socialism have absorbed many ideas that arose elsewhere, yet are recognisably Tanzanian, Umoja, Ujamaa and Maendeleo, which Tanzania has evolved and is pursuing with such fervour under president Nyerere's guidance and are valuable additions to mankind's experiments in social reconstruction.

Apart from the similarity in the social, economic and political problems which our two countries face, and the correspondence in our endeavour to modernise and transform our societies, we share a common world view. We are striving to Promote international understanding and cooperation and to reduce conflict and confrontation. We steer our course by the star of non-alignment and our destination is peace and concord.

A great deal of what we non-aligned forecast has come to pass. Today there are more contacts between members of opposing blocs, some limited agreements in economic and technological co-operation, and resolution of some political conflicts. But the age of confrontation has by no means ended.

Military presences are being extended and camp-followers and clients sought. We who live along the Indian Ocean are especially perturbed at the intrusion of friction and dangers into our area. In Asia and in Africa tensions are being provoked which will imperil peace. The motivation of the actions of several Governments is not the good of the people of these areas but the presumed advantages to themselves and their global strategies.

We in India are resolved to resist pressures and continue to play our part in reducing conflict while supporting the cause of freedom and equality. I particularly applaud Tanzania for promoting international peace

and helping other African nations. The dramatic decline and fall of the Portuguese empire took everyone by surprise. Several new independent states have emerged in Africa. However, before the achievement of independence, during the long years when the light at the end of the tunnel seemed to be receding, the generous hospitality and assistance of the Tanzanian Government to the National Liberation Movements kept the flame of freedom alive in African colonies. In our small way we did what we could to help in this. All of Africa and the entire newly independent world salutes Tanzania and President Nyerere personally.

The African people are yet to achieve ultimate victory in their struggle. Zimbabwe and Namibia are in the midst of crises. The attainment of freedom and self-determination for the African majority can break no obstacles. The question is one of time and manner. Now it seems to be a matter of months, not years.

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I have had some personal contact with the spirit of rebellion in South Africa. So long astir beneath a seemingly static surface, it has now bubbled into the open. The participation of people of all races in the agitation against racial discrimination and apartheid is a welcome phenomenon. The ruling minority group has learnt nothing from its own experience or that of others and is react to the popular struggle's assumption of new and more active forms. The coming years in Africa, and particularly in southern Africa, will be burdened with this agonising death struggle of neocolonialism. Tanzania, because of its vicinity and also its steadfast stand on principles, will bear some of the brunt. But the fight for the rights of South Africans has to be waged not merely in Africa but all over the world, in the United Nations, and outside. We in India stand solidly with you on these issues.

Less dramatic than this political problem but one that deeply concerns the future of all of us - the poorer three-fourths of the world - is the question of economic in-

equality between nations. Here again, Tanzania and India have cooperated with each other over the last several years. The Economic Declaration recently passed in Colombo must become a manifesto for diplomatic action in the United Nations and its various specialised agencies. We must strive to create new international institutions and reform existing ones. We do not ask the affluent for sacrifices. Nor do we wish to adopt their levels of conspicuous consumption. We do believe in greater equality in the use of world resources. All that we need for our people is a certain minimum standard of living which will ensure them their personal wants and individual dignity.

Our attempts at persuasion of the richer nations to appreciate our point of view have failed. Let us not be bitter or lose faith in our objectives. There is no alternative to co-existence and urgent peaceful international cooperation. Our journey must continue and it is reassuring that Tanzania and India will be partners along the way,

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, I request you to join me in a toast to the health and success of Mwalimu Julius Nyerere, to the fulfilment of Tanzania's dreams, and to Indo-Tanzanian friendship.

TANZANIA USA INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC NAMIBIA SOUTH AFRICA SRI LANKA

Date : Oct 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

TANZANIA

President Nyerere's Speech

Following is the text of President Nyerere's speech at the banquet:

It gives me very great pleasure to welcome the Indian Prime Minister to Tanzania. And - if I may say so without appearing to interfere in India's internal affairs - my pleasure is increased when it is Mrs. Gandhi who holds that high office. For I have known Mrs. Gandhi now for many years, I have watched her at work in service to the people of her country and beyond. And I am, therefore, one of the millions of people who have the very highest personal admiration and respect for our guest of honour this evening.

With a population of about 650 million people, India is the second largest nation in the world, its people speak many different languages, have different religions, and differing cultural traditions. Great contrasts of wealth and poverty, of high education and illiteracy, and of power and subjection to power, were part of the inheritance of independent India. So too was an economy tied to the developed nations of Europe - and to the interests of international capitalism.

No one, and certainly not Mrs. Gandhi herself, asserts that the problems inherent in such conditions have been overcome. But under Mrs. Gandhi's leadership they are now being tackled with determination, and commitment to justice for all the people of India -- and not just for the few. This has not been easy to achieve. Powerful economic and social vested interests for a long time waged an unscrupulous economic and political war against the democratically elected Indian Government - and did so in the name of democracy: Finally, in June last year, Mrs. Gandhi was forced to declare a state of

Emergency in order that her Government should be able to carry out the mandate on which it was overwhelmingly elected. Even in this short time, the results are beginning to show. Land redistribution has made progress, economic production has expanded, private speculation in essential goods has been brought under control, the rich are being forced to pay their taxes, and the poor are beginning to get the goods and services they need.

Mrs. Gandhi, we know that you have many, and rather powerful critics especially in the rich Western world. But we congratulate you and your colleagues on this beginning. For we share your conviction that democracy means control by the people for the people; it is not a system by which the few have unbridled licence to exploit the needs and the ignorance of the many.

Fortunately, in the relations between India and Tanzania, no such shock treatment has even been necessary. Since this country became independent, friendship and cooperation across the Indian Ocean has been a fixed point in Tanzania's international relations. But our friendship has grown stronger as our two nations have worked together, and our cooperation has increased as Tanzania learned not to follow inherited trade patterns as if they were part of the holy scriptures.

The volume, and variety, of trade between our two countries has greatly expanded in recent years - although Tanzania is once again better at buying than it is at providing the goods which other people want to buy. In addition, the Indian Government and people have extended genuine and increasing assistance to our development. Over 600 Indian experts are now working in Tanzania. They are helping with training, Organisation, and management in very many fields - with small industries, and the development of our natural gas resources, being of special interest. And India - itself a poor country - has extended valuable credit to us, and has taken many Tanzanians for technical and professional training at India's expense.

Mrs. Gandhi's visit to Tanzania will enable our two Governments to review such bilateral arrangements. But that is not its chief importance, for our Joint Economic Commission, and the frequent exchange of ideas through ministerial and official visits, are keeping these matters under constant review.

The greatest importance of Mrs. Gandhi's welcome presence with us is the

opportunity which it gives for decisions about Third World cooperation, and about the struggle for African Liberation. For India and Tanzania both realise that real development and freedom for the peoples of the world are impossible while economic injustice dominates international exchange, and while colonialism and racialism hold sway in large areas of Africa.

Time and again, India and Tanzania have worked in close harmony for the common objective of fighting poverty. We have done so in such forums as the 7th special session of the U.N. General Assembly, and the UNCTAD conferences. We work together also in gatherings like the Commonwealth, and the Non-aligned Conference. But the work which has to be done has barely begun. For what we are working for is the fundamental restructuring of the international economic order.

Discussions between our two countries about all the matters relating to world poverty can only be helpful. For international cooperation consists very largely of interlocking bilateral and regional cooperation. World conferences lay down principles and guidelines, implementation requires decision and detailed work by the various leaders and peoples of our Third World countries. It is my hope that with Mrs. Gandhi's visit to Tanzania a further contribution may be made to the multilateral cooperation in which both India and Tanzania are involved.

But there is another struggle - equally important - in which India's support is of great significance. It often seems to me that the backing which India has consistently given to the fight against colonialism and racialism in Africa is taken for granted and passes without acknowledgement from African states. I am sure this does not worry India. For successive Indian Governments have supported the struggle for African freedom out of commitment to the principles of national freedom, and man's common humanity, and not in the hope of political or other advantage.

I would, however, like to pay tribute to

India this evening. India has been unstin-

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ting in her aid towards African liberation. And we have gained very much from being able to take her support for granted in the struggle against colonialism in Angola and Mozambique, and now in Zimbabwe and Namibia, as well as against racism in South Africa. All these struggles have already benefitted greatly from Indian diplomatic, material, and political support. Indeed, India has, from the moment of its independence and consistently since then, played a leading role in the fight against apartheid. Further, Mrs. Gandhi has said that India will "go as far as African countries can go". Let me just say that we in Tanzania know these are not empty words. The struggle takes many forms, and has many aspects. The peoples of Africa have learned that any requests for assistance which are within the capacity of India will be received with sympathy and with promptness.

Madam Prime Minister, the struggle in southern Africa is continuing. It will continue as long as necessary. In the past Tanzania has tried to fulfil its duty in these matters. We shall not give up now. We shall seize every opportunity for progress, from wherever it originates. But nothing will deflect us from standing loyally behind our comrades in southern Africa until they have won freedom, and until human dignity is recognised throughout this continent.

In the next few days we shall be discussing all these, and many other, matters of common interest. For Mrs. Gandhi's visit gives a further impulse to bilateral cooperation, and to the cooperation between our two countries and other neighbours and friends. Madam Minister, you and your colleagues are very welcome indeed.

Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, I ask you all to join me in a toast to President Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed of the Republic of India, and all the people of that great country, to Mrs. Indira Gandhi and the other

members of the Indian Government, and to ever-increasing friendship and cooperation between India and Tanzania.

TANZANIA INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC ANGOLA MOZAMBIQUE ZIMBABWE
NAMIBIA

Date : Oct 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

TANZANIA

Prime Minister's Address to the University of Dar-es-Salaam

Following is the text of Me speech of the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, delivered at the University of Dar-es-Salaam (Tanzania) on October 12, 1976:

It is a privilege to have the opportunity of addressing the University of Dar-es-Salaam, which is recognised as a key point of the crystallisation of African consciousness. It has already made notable contribution in the form of new concepts to help the progress of independent Tanzania. In a country where the leading personality is called "Mwalimu", or teacher, the role of education is well understood. Members of the faculty and students are fortunate to have him as Chancellor, and to share with him the exhilaration of watching history in the making. During the brief life of your University, you have seen progress and development and you have witnessed momentous events inside this country and outside. You have a trust to build a new nation for future generations.

Political freedom is incomplete without the liberation of the mind. The very world university connotes a totality of knowledge. While education trains for occupational skills and specialist expertise, its first function is

to give young scholars a basic acquaintance with human achievement and to foster a capacity to think for themselves, to act constructively and feel responsible for the well-being of their community. Close links with the people are essential. In its concern with the universal, education cannot ignore the national and the local. The University must pursue excellence, yet avoid elitism. It must equip young people to solve old problems and new ones, but it has also a more basic task, that is to help mould a new type of man.

The new generation, in India and in Africa, must cast aside the props and crutches of a bygone system of education. The history of Africa does not begin with the arrival of the white man as it often portrayed in Western books. We know that flourishing trade existed between India and the East Coast of Africa even in the second century A.D. Unfortunately these contacts petered out in later periods, and during our colonial

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past, contacts between us were not across the Indian Ocean but via London. We have to overcome these handicaps and study each discipline whether it be history, philosophy or anthropology from our own point of view and in relation to our own environment. We must develop our own source materials and not depend unduly on foreign scholars. For, cultural imperialism is the more devastating because it is subtle and insidious.

In his "Education for Self-Reliance", President Nyerere underlined the relationship between education and productivity. He wanted to make each level complete in itself rather than a preparatory course for the next level, and wanted education to be a preparation not for examinations but for the type of non-academic life which most students would lead. I was specially glad to note the concept of responsibility. "Responsibility means that citizens who wish to rule themselves have rights and duties."

Tanzania and India have challenges to face and promises to keep. We can ill-afford the luxury of a cloistered life or adherence to

text-book definitions. Our decisions have to be taken in the light of social objectives and the needs of our people. The challenges can be met by our people getting the right type of education and the promises can be kept by the right type of administration. We made the mistake of continuing the old systems in both. At the time of independence India was plunged in such calamity, following the partition of our homeland, that the first consideration was just to survive and hold together.

Lord Macaulay who devised the system of higher education in India, said: "We must do our best to form a class who may be interpreters between us and the millions whom we govern; a class of persons, Indian in blood and colour, but English in taste, in opinions, in morals and in intellect." I do not know who had the last laugh. Macaulay's expectations were fulfilled by the number of brown Sahibs who passed out of our colleges and universities but these same institutions became seedbeds of the Indian renaissance and of revolt against the British.

Since independence there has been a dramatic expansion of university education. The student strength has grown tenfold from 300,000 to 3,000,000. We have consciously made our universities reach out to backward areas and to the most underprivileged classes of society. Special stress has been laid on the education of women and on scientific and agricultural teaching and research. Thus, our education with all its shortcomings has been a catalyst of social change. Along with national laboratories, our universities are instruments for intellectual and technological self-reliance.

Our grain production has gone up from 55 million tonnes in 1950 to 118 million tonnes this year. In addition, we have grown 14 million tonnes of tubers. The irrigated area has increased by 58 million acres. The installed capacity of power has increased almost tenfold; now it is 21,900 megawatts. Industrial production has trebled. With no heavy industry to speak of initially, we have now become major manufacturers and exporters of machinery. We have the world's

third largest accumulation of scientists and engineers. For a nation of 605 million, self-reliance is neither chauvinistic nor merely idealistic but plain common sense and essential for development and our very survival.

What was the state of the colonies? Their wealth and resources drained, their economies stagnated and denied access to the bounties of modern science. The Industrial Revolution came to us not only a century later than in Europe, it actually promoted our enslavement. We became the source of cheap labour and raw materials for Western industry. Our flourishing arts and crafts were allowed to languish, if not altogether smothered. The modernisation of backward economies inevitably involves the import or borrowing of technology from advanced countries. But Jawaharlal Nehru undertook a life-long campaign to inculcate the scientific temper in our tradition-bound society. With far-sighted vision he established national institutions which would be able to disseminate technology and give a solid base for industry and future progress.

But industrialisation has to be accompanied by national awareness and social justice. The old colonial administration's task was only to keep law and order, now it is vitally concerned with development. In fact the load on the local authorities is now so heavy that it is becoming difficult for them to function without cooperation from the

public. Even otherwise, we believe that true democracy demands complete involvement of the people in the day-to-day affairs of their lives. That is what links education, administration and the political system.

We have come to realize that political freedom is meaningless without economic independence and cultural self-expression. That is the war President Nyerere is waging against the concentration of wealth and power, against all types of vested interests including the clutches of the multi-nationals. Socialism in Tanzania is accordingly based

on this grass roots pragmatism of generations, and your progress towards social justice has won the admiration of like-minded people everywhere.

In nature and in human affairs, the law of change works inexorably. But there is a basic core, certain fundamental values, which remain constant and unchanging. In life there is no beginning and no ending. We are not starting from scratch, for the past cannot be thrown off as a module whose function is over after it has launched us into orbit, it clings to us with its gifts as well as burdens and shapes our circumstances and attitudes. Some nations have attempted to wash away their past and refashion people's minds. Any system which makes no allowance for the resilience of the human spirit is apt to overreach itself.

We take cognizance of our past but are determined to fight its evils and obscurantism. At the same time our aim is not to copy the material standards of affluent countries, Much of the affluent countries' anger against India and Tanzania is because we do not pay them the homage of emulation; we are evolving a different way which will probably give people the same satisfaction at less expense in material resources and money, and also without regimentation. The possibility of a different approach to civilisation disturbs the ego of advanced societies. They cannot forgive us for our non-alignment, our refusal to conform to their military designs, for the moral challenge we present and the economic peril they imagine we forbode. This seems to be the reason why certain international organisations are giving full support to opposition groups within India which may or may not share their ideas but are expected to be more pliable. On different continents, external agencies deliberately foster divisions and support dissidents with money, publicity and sometimes even with weapons. The era of intervention is not over. Threats, sometimes crude sometimes subtle, continue. The idea of destabilising popular regimes no longer startles, for unfortunately it has come to be taken for granted,

President Nyerere has said that the freedom struggle is a patriotic one led by a nationalist movement rather than by a political party or parties. Thus this same nationalist movement is called upon to lead the Country after freedom. This is what, happened in India. Freedom was won by the Indian National Congress, the party which truly reflected the hopes and aspirations of the Indian people. It was but natural that it should be called upon to mould the destiny of the country. It had within its ranks such great figures as Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru. It continues to count among its members men and women of proven patriotism, service and sacrifice. And above all it is a party of the masses. Therefore through 30 years of freedom it has won the support of the masses at every election. It is a pity that many opposition parties which sprang into existence were small and fragmented with no coherent and dynamic programmes. Moreover, since the Congress ideology was socialism, secularism and democracy, these parties could not offer a more attractive programme to the millions of Indians who vote in our elections. To Western critics of our democracy, be it Indian or Tanzanian, the two-party system is the touchstone of democracy and they refuse to see that we too can have our own system without violence to the democratic Spirit.

Why is India the butt of Criticism? It is not possible to believe it is because of the declaration of Emergency which is a measure provided in our Constitution. No two Western democracies have identical systems of governance. And what is more, military dictatorships and authoritarian regimes all over the world receive moral and material, military and economic support from the Western powers. Is it because of our peaceful nuclear experiment? We have violated no treaty. But we are not prepared to be left behind in the second industrial revolu-

tion which will be the fall-out of nuclear technology. Why is no voice raised against atmospheric and underground explosions by

countries whose aims are avowedly military? The Non-Proliferation Treaty urges no ban on the stockpiling of nuclear weapons. It is obviously loaded against the interests of the newly emerging countries. The social evils, We are sincerely trying to combat, are those that sensitive people condemn even in acquisitive and permissive Western society. So, there can be only one reason for this anathema, our independence of thought and action, our determination not to be pressurised, our commitment to India's interests as we see them. I should like to reiterate that our interests lie in the larger interests of mankind, in the peace and development of all nations.

The economically affluent and militarily powerful nations who wish to rule the world are a minority. In your own continent the irresistible logic of events has been from minority rule to majority rule. In the ordering of world politics and the management of the world's resources and economic exchanges, the will of the majority - who today are deprived and disadvantaged - must ultimately prevail. The new economic order will come in existence. We, who attained independence, pre-occupied though we are with our own problems of growth and development, must not overlook the plight of our brethren in Namibia, Zimbabwe and South Africa. There, a crude malevolent but powerful remnant of nineteenth century imperialism continues in a neo-colonial form. But its hour is past and in the near future when the people of these countries win independence we shall be ready to assist them in the monumental tasks which lie ahead. Like Tanzania India has always pledged her support. Right here and now, I renew that pledge to the cause of Zimbabwe, Namibia and the ending of apartheid in South Africa.

The similarity in modern India's design of life and the one which Tanzania is pursuing under President Nyerere's leadership is a special bond of fellowship between us. India's interest in and concern for Tanzania spring from its general attitude to Africa over the decades of this century and are further accentuated by the particular identity

of ideals and aspirations of the two countries which I have tried to interpret. In this, more than anything else, is to be found the abiding attachment which has grown in the years of our freedom and which promises to be reinforced in the times to come.

I thank you for giving me this opportunity to address you and give you my good wishes.

TANZANIA USA INDIA UNITED KINGDOM LATVIA RUSSIA NAMIBIA ZIMBABWE MALDIVES

Date : Oct 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

TANZANIA

India-Tanzania Joint Communique

Following is the text of the joint communique issued on October 14, 1976 at the conclusion, of the official visit of the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, to Tanzania:

The Prime Minister of the Republic of India, Her Excellency Shrimati Indira Gandhi paid an official visit to the United Republic of Tanzania from 11 October, 1976 to 14 October, 1976 at the invitation of the President of the United Republic of Tanzania, His Excellency Mwalimu Julius K. Nyerere. The Prime Minister of India was accompanied by Shri Bansi Lal, Defence Minister. The Prime Minister addressed the students and faculty members of the University of Dar-es-Salaam, visited Zanzibar and saw some of the industrial projects undertaken by the Government.

Shrimati Indira Gandhi and her entourage were accorded an enthusiastic welcome by the Government and people of the

United Republic of Tanzania. The reception accorded to the Prime Minister and her party fully demonstrated the profound friendship and the close ties existing between the United Republic of Tanzania and India and their peoples.

While in Tanzania Shrimati Indira Gandhi and her delegation held talks with the President, Mwalimu Julius K. Nyerere. Present on the Indian Side were: Shri Bansi Lal, Minister of Defence; Prof. P. N.

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Dhar, Secretary to Prime Minister; Shri J. S. Mehta, Foreign Secretary; Shri K. D. Sharma, High Commissioner of India in Tanzania; Shri H. Y. Sharda Prasad, Information Adviser to Prime Minister; Shri K. L. Dalal, Additional Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs; Shri A. K. Damodaran, Joint Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs; Shri Salman Haider, Director, Prime Minister's Secretariat; Shri G. Parthasarathy, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs; and Shri K. Sibal, Deputy High Commissioner of India.

The Tanzanian side was represented by: Ndugu Aboud S. Jumbe, First Vice President; Ndugu R. M. Kawawa, Prime Minister and Second Vice President; Ndugu E. Sekoine, Minister for Defence and National Service; Ndugu C. D. Msuya, Minister for Industries; Ndugu I. Sepetu, Junior Minister for Foreign Affairs; Lt. Butiku, Private Secretary to the President; Prof. Rweyemamu, Personal Assistant to the President; Ndugu A. B. Suedi, Ag. Principal Secretary, Foreign Affairs; Ndugu A. D. Hassan, High Commissioner for Tanzania in India; and Ndugu G. Tunze, Director, Asia Australia, Foreign Affairs.

In keeping with their long standing commitment to non-alignment and the imperatives of international co-operation, these discussions confirmed the close similarity in the approach of the two Governments to international problems, both political and economic.

Mwalimu J. K. Nyerere informed Shrimati Indira Gandhi of the endeavours made by Tanzania through its policy of socialism and self-reliance. He emphasized the importance of the contribution so far made by India in Tanzania's vital endeavour to promote development in rural areas especially in establishing small-scale industries. The President made an appraisal of successes and difficulties encountered in developing the Ujamaa villages and servicing these vital units in social, economic, educational and technical development. The Prime Minister expressed her deep admiration for the success achieved in the realization of these objectives. The Prime Minister of India was specially impressed by the enthusiasm of the people in working for the attainment of national goals throughout her stay in Dar-es-Salaam and during her visit to Zanzibar.

The Prime Minister explained the background and rationale of the steps taken during the recent past to contain forces of disruption and de-stabilisation in India. These measures had become necessary to protect the fundamental liberties enshrined in the Constitution. Prime Minister Indira Gandhi briefed President Nyerere about India's efforts and measures so far taken to normalise and improve relations between the countries of the sub-continent and beyond. The Tanzanian side welcomed the efforts and appreciated the Indian initiative in this regard. The two sides noted with satisfaction the improvement in the atmosphere in the Indian sub-continent and expressed the hope that this would lead to the promotion and expansion of good neighbourly cooperation between all countries of the region.

The two sides discussed the rapidly developing situation in southern Africa, which has now become the focus of world attention. The crisis in Zimbabwe, the lack of progress in Namibia and the continuation of racial discrimination and apartheid in South Africa together present to the conscience of the world the greatest moral and political challenge of our time. At this historic moment, the supreme need is for unity and steadfastness of purpose so that the true

representatives of the people are able to determine the future of their countries.

President Nyerere took the opportunity to appraise the Prime Minister of the recent developments in southern Africa. On Rhodesia, President Nyerere briefed Shrimati Indira Gandhi on the progress of the current intensified armed struggle waged by the heroic Zimbabwean people and other forms of pressure exerted by the international community on the criminal racist minority regime. These pressures have brought about a favourable situation for an early victory of the Zimbabweans. In this connection, the President and the Prime Minister welcomed the statement of the five Presidents of the front-line states on the convening of the Constitutional Conference for the immediate transfer of power to the African majority prior to full national independence. At the same time both leaders called on the Zimbabwean people to continue the struggle and maintain pressure until the real transfer of power has been effected. They pledged all possible assistance to the people of Zimbabwe to achieve that end.

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With regard to Namibia, the two leaders condemned the illegal occupation of that territory by South Africa. They expressed their conviction that it is the duty of the United Nations, which has legal authority over the territory, to see to it that Namibia attains her independence under the leadership of SWAPO which is recognised by the U.N. and the O.A.U., as the sole representative of the Namibian people. Both leaders further reaffirmed their full support to the Namibian people in their legitimate struggle by all necessary means, including armed struggle under the leadership of SWAPO.

The two leaders expressed their deep concern over the continued denial of basic human rights to a vast majority of the people of South Africa. They strongly condemned the massacre of innocent African people in Soweto. They expressed their support for the people of South Africa against the cruel system of apartheid and called on the inter-

national community to lend all possible support to this struggle. They expressed the view that since apartheid has been declared a crime against humanity, the international community has a duty to intensify the isolation of the apartheid regime by the application of mandatory arms embargo as well as economic sanctions against South Africa. The two leaders condemned the creation of Bantustans and reaffirmed the decisions of their Governments not to recognise Transkei or any other Bantustan.

The two leaders reiterated their support to the proposal for making the Indian Ocean a zone of peace free from great power rivalry and all foreign military bases. They particularly expressed their regret and concern at the continued military build-up in Diego Garcia. They called upon the great powers and the major maritime users to fully cooperate with the littoral and hinterland states in achieving the objectives of the U.N. Declaration making the Indian Ocean a zone of peace. The two leaders agreed that their countries would maintain close contact with each other on developments in the Indian Ocean.

Reviewing the situation in the Middle East, the two leaders expressed serious concern at the continuing crisis in that region. Both sides stressed that there could be no just and lasting settlement in the region without Israeli withdrawal from all Arab territories occupied by force in 1967 and the restoration of the legitimate rights of the people of Palestine.

The Prime Minister of India thanked the Government and people of the United Republic of Tanzania for the spontaneous hospitality extended to her and the members of her delegation throughout their stay. She renewed the earlier invitation extended to the President of the United Republic of Tanzania to visit India. The invitation was accepted.

TANZANIA INDIA USA AUSTRALIA MALI ZIMBABWE NAMIBIA SOUTH AFRICA ISRAEL

Date : Oct 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Indo-UAE Joint Communiqué

Following is the text of the joint communiqué issued on October 7, 1976 at the conclusion of the State visit of the President of India, Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, to the United Arab Emirates:

At the invitation of His Highness Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al-Nahayan, the President of the United Arab Emirates, Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, the President of India accompanied by Begum Abida Ahmed, paid a State visit to the United Arab Emirates from October 4 to 7, 1976.

During his stay, the President of India held talks with the President of the United

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Arab Emirates, and His Highness Sheikh Rashid Bin Saeed Al Maktoum, Vice-President of the United Arab Emirates. He visited places of cultural and economic interest in the United Arab Emirates.

Wherever the President of India and party went, they were accorded a very warm and cordial welcome by the people and the Government of the United Arab Emirates, indicating the brotherly sentiments cherished by the people of the United Arab Emirates towards the people of India.

The President of India held wide-ranging discussions with the President of the United Arab Emirates. These discussions, which were held in an atmosphere of friendship, cordiality and mutual understanding, cover-

ed issues of international importance as well as of bilateral cooperation in all aspects and revealed a close similarity of views, held by the leaders of the two countries.

Both sides reaffirmed their adherence to the principles of the United Nations Charter and to the principles of sovereign equality of all the States and non-interference in internal affairs. They reiterated their faith in the policy of non-alignment and expressed satisfaction at the outstanding success achieved by the recent conference of Heads of States and Governments of non-aligned countries held in Colombo. They were confident that the wide acceptance of the Declaration issued by the Conference, would make a major contribution to international peace and cooperation, and to the creation of a just international order.

The President, of India and the President of the United Arab Emirates called for the intensification of efforts to achieve complete and universal disarmament, including nuclear disarmament, under effective international control. They stressed the importance of harnessing nuclear power for peaceful purposes and agreed that the benefits and knowledge of nuclear technology should be available to all countries.

The two leaders reviewed the international economic situation, and called upon the developed states to place their economic relations with developing states on an equitable and just basis. Both sides reiterated their conviction that rapid growth of technical and economic cooperation between developing countries is of crucial importance to their collective self-reliance and economic development.

The President of India and the President of the United Arab Emirates expressed grave concern at the continued conflict and tension in the Middle East. They agreed that a solution of this issue could only be based on the withdrawal of Israel from all occupied Arab territories and on the recovery and exercise by the Palestinian people of their inalienable national rights. They also called on all parties concerned to end the fratricidal

conflict in Lebanon.

The two leaders reaffirmed the importance to all countries in the area of the implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace, free from foreign military bases and Great Power rivalry and tension: they called on the great Powers to cooperate with the littoral and hinterland states for the earliest realisation of the objectives of the United Nations resolutions in this regard.

The two sides reviewed the serious situation resulting from the practice of apartheid and racial discrimination in Southern Africa. They reiterated their firm resolve to continue their principled support to the struggle to liquidate apartheid, racial discrimination, colonial exploitation and domination in Southern Africa. To this end, the two sides expressed their determination to assist the liberation movements there by all possible means.

The President of India explained the steps taken by India to normalise and improve relations between the countries of the Indian sub-continent in order to create an environment of peace and friendship. The President of the United Arab Emirates appreciated these steps and expressed the hope that the cooperative efforts of the countries of the sub-continent would make this a region of peace and stability.

The two sides noted with satisfaction the expanding commercial, economic and technical relations between the two countries. They agreed that there was great scope for further expanding cooperation between the two countries in these fields to mutual benefit. They agreed that the Cultural Agreement which had come into force recently would augment the traditional, cultural, edu-

cational and technical exchanges. Both sides also noted with satisfaction the contribution made by Indian experts and other personnel towards the implementation of the United Arab Emirates programme of economic deve-

lopment.

The President of India thanked the President of the United Arab Emirates for the warm hospitality and friendship extended to him and his party by the Government and brotherly people of the United Arab Emirates.

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES USA INDIA SRI LANKA ISRAEL LEBANON MALI

Date : Oct 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

WORLD BANK AND INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND

Finance Minister's Address to IMF World Bank Annual Meeting

Following is the text of the speech by Shri C. Subramaniam, Minister of Finance and Governor of the IMF and World Bank for India, at the joint annual Fund Ban meeting at Manila on October 5, 1976:

At the outset I would like to thank the Government and the people of Philippines for their warm welcome and generous hospitality, so kindly extended to all of us, and the excellent arrangements made for this meeting. I have great pleasure in extending a special welcome to the delegates of the Comoros, our newest member, and the observers from Cape Verde, Maldives, Sao Tome and Principe, Seychelles, Guinea-Bissau and Surinam.

It is a matter of satisfaction that the recent trends and the prospects for the growth of world output and trade show considerable improvement over the performance of the world economy in 1975. According to available indicators, economic recovery in industrial countries seems now to be firmly established and, unlike 1975, the Volume of

world trade is expected to show a sizeable increase in 1976. However welcome these developments may be, they must not, distract our attention from the many sources of uncertainty and the deep-rooted structural imbalances which characterise the functioning of the international economic system. Unemployment and inflation rates in industrial countries still remain high by past standards. There is also the danger that the synchronization of recovery and economic expansion in major industrial countries may lead to a repetition of the boom-bust experience of 1972-74. And though there has been a moderate improvement recently in the external accounts of many non-oil developing countries, we cannot afford to lose sight of the fact that they are still faced with a most difficult and vulnerable external position.

I do not have to remind my fellow Governors how seriously the events of 1974-75 disrupted the orderly implementation of development programmes in non-oil developing countries. The sharp increase in the balance of payments deficits of these countries and shortage in the flow of concessional funds left them with no alternative but to borrow abroad on commercial terms on an unusual scale. This has gravely aggravated their debt service problems, and their economies have become even more vulnerable than they were to sudden declines in capital inflows or export receipts.

In these difficult circumstances, and faced with these challenges, we in India have had to adopt harsh and politically difficult measures to stabilize our economy and our balance of payments. Through drastic cuts in domestic consumption we managed to increase our exports last year by 8 per cent in volume at a time when world trade declined by 4 to 5 per cent. Drastic measures to curb consumption of petroleum products have been taken. Through tough fiscal and monetary policies we have succeeded in bringing inflation under control and have

also been able to impart a new element of dynamism to our agriculture and industry. As a result, our growth prospects have now improved. However, I must state that the effects of the domestic measures adopted by us can be easily neutralized by a deterioration in the international environment, such as an increase in import prices or uncertainty of aid flows.

The international community cannot but be seriously concerned that the current account deficit of the non-oil developing countries as a group is expected to remain as high as US \$ 32-33 billion in the next one year. Unless ways are found to finance this deficit in a manner which does not aggravate their already serious debt service problem, their growth prospects are bound to remain highly uncertain. This august body must take a serious view of a recent World Bank finding that low income developing countries are unlikely to be able to attain a per capita growth rate of more than 2 per cent per annum during the next decade, even with a substantial expansion in their export earnings and improved policies to mobilise their internal resources. If this trend is allowed to persist, the gap between rich and poor countries will become a vast unbridgable gulf.

Developing countries welcome the recovery in developed countries. But there is now irrefutable evidence that the gap between rich and poor countries cannot be narrowed without a basic structural reform of international economic relations. It is this recognition which finds expression in the demand for a new economic order. As Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, pointed out at the recent Conference of Heads of States and Governments of Non-Aligned Countries:

Patchwork remedies are no substitutes for genuine reforms. We need a global perspective plan which will relate resources to human needs, and provide a system of early warnings of imbalances and disasters. Improved terms of trade and credit, easier access to markets, and better value for raw materials

and industrial goods, are all essential to secure greater equity in the distribution of benefits.

In this context, we are disappointed at the results of the recent session of UNCTAD and at the slow progress being made at the Conference on International Economic Cooperation in Paris.

The confrontation of earlier decades between the privileged and the poor within developed countries themselves appears now to be getting extended to the relations between developed and developing countries. Several developed countries which were wise enough to solve this internal problem amicably, have profited as a result.

If the bitter and destabilizing consequences of such confrontation in the international field are to be avoided, or minimized it will be necessary for the developed countries to apply the lessons of their own experience to the international field. The most important action called for its adoption of effective measures which will help improve substantially the projected growth rate of low-income developing countries, and the poorer sections of their population, by increased aid and greater access to markets. The efforts of each developing country are, no doubt, of crucial importance, but need to be supplemented by international action. Developing countries have too long been buffeted between inadequate flows of aid and trade, neither of which has been forthcoming in the desired measure because of the real or supposed domestic difficulties of developed countries. This deplorable situation cannot continue for long.

The demand for a new international economic order can no longer be dismissed as utopian. It is my hope that our deliberations this week at the meetings of the Interim Committee and the Development Committee and at this Annual Meeting may help to rekindle hope and revive our faith in international economic cooperation as an effective instrument for reducing inequalities in income and wealth among the countries of the world. As was stressed by our Prime

Minister at the Colombo meeting of non-aligned countries, India stands for promoting greater economic cooperation between developed and developing countries and not for economic confrontation. It is in our view crucial that the community of nations should jointly and peacefully achieve that elusive equation between global production and consumption that yields the right share for each nation.

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As I see it, the most important task before us this week is to ensure that both the World Bank and the IMF are properly equipped to play their legitimate role in assisting the process of economic and social transformation of the developing world.

Obviously, foremost priority attaches to a substantial fifth replenishment of IDA to enable it to expand its lending significantly in real terms. We are greatly concerned that even the Fourth Replenishment of IDA is still not complete. It is unfortunate that IDA lending will decline substantially in the current year. While we are assured that negotiations among Part I countries are progressing, there is no assurance that they will be completed in time to avoid a hiatus in IDA operations next year, which would be most unfortunate.

It is a sad commentary on the functioning of the present economic system that, time after time, IDA is faced with the uncertainty of resources. It is necessary to devise a mechanism which would translate into reality the desire of the UN General Assembly that IDA operations should be "predicable, continuous and assured." We hope that all Part I countries will rise to the occasion, as they have done more than once before, to ensure that Mr. McNamara obtains the commitment authority he needs by next June to sustain IDA lending at an appropriately high level.

I note with appreciation that a selective increase in the resources of the Bank has already been agreed upon, and trust that legislative approvals will be forthcoming soon. But it is clear that there will be

serious inadequacy of development resources accruing to the developing countries if the Bank's annual lending programme is frozen at a level of US \$ 5.8 billion. This will in fact imply a decrease in lending in real terms in the coming years. Sooner rather than later, a substantial general increase in the Bank's capital will be necessary if this institution, which has grown greatly and diversified its lending operations under the dynamic guidance of Mr. McNamara, is to fulfil its role as an international development agency. Recent efforts to convert it, in effect, into a commercial bank need to be countered vigorously.

The replenishment of IDA and a general increase in the Bank's capital require the urgent attention of all governments. At the same time there is need for enlargement in bilateral aid programmes, improvement in the quality of aid generally, and acceptance of policies of global reallocation of external financial resources in a manner which will maximize their effectiveness in furthering the objectives of development in countries with differing economic circumstances and prospects. Events of the last two years have greatly added to the urgency of debt rescheduling being considered as an essential element of a policy of global economic co-operation. Debt rescheduling operations should be viewed in a long-term perspective as providing a much needed increase in the transfer of real resources for development. Short-term considerations, such as movements in reserves, or so-called ability to meet payments obligations, ought not to colour unduly this long-term perspective. This issue needs to be considered in depth, and I would hope that the Development Committee will focus attention on it in the coming months.

It is unfortunate that the target of US \$ 1 billion of Third Window lending has not yet been reached. Efforts should be continued to mobilize adequate resources for the Subsidy Fund to enable attainment of this target as soon as possible. This has become all the more important in view of the increase in the lending rate of the World Bank.

We agree with Mr. McNamara that equality of opportunity among men, both within nations and between nations, is becoming a critical issue of our time. My own government is fully committed to the view that development acquires its true significance only to the extent that it leads to progressive increase in the standards of living of the poorer sections of our people. Removal of poverty constitutes the kingpin of our development strategy. In this area, we leave significant achievements to our credit but are aware that much remains to be done. In pursuance of the objective of speedy removal of poverty, we have recently introduced some new programmes with central emphasis on integrated rural development, taking into account the specific resource endowments, needs and potentialities of different local areas. This approach, and these programmes, seek to raise the producti-

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vity and the earning capacity of the rural poor by harnessing modern science and technology in the service of development through exploitation of local natural resources and utilisation of local manpower.

We, therefore, welcome the emphasis being placed on agricultural production and rural development, and the increasing concentration of Bank and IDA operations on programmes for relieving the poverty of the rural and urban masses. At the same time, it is important that the lending operations of the World Bank Group should be such as do not distort national priorities. They must have the necessary flexibility to accommodate the differing needs and situations of borrowing countries. Industrial development - and the infrastructure needed for this - is equally essential for economic growth, eradication of poverty and a sustained increase in export earnings. Structural problems in these sectors cannot be addressed through a standard project approach.

I would here stress the need for an increasing proportion of the Bank Group resources being made available for larger and

continued programme and sector lending. The strong case for such lending made out in the Pearson Commission's Report needs to be followed up more vigorously than has been the case so far and any move away from this would be unfortunate. It must be appreciated that short-term assistance from the fund is no substitute for long-term programme and sector lending from the Bank. The former alleviates only temporary balance of payment difficulties, while the latter is of immense help in bringing about long-term structural changes. In any case, as of now programme lending constitutes only 4 to 7 per cent of the Bank's annual commitments. I would strongly support, Mr. Chairman, your proposal that the proportion of programme lending should be immediately increased to at least 15 per cent.

I would like to take this opportunity to call for an early review of the Bank's Articles of Agreement, which have now become outdated and unnecessarily restrictive, especially in regard to capital increase, capital subscription, voting rights, borrowing limits, lending methods and lending purposes. This needs the early attention of all Governors of the Bank.

Coming to Fund matters, I am happy that the IMF took significant steps, particularly through the introduction of the oil facility and the liberalisation of the compensatory financing facility to meet the large deficits of member countries in the last two and a half years, following a sharp increase in oil and other prices. The oil facility was unfortunately short-lived, but of great use while it lasted. The Managing Director, the Executive Board and the staff deserve to be complimented for their unremitting efforts.

As we look ahead, an urgent task on which we must continue to focus attention is current account deficits of non-oil developing countries, which on the latest IMF estimates will still be running at the annual rate of US \$ 33 billion in the first half of 1977. This forecast is based on the assumption of a relatively large increase in the volume and value of the exports of these countries and a much smaller rise in the value of their

imports. Even if these optimistic assumptions turn out to be correct, the persistence of an annual deficit in excess of US \$ 30 billion is a major cause for concern, particularly as the Fund's oil facility is no longer available. The resources expected to flow to the most seriously affected countries from the Trust Fund will be less than envisaged earlier, will take four years to disburse, and in any case will be far from adequate. The liquidity of the Fund has by historical standards reached a very low level at a time when many of the developing countries will find it increasingly difficult to raise borrowings in the commercial market, because of their level of indebtedness, and the serious debt-servicing problems they are facing.

In this situation, the Fund should be able to replenish its liquid resources, and members with large surpluses should not remain averse to any reasonable measures considered necessary for this purpose. The Second Amendment, and the new quotas, should be made effective soon. It is also necessary to expedite the preparatory work for the Seventh Revision of Quotas, so that it will be possible to complete the work before the scheduled date of February 9, 1978. The quota increases in the past were inadequate in relation to the increase in world trade, and also failed to give appropriate representation to the greatly increased membership of developing countries in the decision-making processes of the Fund. Whereas in 1948, the Fund quotas amounted to 15 per cent of world trade, these will be only around 4 per cent of world trade, even after

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the forthcoming sixth revision becomes effective. The number of developing countries in the Fund membership has gone up from the original 35 to over 110; their collective voting power unfortunately has not changed significantly. If these 110 developing countries with a population of about 2 billion continue to be relegated to the position of an unimportant minority, the Fund may be seriously handicapping itself in its task of achieving the kind and degree of international cooperation that is required to ensure equitable management of the mone-

tary system.

I would like briefly to refer also to recent developments in International monetary reform. On the basis of the Jamaica agreement in the Interim Committee, which was basically in the nature of a prescription prepared and handed out by a group of rich countries, the prolonged process of drafting the Second Amendment of the IMF Articles has been completed. The Draft Amendment provides for greater flexibility to individual countries in their exchange rate policies., along with wider powers of surveillance to the Fund in this field, a framework to eliminate the central position of gold in the operations of the world monetary system. and a declaration of intent to give the SDR a central role. One cannot but be disappointed, however, that little or nothing has been done to strengthen the SDR. The various other steps will prove to be of great advantage to the developed countries, without significantly improving the situation of developing countries which face grave difficulties in a world of floating exchange rates. The developed and financially powerful countries can use the flexibility in exchange rates to their own advantage, and I cannot help feeling that it will be extremely difficult to work out a method and procedure for surveillance that is truly objective and could be administered even-handedly. There is a risk that the developing countries will be placed under great pressure to adjust their exchange rates to correct their balance of payments imbalance, even at the cost of their impoverishment. The process of adjustment, about which so much has been said, will, I fear, bear more heavily on them than on the developed countries.

I would like to refer to my statement made at the last Annual Meeting that the measures taken concerning gold will vastly raise total international liquidity and particularly benefit the small group, of industrial countries that hold over four-fifths of the gold stocks. Already the distribution of international reserves is grossly unfavourable for the overwhelming number of developing countries, having regard to their needs and the inadequate facilities available to

them for alternate sources of financing. It may be relevant to note here that the proportion of international reserves accounted for by gold, and held mainly by developed countries, will go up from 18 per cent in 1975 to nearly 40 per cent as a result of revaluation. It is, therefore, most important that the above arrangements should not be made the excuse for postponing the creation and distribution of liquidity through the allocation of SDRs in a manner appropriately advantageous to developing countries.

We have chosen these two unique international institutions to play a vital role in ushering in a new economic order in the world. On their successful functioning depends the future of the one billion poor to whom a moving reference was made by Mr. McNamara in his speech yesterday. The real question is: Will those who are in a position to do so provide these institutions with the necessary means to fulfil objectives to which we stand pledged, namely, eradication of poverty and degradation in human society?

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INDIA PHILIPPINES USA COMOROS CAPE VERDE MALDIVES SAO TOME E PRINCIPE GUINEA
GUINEA!!GUINEA-BISSAU SEYCHELLES FRANCE SRI LANKA JAMAICA

Date : Oct 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

ZAMBIA

Prime Minister's Speech at Civic Reception in her Honour in Lusaka

Following is the text of the speech of the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, delivered at a civic reception in Lusaka on October 14, 1976:

It gives me very great pleasure to be here amongst you this evening. It is my third visit to Lusaka. But the second one, as you have been told, was more involved with various leaders of the non-aligned nations and I did not spend much time with Zambians or in Lusaka proper. And the first one was very long time ago in 1963. But all the visits have left vivid and pleasant memories not only of the beauty of this town but of the spirit of the people of Zambia. And today in the wonderful reception which the people gave me, I saw that that spirit is very much alive and that they have been ambued with the President's own great enthusiasm, energy and dynamism.

We in India have great admiration for your President. We admire him as a great President, as a great leader of a great country. We admire him for what he has stood for and stands for today. Some of those things have been said to you by the Lord Mayor. We admire him also for, in spite of the preoccupations which the building of a new country involves, thinking of the troubles of other people, of lending a helping hand to neighbouring States in their struggles for freedom. There is no doubt that Zambia has had to bear the brunt of much of this and people have had to bear considerable hardship. In this, they have the sympathy of the Indian people. Our own stand, as you know, has been firm and consistent in support of all the freedom struggles and now with the remaining few countries who still have to win their independence.

We have always believed, and we were told to believe even before we ourselves became free, that freedom is indivisible. that our freedom would be secure only when all other peoples could gain their freedom. . . We believe also that freedom does not end with political freedom, that it must extend to economic stability and strength, it must make freedom meaningful to every single citizen of the country. Only then can the citizen enjoy that human dignity which is the right of man.

In the last two decades, many countries have become free. But most of us are still

struggling in the second phase of this battle - i.e. the battle for economic independence, the battle against the evils which existed in our own society. We in India are fully conscious that there is much of value in our tradition. And in that sense we are conservative. We want to conserve much that is good not only in human values, in our philosophy, in our environments, in our cultural heritage, but we know also that over the centuries we had accumulated many attitudes of minds which are not relevant to contemporary life and which are obstacles to further progress. And I think the great challenge before all developing countries is to be able to distinguish what in our inheritance has to be preserved and what has to be swept away.

When I speak to village audiences in India, you know, you have to put things in a much more picturesque way and what I say is that however beautiful a building is, if you don't keep sweeping it, it will soon be covered with dust and cobwebs and if you let things deteriorate even further, you will not be able to distinguish under the dust what is worth keeping and what is not worth keeping. So, society has to have this constant process of decision, of what has to be preserved and what has to be rejected, but just as we have to do this with the old, I think we have to do it with the new also. It is not necessary that because something is new, it is good. There is much in the new world, in the new thing they are coming, industrialisation and other things which are not relevant to our life, personally I think they are not relevant even to the lives of the affluent countries, but that is their business, they have to decide what kind of life

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they want to live. We only decide for ourselves, and I think that we have the opportunity to learn from the experiences of the others and choose between that, it would be not fair to our people nor Would it be Wise not to benefit fully from modern science and technology. in fact, we need it to remove poverty, to remove the economic backwardness to bring a better life to our people, but how we use it, how much of it we use,

that is a decision which each country must take on its own. India, Zambia and other developing countries have many common problems, but each one of us has a distinct personality and I think that we must keep that distinctive personality and I sincerely hope that those people who have come and become Zambian citizens from other parts of the world will also help in keeping this distinct personality of the country of their choice.

I think the world would be a place where everybody is not the same. But some things are apt to be the same, and that is freedom, that is equality, human dignity. We in India are very fortunate that we had leaders like Mahatma Gandhi and Jawahrlal Nehru and many others some of whom are known and many who are not known, but who made equal sacrifices in districts, in villages and so on and we learnt that there is nobody so small who had nothing to teach and there is nobody so big who had nothing to learn and therefore, whether they are individuals or whether they are countries, we each have to learn from one another and I think that in today's world it is equally important to cooperate with one another. So, while we believe strongly in the independence of countries, we believe equally in the inter-dependence of independent countries, because in today's world no nation however big and strong can be fully self-sufficient. And that is why in the Non-aligned movement, in other forums where developing countries meet, the stress is on how we can help one another, help that will not take away from the personality of any country, but will help that country to stand on its own feet to choose its own path of development and to succeed in it in becoming more self-reliant.

It has been a great pleasure for me to see how Lusaka has expanded, has been beautified and has progressed in every way. Zambia is indeed privileged to have as leader, Dr. Kaunda a man of vision and a man, if I may say so, although a great nationalist, an equally great internationalist, and with his guidance I have no doubt that in spite of the problems which you face today and which you share with other problems, I am,

sure that you will be able to conquer them. We cannot control events or problems, but we can control the manner in which we can react to them and if we react in the right way, my experience is that far from being crushed by the problems, one emerges much stronger, one learns something and one gains strength from it. So, my sincere wish to Zambia and her people is that they should go from strength to strength for helping their own people and helping all others who stand in need of their help.

May I thank you all for coming here and for this reception, and may I give you all my good wishes.

ZAMBIA USA INDIA

Date : Oct 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

ZAMBIA

Prime Minister's Speech at Banquet in her Honour in Lusaka

The Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, made the following speech at the banquet given in her honour by President Kaunda in Lusaka on October 16, 1976:

I am glad to be in Zambia once again. It is one more stage in a continuing dialogue between trusted friends. I thank you for the generous words you have spoken about India and about me.

Your Excellency, when you were last in India, you came as our honoured guest to receive the highest award which India can give, the Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding. Your deep friendship for India is reinforced by your devotion to Mahatma Gandhi's ideas of free-

dom and non-violence, and the vision of co-operation among nations as equals and friends which you have shared with Jawa-

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harlal Nehru. Before and after the Independence of Zambia, your career bears witness to your own deep concern for international understanding and your clear conviction that the progress of Zambia is linked with the freedom and well-being of the other people of Africa and the world.

You have recalled my earlier visits. My own memories are fresh. At the Non-aligned Summit, which you hosted six years ago, I spoke of the Unfinished Revolution of our times and of the heartbeat of Africa. Today these heartbeats resound like drumbeats. It is no distant thunder, the drums are beating on your very doorstep. The whole world hears them, and all peoples who have fought for freedom or care for it identify themselves with the people of Zimbabwe, Namibia and South Africa. Another chapter of the Unfinished Revolution is about to be written.

Even as we meet, a brave struggle in Zimbabwe and Namibia is nearing success. In the last decade, these people have shown themselves to be proud and indomitable fighters. They have distinguished leaders, inspired by high ideals. We are confident that the political leaders and parties, and the soldiers in the field will forge a united front in each country so that transition to total independence is as short and as smooth as possible. Mr. President, your consistent support, in spite of great difficulties, to the freedom fighters of neighbouring countries has been and is of inestimable value. As a frontline country, Zambia has had to suffer greatly in human, economic and material terms, because of the actions of neighbouring regimes. People, who have invariably taken the side of racialism now declare their support for the democratic concept of majority rule in Southern Africa. The coming weeks will test their earnestness.

Two months ago, the non-aligned family met in the afterglow of the victory of the

people of Indo-China and the conference on European Security in Helsinki - two important milestones in the journey towards peace. The Colombo Conference marked a new step towards a more equitable world order. But the deliberations demonstrated how far we still are from our political and economic goals. We would be deluding ourselves if we thought that the politics of pressure were retreating.

We the poor countries of the world have a battle to win - the battle against minority dominance over the world economic resources. We seek no confrontation with the rich but it is imperative for us to build our economic strength so as to reduce our vulnerability to pressures, and also to increase cooperation and the sharing of skills and resources among developing countries.

We have always believed in negotiations, dialogue and compromise to solve international problems and we do hope that in spite of their inadequacies, the United Nations and other world agencies will be able to bring about some solution acceptable to the rich and to the poor.

Peoples in Africa, Asia and Latin America are discovering that political freedom without economic equality is full of hazards. Even our modest plans to provide the bare essentials of a decent living for our people are thwarted by international monetary and economic developments over which we have no control. The slightest movement towards greater economic independence, evokes angry reaction from the affluent. A new and specious philosophy has come into being regarding the enormous indebtedness and moral obligation which aid-receivers owe to donor nations.

We here are well aware of the manner in which some countries gathered their riches - the seamy story of slave trade and the economic exploitation of colonies. But it is not clearly understood that aid does not add up even to 1 per cent of the GNP of rich countries. This can hardly be considered to force great self-denial on the affluent. We

do need credits and we have always welcomed aid which furthers development. But is it fair to expect us to acquiesce in its perpetuating relations of inequality and conditions of discrimination?

Current deliberations on the use of the resources of the sea, and the assertion of some large countries that the technologically backward should not presume to ask for a just share, reveal the true nature of economic power. Sometimes the phrase "new economic order" is used as an attractive label to deceive the unwary and soothe the discontented. But during serious discussions, the attitude is one of condescension towards the weak.

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Verbal rebuffs and propaganda are not the only weapons used Against poorer countries which try to assert themselves individually and in groups. In recent years, We have become familiar with several new methods to punish difficult governments. There is no lack of ingenuity. Big corporations have acted on their own or as go-betweens and tempters. Attempts are made to corrupt ruling groups and to destabilise from the top and subvert from below. What is the alternative for us developing countries, except greater unity and co-operation, greater solidarity of purpose and strategy? We opposed classical colonialism, we should now be alert against the neocolonialism which takes the shape of mercenaries, multinationals, money and manoeuvre.

Sharing the same view of the world, Zambia and India must continue to work together in the United Nations, in the non-aligned movement, in the Commonwealth and elsewhere for regional and global peace, for regional and global disarmament. It is tragic that detente, which aroused so many hopes, has not led to any reduction in arms expenditure on the part of leading nations.

The great arms manufacturers continue to prosper by the production of ever costlier and deadlier weapons. The arms race gets wilder and more irrational. Countries which

were hitherto not involved in arms build-up are now entering the race and diverting their new wealth into this unproductive channel. While the hungry call for bread and the newly awakened for education, while millions are without shelter, the society's sorely needed resources are not devoted to development but earmarked for destruction. The extension of conflict to the Indian Ocean and the establishment of bases are unacceptable to the littoral states.

In the midst of such distrust and antagonism, let us be glad that no bilateral problems complicate the relations between Zambia and India. We hold each other in esteem, share similar ideas and have developed a tradition of constructive co-operation. We are gratified that Indian personnel have been of some use in your plans to build your economy. There is great scope for further increasing commercial and technological co-operation between us.

Technological help from the relatively more advanced among the developing countries has been found to be more easily assimilable than equipment and advice obtained from affluent countries. In addition to producing sophisticated machinery, we in India are also giving thought to the evolution of intermediate technology more relevant to our rural areas, which can utilise local materials and give us the benefits of science without its principal side-effect, the displacement of labour. Other developing countries are carrying out similar experiments. We should learn from one another. Progress should not alienate people from the roots which nourish their spirit. Poverty must be eradicated but not our Africanness or Indianness. Our countries and continents should be able to evolve new and attractive patterns of contemporary living in which the best of older values are reconciled with the most desirable of the new. By humanising industrialism we could perhaps redress the consequences of imperialism and even correct the bias in technology itself.

Your Excellency, it has been a privilege to be with you again and to experience the flavour of Zambia's open-hearted friendship

and hospitality. It is on such bridges across continents and oceans that the future of mankind will be built. I propose a toast to Your Excellency's health, to the health of your colleagues and the distinguished guests present here, to success of your endeavours to enlarge freedom in Africa, and long-lasting friendship between Zambia and India.

ZAMBIA USA INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC NAMIBIA ZIMBABWE SOUTH AFRICA CHINA
FINLAND SRI LANKA RUSSIA

Date : Oct 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

ZAMBIA

President Kaunda's Speech

Following is the text of President Kaunda's speech delivered at the banquet:

This evening we are very happy to have in our midst a unique and distinguished leader of the world, an internationalist and able leader of the second most populous nation on this globe. We have in our midst an architect of modern India. We have a pioneer amongst women of rare qualities, a

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shining example and an inspiration to all not only in India, but also here in Zambia and elsewhere in the world. That 'illustrious leader is our guest of honour - Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.

Madam Prime Minister, we in the United National independence party, the Government and indeed the people of Zambia as a whole. feel deeply honoured to have you with us. We have expressed our warm feelings

of welcome here in Lusaka. We are happy to welcome you in some other parts of the country like the copperbelt. In the Luangwa National Park, you were treated to a very special kind of welcome in one of the homes of our wildlife. You were among hundreds of thousands of other Zambians - the herds of elephants, buffaloes and other species of game. Their existence is taken for granted but they are decisive part of our ecological system. Your visit to Luangwa is a demonstration of your love of nature. You have indeed given us great encouragement in our programme of preserving and developing the environment for the millions of those compatriots who deserve our care and development.

To Your Excellency and your entire Delegation, we once again express our profound feelings of real joy at having you with us. Of course this is not your first visit to our country. It is your third. You first visited Zambia as a dear friend of UNIP and the people of our country. It was also our pleasure later to receive you as Prime Minister of India in 1970 for the third summit of Non-Aligned nations. The relations between India and Zambia have indeed deep roots in the history of our independence struggle. India's struggle and the victory of her people under the legendary figure of Mahatma Gandhi provided great inspiration to the colonial peoples. India's victory opened the gates to the process of decolonisation in Africa. So you are not stranger to Zambia. Yours is household name among Zambians. Your principles, your courage and tenacity of purpose and your will power to pursue the cause of the masses and the oppressed peoples in the world evoke admiration of friends and foes alike. Since you assumed the high office of Prime Minister, India has made great strides in the political, economic and social fields. India is in the midst of a scientific and technological revolution. Through the measures you took upon the declaration of the State of Emergency, the Indian nation is ready to benefit from the forces of development generated by your far-sighted policies. We congratulate you upon your success. But I know that you also mean something special to our women folk. Your

success particularly fires their imagination. We call upon the women of Zambia not merely to admire your well deserved victories but, above all to emulate your example by making a success of their job.

You come at a most crucial time in the history of Southern Africa. The revolutionary situation is excellent. The armed struggle in Zimbabwe and Namibia is making very good progress. We in this region are at the centre of traumatic and epoch-making events in Africa. Being makers of history by virtue of our geographical position coupled with our commitment to discharge our international duty, it is possible for us to lose our sense of history. But the fact is: We have an epoch-making mission. Our victories are momentous in the disintegration of colonial empires. Our goal is simple: Durable peace, deeply rooted in freedom, equality and justice.

The reality in Africa today is that the oppressed masses are delivering decisive blows against the oppressor and sending the last structures of the once great imperial edifice crushing to the ground. The great force of African nationalism is proving its irresistible character. No one can do anything about it. The bell for freedom tolls in Southern Africa. It is time for All-Black, White and Brown to break with the past and enter a new era of peace based on freedom, equality and justice. No military forces, however strong, can defeat the imperative idea of freedom whose time has come. Now is the time for Zimbabwe to be born. Time for Namibia's independence has come. Time for burying South African Apartheid in the gutters of history has come. Yes, the bell for freedom tolls loud and clear. If majority rule in Southern Africa does not come out of the conference table, then it must come out of the barrel of the gun. Come it must. For between freedom and oppression there can be no compromise. Africa wants freedom for all, including whites now in a psychological prison built out of an ugly fabric of greed, illusions, falsehoods and racist

atavism. With Hurricane Force, the oppressed peoples have smashed the myths which have nourished imperialism, colonialism, racism, fascism and international capitalism. The myth of racial supremacy has been shattered: The myth that intelligence and wisdom are a monopoly of one race has been shattered: The myth of white backlash has lost credibility. In Africa we must beware of a black backlash. Having exploded all these myths and unmasked the falsehoods, we are left with the real determinant of the future, namely, the fundamental belief in our common humanity.

This fundamental belief in common humanity underlies the approach of Zimbabwe nationalists to the Geneva talks on the establishment of an African majority transitional Government in their country. It nourishes the spirit of forgiveness and magnanimity often mistaken for African weakness. Zambia supports the nationalists in the current effort to find a solution to the country's future at the conference table. But they can rely upon the people of Zambia to continue supporting them fully in their intensified armed struggle if the racist oppressors reject their just demand for the transfer of power to the majority. Negotiations do not mean the end of fighting unless agreement is reached. We know of the dangers of the counter-revolutionary dual tactics of the rebels and racists, but Africa is ready to respond with revolutionary dual tactics. To this end, we must prosecute the struggle till victory is assured. In all this, let me declare, without equivocation, that Africa knows the enemy. The enemy is not white. The enemy is colourless. The enemy is greed, brutal oppression and exploitation clad in white habiliments.

The people's revolution in Zimbabwe, Namibia and South Africa is directed against the evils in man which have made armed conflict inevitable. The stubborn whites will naturally be hurt. Even the innocent may suffer. But that is not the objective. We differ from white regimes in Southern Africa who made the enslavement of blacks the basis of their livelihood. Indeed, the great paradox of the century is that Smith, a cri-

minal rebel, is being invited to the Geneva talks by a Government that should have arrested him eleven years ago. The greatest testimony of African statesmanship is that leaders accept this reality as one of the contradictions in Zimbabwe history. The spirit of forgiveness leads them to work with Smith in Geneva.

In all this tragedy-comedy, India, Zambia and the countries of the Third World have great lessons to learn. Unity of purpose and unity of action are vital weapons for progress. The present crisis in the world calls for unity in the Third World. We must work together, unite our revolutionary efforts and know our enemy and friends in the world. We have a duty to fulfil our obligations to build a peaceful and prosperous world on the basis of equality and justice. Co-operation under conditions of inequality leads to exploitation of one nation by another. The principle of equality is vital in international relations founded on non-alignment. We have so much in common with India. We both believe in the principles of the United Nations, non-alignment, and the Commonwealth. Though we each have our national identity, there is a greater cause that leads our people to greater co-operation for the common good of all mankind.

I recall my visit to India. I recall the warm and fraternal welcome by the people of your great country. I recall the great honour done to Zambia by the Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Peace given to me. I recall the sacrifices made by India to the cause of freedom and justice in Southern Africa. India's independence after the second world war sounded the trumpet which rallied the colonial peoples on the great march to freedom. Africa's greatest gift to India was Mahatma Gandhi, it is said. We can only say: India's greatest gift to Africa was his spirit, his humility and simplicity. The spirit of Gandhi did not die with him. Gandhi had repeatedly said "Jawaharlal is my political heir". Nehru was indeed a man of extraordinary qualities. His power and influence was felt through the world. As a leading architect of non-

alignment, he was instrumental to the historic creation of a multi-polar world. He was not afraid of criticism. He was only concerned about being right. Our mutual understanding and mutual respect form the basis of our excellent relations. The future of Indo-Zambian cooperation is equally excellent. We welcome this development. With your visit and our very

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fruitful discussions, the friendship and fraternal ties binding our two nations must be even stronger. India is a champion of non-alignment. We pledge our commitment to the cause of our movement. Under foreign rule, the people of the third world struggled with courage and won victory. In freedom, the peoples of Third World should score more victories and enjoy a fuller and more decent life on the basis of equality.

We welcome India's contribution to Zambia through trade, economic and technical co-operation. We pay tribute to the many Indian nationals manning our institutions. We will have problems, but then progress is the product of solutions to problems. It is in this spirit that we rejoice in having Your Excellency in our midst, you: are a symbol of struggle and of victory.

As you leave tomorrow, we send our warmest greetings to the people of India. We wish you, the Government and the people of India happy life and continued success.

I now invite you to join me in drinking a toast to His Excellency the President of India, to the Prime Minister of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, to the Government and the people of India, to all our distinguished guests from India, to the friendship and co-operation between the peoples of India and Zambia, to the freedom of all the oppressed peoples in Southern Africa, to the success of non-alignment and to the unity of all mankind.

ZAMBIA USA INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC NAMIBIA ZIMBABWE SOUTH AFRICA

SWITZERLAND

Date : Oct 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

ZAMBIA

India-Zambia Joint Communique

Following is the text of the joint communique issued on October 18, 1976 at the conclusion of the State visit of the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, to Zambia:

At the invitation of the President of the Republic of Zambia, His Excellency Dr. Kenneth David Kaunda, the Prime Minister of the Republic of India, Her Excellency Shrimati Indira Gandhi, paid a State visit to Zambia from 14th to 17th October, 1976. The Prime Minister of India was accompanied by a delegation which included Shri Bansi Lal, Minister of Defence.

The Prime Minister of the Republic of India was accorded, wherever she went, an enthusiastic welcome by the people of Zambia, reflecting the extremely close and friendly relations existing between the two countries.

During her stay in Zambia, the Prime Minister, Her Excellency Shrimati Indira Gandhi held official talks with His Excellency the President, Dr. Kenneth David Kaunda. These discussions confirmed the fundamental similarity of outlook which has existed and continues to exist between India and Zambia in their common adherence to nonalignment, and their views on colonialism and racialism and also a genuine belief in constructive bilateral and multilateral co-operation, particularly between developing countries, for solving the major economic challenges which face the world today.

The two sides devoted special attention to the problems of Southern Africa. The, latest developments in Zimbabwe were discussed in detail. Attention was also devoted to the developments in Namibia and the explosive situation in South Africa resulting from apartheid and the denial of basic human rights to the majority population. They re-affirmed their conviction that the struggle for freedom, justice, peace and independence in the region was now entering the last and potentially the most dangerous phase. The two sides pledged, in this regard, their total support for the oppressed people of Southern! Africa in their just struggle.

The two sides noted the favourable developments in Zimbabwe brought about by the heroic armed struggle waged by the people of Zimbabwe. The illegal minority regime has been compelled to accept the demand by the people of Zimbabwe for the attachment of majority rule. The two sides expressed the hope that the proposed conference in Geneva would lead to immediate majority rule in Zimbabwe.

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On Namibia, the two sides re-affirmed the inalienable right of the people to freedom and independence and called for renewed efforts to ensure South Africa's compliance with the resolutions and decisions of the United Nations, the Non-Aligned countries and the Organization of African Unity. The two sides pledged their moral and material support to the heroic struggle of the Namibian people for the liberation of their country under the leadership of SWAPO, the sole and legitimate representative of the people of Namibia. They called on South Africa to withdraw its illegal occupation of Namibia forthwith.

The two sides expressed their grave concern over the deteriorating situation in South Africa resulting from apartheid and racialism. The two leaders strongly condemned the massacres of the African people in Soweto and other African townships by

the racist South African regime. The two sides re-affirmed their complete solidarity with the courageous people of South Africa in their struggle to end the abominable system of apartheid.

The President of Zambia briefed the Prime Minister of India on various measures taken for the rapid economic and social development of the people of Zambia. The Prime Minister conveyed her appreciation and support to the President of Zambia in creating a non-racial society based on the philosophy of Humanism. The President also explained to the Prime Minister the efforts of the Front-line Presidents to achieve majority rule in Southern Africa. The Prime Minister of India expressed her appreciation of these efforts made by the President of Zambia together with the Presidents of other Front-line States.

The Prime Minister of India in turn outlined to the President of Zambia the recent steps taken by the Government of India to safeguard the fundamental values of the Constitution against the disruptionist forces within the country. She explained that these steps have already resulted in noticeable improvement in national discipline and morale and had also led to tangible improvement in the country's domestic and external economic situation. The overwhelming majority of the people of India have welcomed and supported these measures. The President of Zambia expressed his full understanding and support for these measures which have already succeeded in ensuring political stability and economic prosperity in India.

The Prime Minister of India also briefed the President of Zambia on the initiatives taken by the Government of India to normalise and improve relations with India's neighbouring countries in the interest of promoting peace, mutual understanding and good neighbourliness, through bilateral means. The President of Zambia appreciated these efforts and expressed hope and confidence that these would lead to the promotion of genuine friendship and effective co-operation in the region.

Both sides expressed satisfaction at the progress made in strengthening their co-operation in the economic and technical fields and agreed to explore further areas to expand these relations. In this connection, the Zambian side expressed appreciation of the contribution made by Indian technical personnel working in Zambia and the training facilities extended to Zambian nationals in a variety of technical institutions in India. Both sides also noted with satisfaction the progress made in the implementation of various Indo-Zambian projects. They reaffirmed their determination to ensure that the mutually beneficial economic ties between the two countries are further strengthened and diversified.

The Prime Minister of India conveyed her warm thanks for the great honour done to India by the conferment of the order of Grand Companion of Freedom on her and the generous hospitality extended to her and members of her delegation by the people of Zambia during the visit.

The Prime Minister of India invited His Excellency Dr. Kenneth Kaunda, President of Zambia and Madame Kaunda to visit India. The invitation was gratefully accepted.

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Date : Nov 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

BELGIUM

Agreement for Belgium Credit to India

The following press release on the agreement for Belgian credit to India was issued in New Delhi on November 18, 1976:

An agreement for the Belgian non-project loan of Belgian francs 375 million was signed in Brussels on 3rd November, 1976. On behalf of the Belgian Government, Mr. Willy De Clerco, the Belgian Minister for Finance, and Mr. Toussaint, the Belgian Minister for Foreign Trade, signed the agreement, while, on behalf of the Government of India, Dr. K. B. Lall, Ambassador of India to Belgium and to the European Economic Community signed the agreement.

This agreement, is in fulfilment of Belgian Government's commitment under the Aid-India consortium for the year 1976-77, which represents an increase of BF.50 million over 1975-76 assistance. Out of this total, BF.200 million is for debt relief in the form of outright cash and the balance of BF.175 million is for purchase of Belgian goods and services.

The loan is repayable over a period of 30 years with a grace period of 10 years and it, carries an interest rate of 1 per cent per annum. However, no interest is payable on the loan during the first 10 years.

The Belgian Foreign Trade Minister expressed gratification at the continued

strengthening of economic and trade relations between the two countries. Ambassador K. B. Lall while thanking the Belgian Government expressed that the two countries were yet to fully exploit the potentials of trade between them.

BELGIUM INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Nov 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

BULGARIA

Speech by the President at Banquet in Honour of President of Bulgaria

The President, Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, made the following speech at the banquet in honour of His Excellency Mr. Todor Zhivkov, President of the State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, and Madame Lyudmila Zhivkova, in New Delhi on November 16, 1976:

It gives me great pleasure to welcome Your Excellencies and the distinguished members of your party. We had the privilege of receiving Your Excellency earlier in 1969 when you came here as Prime Minister. We attach special significance to the present visit as it is the first one by the Head of State of friendly Bulgaria. My wife and I are particularly happy that you have been able to bring with you your charming and distinguished daughter, Madame Lyudmila Zhivkova. She too is no stranger to India. We are all aware of her many achievements as Chairman of the Committee for Art and Culture, in promoting international cooperation and understanding. Our only regret is that your visit is such a short one.

We know Bulgaria as a country of warm and friendly people with an ancient civilisation. The Thracians were known for their advanced culture and bravery. The legendary singer Orpheus with his magic lute was a Thracian, an ancient inhabitant of your land. We also recall the great contribution made to the evolution of human thought by the brothers Cyril and Methodius. In more recent times, we were made aware of the history of your long and difficult struggle against foreign rule, the brave tales of which have become part of your national folk lore and ethos.

We have followed the rich and many-faceted development of Bulgaria with great admiration and hail the successes of the great Bulgarian people in overcoming the obstacles in the path of socialist reconstruction. From a war-ravaged country just a little over 30 years ago, Bulgaria is today an advanced socialist State with remarkable progress in both industry and agriculture. We have followed these developments with particular interest as we too have had similar problems and aspirations. Like you, we also have been rewarded with major successes which have enabled us to reach a stage where we are today among the ten leading industrial nations in terms of production. Our agriculture has also recorded impressive growth.

A similar sharing of aspirations and motivations is found in the work of the Bulgarian and Indian social reformers of the early 19th century, which was a period of reawakening in both our countries. Close parallels exist in the work of Raja Ram Mohan Roy in India and of Vassil Aprilov in Bulgaria, as each in his own way led the reform movement which was ultimately to bring learning and knowledge within the reach of all and to remove the blinker of dogma and bias from people's minds. The impetus given by them led to the founding of schools and institutions which imparted unbiased instructions and revived the quest for knowledge and information that were languishing under foreign domination.

There is close affinity between the work and ideals of our great leaders who laid the foundations of modern India and modern Bulgaria. Like Mahatma Gandhi, Dimitar Blagoev worked selflessly for the attainment of the noble ideals of making life worth living for the poor, toiling masses, while, at the same time, fighting for the attainment of freedom from foreign rule. Their dedication to the cause of peace is a continuing source of inspiration for us. We admire their farsightedness when we realise what a crippling burden to mankind the arms race has become. We are dismayed at the continuing prospect of a large part of the world's resources going into wasteful and dangerous armament programmes.

As Your Excellency is aware, in our striving for peace and international understanding, we have been pursuing assiduously a consistent policy of normalisation and further improvement of relations with all our neighbours. We believe in basing these relations on the principles of strict bilateralism and reciprocity, of non-interference, equality and mutual benefit. I am happy to be in a position to say that we have recorded some modest successes in this approach.

A significant improvement has taken place in the climate in Europe and in East-West relations in both political and economic spheres. The danger of war has consequently receded. We welcome this development and congratulate you for the contribution made by Bulgaria and other socialist countries in this process. We would, at the same time, like the process of detente to spread to Asia, which is still tormented by strife and conflict. We believe that detente in Europe cannot be stabilised if other parts of the globe, and especially the vast Asian land mass, remain troubled by tension and conflict.

The parallel developments that I have traced in the histories of our two nations are not mere coincidence. This is apparent when we consider that the peoples of our two countries were, for long years, under the yoke of foreign powers and experienced great hardships and sufferings, as a result of which both Bulgaria and India acquired a

pronounced anti-imperialist element in their policies. Both countries have struggled ceaselessly against the burden of poverty and centuries of colonial exploitation. The task is not an easy one, and is made all the more difficult by the negative attitudes often displayed by some countries who have not been able to adjust themselves to the new

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situation. The people of India sincerely appreciate and are grateful for the moral support and understanding that Bulgaria has extended to us in our difficult moments.

In spite of all the difficulties that have confronted us, we have made remarkable progress in our industrial development. Today we manufacture in India a large variety of sophisticated industrial and consumer goods - from the simplest to the most complex. We are turning out advanced and complicated machine tools and industrial plant; we provide consultancy services to many countries in the world; and we are successfully and increasingly undertaking turn-key projects abroad. Agricultural production has more than doubled in twenty years. These achievements have unfortunately been diluted by the rapid increase in our population. I am glad to inform you that our family welfare planning programme has gathered momentum and is now beginning to show results. We look forward to still greater efforts in this area in order to consolidate the gains of our economy and make them accessible to the vast masses of India.

In Bulgaria too, the progress that you have made in different sectors of the economy can only be described as remarkable. From a predominantly agrarian country at the time of liberation in 1944, Bulgaria has now become a country with one of the highest indices of per capita output of steel - an important indicator of economic growth and strength. I am happy to observe that Bulgarian industry today manufactures sophisticated third generation computers as well as cargo ships and tankers. We were greatly impressed by the call given by Your Excellency at the XI Congress of the

Bulgarian Communist Party, for higher quality and greater efficiency in all spheres of economic activity. In these endeavours, you have our best wishes for success. I see, in your success and in your progress, scope of greater cooperation between our countries, for we in India are similarly engaged in raising productivity and diversifying the economy. I look forward to wider and deeper contracts between Bulgaria and India in the various fields of industry and agriculture, science and technology, art and culture.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I invite you now to join me in drinking a toast to the health and happiness of His Excellency President Todor Zhivkov and Madame Lyudmila Zhivkova, to the health of the distinguished members of his delegation, to the well-being and prosperity of the friendly people of Bulgaria, and to the growing friendship and co-operation between the peoples of Bulgaria and India.

BULGARIA INDIA USA MALI PERU RUSSIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Nov 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

BULGARIA

President Zhivkov's Reply

Replying, President Zhivkov delivered the following speech:

Permit me to express our most heartfelt gratitude for the invitation to visit friendly India.

We are deeply touched by the cordial welcome, by the exceptional attention and hospitality showered upon us from the very first steps on Indian land, by the warm words

His Excellency the President addressed to my country, to the Bulgarian people.

We feel deepest sympathy for the industrious and talented Indian people, we admire its heroic past, its inflexible will to defend its freedom and independence, the sacred right to develop fully its creative forces. We rejoice with your remarkable successes accomplished in implementation of Jawaharlal Nehru's legacy for the construction of economically powerful, independent and progressive India. This course along the path of progress and independence naturally meets with the opposition of internal and foreign reaction. Therefore our people show full understanding for the inevitable measures which your Government supported by all democratic forces in India took against their actions.

The role of contemporary India in international relations is markedly positive, its prestige on the international scene growing constantly. Your foreign policy represents a significant contribution to the struggle against imperialism and colonialism for

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strengthening international cooperation, peace and friendship among nations.

We would like to state here once again that we estimate highly the policy of friendship and cooperation with the Soviet Union and the countries of the socialist community pursued by the Indian Government. This friendship and cooperation is a stabilizing factor in the international situation and symbolizes the unity of the forces of socialism and those of the nations liberated from colonialism following now the path of independent progressive development.

The Republic of India is in the forefront of the movement of the non-aligned which has a positive impact on the process of easing up international atmosphere. We acclaim the contribution of the recently held Colombo Conference of the non-aligned to the strengthening of peace and consolidation

of the principles of peaceful co-existence against imperialism, neocolonialism and racism.

For many years there existed very good friendly relations between Bulgaria and India. They were intensified as a result of our former meetings in Sofia and Delhi which left pleasant memories in our hearts. We maintain active political contacts, deepen economic, scientific and technical relations, expand cultural exchanges. All that serves the fundamental interests of our peoples. At the same time we believe that many more possibilities exist for expanding our cooperation. Allow me to express my profound conviction that the talks with the President and the Prime Minister of the Republic of India will be a new contribution in this direction.

Under the guidance of its Communist Party the Bulgarian people have united their forces and abilities to fulfil the Seventh Five-Year Development Plan of the People's Republic of Bulgaria. Overcoming the inevitable difficulties all the people in my country - workers, farmers, people's intelligentsia are working with the desire to give a push forward to the economic development of the country, to satisfy ever more fully the material and cultural needs of the people, to speed up the building of an advanced socialist society.

The consolidation of peace is a vital necessity, for our people in the achievement of these tasks. This determines the nature of the foreign policy of the People's Republic of Bulgaria - a policy of strengthening the unity with the Soviet Union and the other countries of the socialist community, of peace and cooperation with all nations.

In the recent years peace-loving forces have registered quite big successes. The process of detente became a domineering tendency in international life. The nations are vitally interested that unremitting effort be made for turning this process into an irreversible one. An important step in this direction will represent the World Treaty on the Non-Use of Force. Such a treaty, as

recently stated by highly respected Madame Indira Gandhi, may truly guarantee peace and tranquillity as a sublime state of the spirit that man can reach.

The efforts for supplementing political detente with detente in the military field are of particular importance. Therefore, the People's Republic of Bulgaria has actively cooperated and will cooperate in the future, too, for forthcoming convocation on a World Conference on Disarmament as well as for the realization of the other initiatives aimed at ending the arms race and achieving general and total disarmament.

The successful conclusion of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe is an event of historical importance. It has created favourable prerequisites for the solution of complex problems in other regions, too.

In our opinion conditions are constantly maturing in Asia for setting up a system of collective security and cooperation. No doubt, this is to the interest of Asiatic nations and will simultaneously represent an important contribution to the consolidation of world peace.

We support the idea of making the Indian Ocean a zone of peace through liquidating the existing foreign military bases on prohibiting the establishment of new ones.

The difficulties to be overcome in the achievement of lasting peace are no secret. The imperialist and reactionary forces to oppose the positive tendencies in international life, to instigate and keep up military conflicts. It is because of these forces that the military hotbed in the Middle East is not liquidated yet.

The developments in the Lebanon that became possible in the conditions of the continuing crisis in the Middle East illustrate once again the necessity of timely re-convocation of the Geneva Peace Conference with

the full-right participation of the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

We condemn resolutely the intervention of some imperialist forces in Southern Africa, insist on the termination of the policy of racism and apartheid in South Africa and voice our solidarity with the peoples of Namibia and Zimbabwe fighting against colonialism and racism, for freedom, independence and social progress.

In our foreign policy we give priority to the Balkan Peninsula, the area we live in. The efforts we make for, developing good-neighbourship, understanding and co-operation with all Balkan states are prompted by the fundamental interests of the people, by the interests of peaceful development. We shall follow this line of policy in the future, too.

Esteemed Ladies and Gentlemen, permit me to wish the friendly Indian people fresh successes along the road to social and economic construction of the country, to express once again my confidence that this meeting of ours will give new impetus to the further strengthening and development of Bulgarian-Indian friendship and cooperation.

I propose a toast to His Excellency the President and his wife Begum Abida Ahmed, to Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, to the prosperity of the Republic of India and the welfare of the friendly Indian people, to the further development of friendship and co-operation between Bulgaria and India.

BULGARIA INDIA USA SRI LANKA LEBANON SWITZERLAND NAMIBIA ZIMBABWE

Date : Nov 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

BULGARIA

The following press release on the Indo-Bulgarian trade plan for 1977 was issued in New Delhi on November 16, 1976:

The Trade Plan for the year 1977 between India and Bulgaria was signed here today by Prof. D. P. Chattopadhyaya, Union Minister of Commerce, and Mr. Ivan Nedev, Minister for Foreign Trade of the Peoples' Republic of Bulgaria, on behalf of their respective countries. Negotiations for trade between India and Bulgaria during 1977 were held earlier in Sofia from November 8 to 11, 1976.

The Trade Plan envisages a total trade turnover of Rs. 1030 million both ways with Indian exports at Rs. 515 million and imports also at the same level. In preparation of their respective proposals for Trade Plan provisions for 1977, both sides have taken a realistic view of availabilities of goods in both countries, anticipated demand for those commodities and also changing requirements of the economies of the two countries. Main items of our imports from Bulgaria will include urea, steel products, chemicals, pharmaceuticals, caprolactum and woodpulp. India's principal exports will include in addition to traditional items like de-oiled cakes, coffee, pepper and jute manufactures, many consumer goods like readymade garments, leather goods and a number of engineering items.

India's trade with Bulgaria, as with other Socialist countries, has grown at a very fast rate from Rs. 100 million in 1973 to Rs. 507 million in 1975. The trade is conducted on the basis of Annual Trade Plans which are prepared within the framework of Long Term Trade and Payments Agreement signed with Bulgaria. The current Agreement which was signed on March 6, 1974, is valid upto December 31, 1978. The trade between the two countries is based on bilateral balanced basis.

An interesting development in our ex-

ports has been the purchase of heavy earth moving equipment worth Rs. 13 million in the current year which has been supplied and a Protocol has been signed with BEML for supply of such equipment worth Rs. 120 million.

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BULGARIA INDIA RUSSIA

Date : Nov 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

BULGARIA

Indo-Bulgarian Joint Communiqué

Following is the text of joint communiqué issued in New Delhi on November 21, 1976 at the conclusion of the state visit of Mr. Todor Zhivkov, President of Bulgaria, to India:

At the invitation of the President of India, Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, the President of the State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, H.E. Mr. Todor Zhivkov accompanied by his daughter Madame Lyudmila Zhivkova paid a friendly state visit to India from November 16 to 21, 1976.

During his stay in Delhi, the President of the State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria paid tribute to the memory of Mahatma Gandhi and Shri Jawaharlal Nehru by laying wreaths at Rajghat and Shantivana.

President Zhivkov also visited Bangalore and Bombay where he met the leaders of the States of Karnataka and Maharashtra, visited industrial enterprises and familiaris-

ed himself with agricultural projects and places of scientific and technological interest.

The President of the State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the accompanying party were everywhere accorded a warm and cordial welcome which was a reflection of the deep feelings of sincere amity and friendship between the Bulgarian and the Indian peoples.

In the course of his stay in New Delhi, President Zhivkov had warm and friendly talks with the President, Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, the Vice-President, Shri B. D. Jatti, and the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi. He also received the Minister of External Affairs, Shri Y. B. Chavan.

The talks between the President of the State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Prime Minister of India were held in an atmosphere of cordiality and mutual understanding. The following also participated in the talks:

On the Bulgarian side:

Mr. Peter Mladenov, Minister of External Affairs; Mr. Nikola Kalchev, Minister of Machine Building and Metallurgy; Mr. Ivan Nedev, Minister of Foreign Trade; Mr. Milko Balev, Head of the Cabinet of the President of the State Council; Mr. Vassil Tsanov, First Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Food Industry; and Mr. Stoyan Zaimov, Ambassador of the People's Republic of Bulgaria in India.

On the Indian side:

Shri Y. B. Chavan, Minister of External Affairs; Shri Jagjivan Ram, Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation; Prof. P. N. Dhar, Secretary to the Prime Minister; Dr. M. S. Swaminathan, Director-General, ICAR; Shri M. A. Vellodi, Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs; Shri J. C. Ajmani, Additional Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs; and Shri J. R. Hiremath, Ambassador of India to Bulgaria.

The talks confirmed the close identity or

broad similarity of views between the two countries on current international issues of mutual concern. The two leaders expressed satisfaction at the pace of implementation of their mutual collaboration programme as determined by the Indo-Bulgarian Joint Commission for Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation. They expressed their desire to further strengthen their mutual cooperation in the political, economic, scientific, technical, cultural and other fields. In this connection, they stressed the importance of the following agreements which were concluded during the visit of the President of the State Council of Bulgaria:

1. Agreement on Merchant Shipping between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria.
2. Protocol of the Third Session of the Indo-Bulgarian Joint Commission for Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation.
3. Cultural Exchange Programme between the Republic of India and the People's Republic of Bulgaria for the years 1977 and 1978.
4. Indo-Bulgarian Trade Protocol, 1977.

The Prime Minister of India informed the President of the State Council of the

People's Republic of Bulgaria of the progress made by the Indian people through the implementation of the socioeconomic measures taken by the Government of India to develop the country's economy and to promote social justice. She described the background and rationale of the steps taken during the recent past to contain the forces of disruption and destabilisation in India. These steps had become necessary to protect the gains of independence and to maintain the thrust of social and economic progress of the country.

The President of the State Council of

the People's Republic of Bulgaria expressed his full understanding of the efforts of the Government and the people of India in solving the complex socioeconomic problems facing the country.

The Prime Minister informed President Zhivkov of India's constant efforts to normalise and improve relations with all its neighbours on the principles of equality, peaceful co-existence, bilateralism and mutual cooperation. The President welcomed any initiatives in this regard and expressed the hope that this would promote the cause of peace, cooperation and stability in the region.

The President of the State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria informed the Prime Minister of India about the successes of the Bulgarian people in the construction of an advanced socialist society, about the peaceful foreign policy pursued by the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party and the Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria aimed at the establishment of good neighbourly relations in the Balkans and strengthening peace and security in Europe and the world. The Prime Minister of India highly assessed the successes in the economic development of Bulgaria and its contribution to the process of detente and constructive cooperation with states having different social system, both in Europe and the world as a whole.

The two leaders reaffirmed the important role of the United Nations Organisation as an instrument for safeguarding world peace and security and in promoting beneficial and constructive cooperation among states. They reiterated their determination to work for the further strengthening of the UN and its organs in strict compliance with the principles and purposes of the United Nations Charter.

Having exchanged opinions on a vast range of current international issues, the two leaders noted that considerable changes had taken place in international relations during the recent years in the interest of peace, democracy and social progress. They noted

that in the more than one year that had passed since the successful conclusion of the European Conference on Security and Cooperation in Helsinki, there had been considerable progress in the relaxation of tensions, the promotion of cooperation in economic and other fields and the strengthening of peace on the European Continent. They recognised that continued efforts should be made to extend further the process of detente to other regions of the world, including Asia.

They agreed that for detente to become stable and irreversible, it must extend to the field of arms limitation and disarmament. They emphasised the urgent necessity of general and complete disarmament, including nuclear disarmament, under effective international supervision and control. To this end, they expressed their support for the convening of a World Conference on Disarmament.

The two leaders expressed satisfaction at the success achieved by the Fifth Conference of Heads of State Government of nonaligned countries in Colombo. They expressed the view that the implementation of the decisions adopted at the Conference would make a major contribution to international peace and cooperation and to the creation of a just and equitable international economic order.

The two leaders welcomed the emergence of a sovereign, independent and United Vietnam and the restoration of peace in all of Indo-China, after a long period of heroic struggle and suffering. This had opened up new opportunities for the growth of peaceful cooperation among the countries of the area. They supported the aspiration of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to be accepted as a member of the United Nations Organisation.

They agreed that the Indian Ocean should be safeguarded as a zone of peace, so as to fulfil the desire of the peoples of the

littoral states to prevent it from becoming an arena for the setting up of foreign military bases. In this connection, the two sides deplored the continued military build-up in Diego Garcia.

The two leaders expressed serious concern at the unsettled situation persisting for a long time in the Middle East. They resolutely support the struggle of the peoples of Arab countries and express themselves in favour of a just settlement of the Middle East crisis based on the speedy withdrawal of Israeli troops from all the Arab territories occupied by Israel in 1967, on meeting the legitimate demands of the Arab people of Palestine, including the right to establish their own state, and on ensuring the right of all states of the Middle East to independent existence and development. India and Bulgaria come out in favour of resuming for these purposes the work of the Geneva peace conference with the participation of all parties concerned, including representatives of the Arab people of Palestine represented by the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

The President and the Prime Minister were agreed that a settlement of the Cyprus problem should be based on absolute respect for the independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus, and with due respect for its policy of non-alignment.

The two leaders welcomed the emergence of the sovereign States of Angola, Mozambique, Guinea Bissau, Cape Verde Islands, Sao Tome and Principe and the Seychelles Islands. They underlined the importance of the victory of the progressive national forces under the leadership of MPLA in Angola against external armed intervention and affirmed that this victory had made a significant contribution to the strengthening of the struggle for liberation in countries still under racial domination in Southern Africa. They endorsed the desire of the People's Republic of Angola to become a member of the United Nations Organisation.

The two leaders condemned all forms of

colonialism, neocolonialism, racial discrimination and the policy of apartheid and expressed their resolute support for the peoples of Zimbabwe and Namibia. They strongly condemned the brutal murder and suppression of black people by the racist regime in South Africa and reiterated their determination to work for the elimination of racism and repression in that country.

H.E. Mr. Todor Zhivkov expressed his deep appreciation for the warm reception and hospitality extended to him and to his delegation in India. The two leaders agreed that the visit had been an important step towards the further development of the cordial relations and fruitful cooperation between the two countries. Both leaders emphasised the importance of periodic exchange of views between the leaders of the two countries. The President of the State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria extended warm invitations to the President and the Prime Minister of India to visit Bulgaria at their convenience. The invitations were accepted with pleasure.

BULGARIA INDIA USA LATVIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC MALI FINLAND SRI LANKA
VIETNAM CHINA ISRAEL SWITZERLAND CYPRUS ANGOLA CAPE VERDE GUINEA GUINEA-BISSAU
MOZAMBIQUE SAO TOME E PRINCIPE NAMIBIA ZIMBABWE SOUTH AFRICA

Date : Nov 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Statement by Shri Brahmananda Panda on Ganga Waters

Following is the text of statement made by Shri Brahmananda Panda, M.P. and member of the Indian delegation, in the Sixth Committee of the U.N. on November 1, 1976:

The Distinguished delegate of Bangladesh, on October 29, 1976 made certain comments on the statement of the Indian delegate of October 27, 1976, on the subject of the law concerning the non-navigational uses of international watercourses. He also made some baseless allegations and remarks against my country. I am therefore obliged to exercise our right of reply and I shall do so briefly.

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In our statement of October 27, 1976, we had only set out views and suggestions of a general nature which the Commission might take into account in its further study of the subject. We certainly did not wish to pre-judge the work of the commission. Nor did we have in mind any specific situation.

The distinguished delegate of Bangladesh however thought fit to remark that India, by a clever device, had attempted to divert the attention of other countries, or to escape its responsibility for the injury allegedly caused to Bangladesh. He called India an "imbitious riparian", and he also made some other unworthy insinuations. Assertions were also made regarding certain rules established under customary international law, or the opinions of international Organisation. I do not propose to reply to them in detail, except to say that they are unjustified.

I should like, Mr. Chairman, to clarify the basic elements of our statement of October 27, keeping in mind the observations made by the distinguished delegates of Bangladesh:

(i) Mr. Chairman, India does not hold the view that there are no rules of customary international law regarding the uses of waters of international rivers, as alleged by the Representative of Bangladesh. India recognises that the International Law Commission, in its task of codifying and progressively developing international law on the subject will take into account the established rules of Customary International Law.

(ii) As to existing uses, we had stated in our statement of October 27, that "the existing reasonable use of the waters of the river of the basin should be protected. What is an existing reasonable use, that is at what point of time and in what circumstances it becomes an existing use, should be clearly defined". The words "existing reasonable use" were borrowed from Article VIII, paragraph one of the Helsinki Rules of 1966 established by the International Law Association. The need for the definition of an existing reasonable use is also referred to in Article VIII, paragraphs 2 and 3, of the Helsinki Rules. The words "existing reasonable use" were thus not coined by India. They are not our innovation but were inspired by the Helsinki Rules and other existing literature. The question of how far the existing use of waters should be Protected is a difficult one. It has been studied extensively by several bodies and persons I should like to quote briefly from an exhaustive study of this subject by C. B. Bourne who has examined the existing treaties, state practice, judicial decisions and writings of publicists. His article entitled "The Right to Utilise The Waters of International Rivers" was published in the Canadian Year Book of International Law, 1965. The study contained the following conclusions:

"The problem is not whether international law protects the rights of those who first develop an international river, but the degree to which it does so. Without the guidance of international legislation and of a substantial body of judicial decisions, juristic opinion ranges from the view that all serious injury to existing uses is unlawful unless it is done with the consent of the user, to that a serious injury to a co-riparian is only one factor to be considered by a riparian state embarking on a development of a river in its territory. Under the latter view, a State may sometimes cause even a serious injury without liability. (page 222). "... The authorities, therefore, give no comfort to those who would make the protection of existing beneficial uses the inflexible first rule of the international law of rivers. On the

contrary, they suggest that a riparian state exceeds its reasonable and equitable share of the beneficial uses of the waters of a river at its own peril and may be deprived of those excess uses when the waters, are needed by a co-riparian state entitled to them".
(page 259)

Mr. Chairman, we have no objection to adding to the factors which should be taken into account in determining "a reasonable and equitable share" of a co-riparian of basin state the protection of existing uses. The list given in our statement of October 27, was illustrative and not exhaustive. This factor may be worded as follows:

"The past utilisation of the waters of the Basin, including in particular existing utilisation".

This is how it is drafted in article V, paragraph (d) of the Helsinki Rules 1966.

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We have no objection to its inclusion, and in fact to all the factors which are mentioned in that article.

(iii) Similarly, Mr. Chairman, my delegation in its statement of October 27, did not invent the word "veto", with reference to the question of the requirement of prior consent by a co-riparian state. Nor did we intend to abolish a rule of customary international law, it really exists, requiring such prior consent. In our view, there is no such rule of customary international law. Our views in this regard, as well as the use of the word "veto", were inspired by an important arbitral decision rendered in 1957, which is probably also known to the distinguished delegate of Bangladesh.

The Chairman, after rejecting the claim of one party that its prior agreement was necessary before the upper riparian could utilise the waters of an international water-course passing through its territory, which it held was not established either as a custom or even less as a general principle of

law, the Tribunal in The Lake Labour arbitration states as follows:

"In effect, in order to appreciate in its essence the necessity for prior agreement, one must envisage the hypothesis in which the interested states cannot reach agreement. In this case, it must be admitted that the state which is normally competent has lost its right to act singly as a result of the unconditional and arbitrary opposition of another state. This is the same as admitting a "right of assent", a "right of veto", that paralyzes the exercise of territorial competence of one state at the discretion of another state".

(Whiteman, Digest of International Law, Vol.3, page 1069)

(iv) One the question of damage or injury to a co-riparian state entailing state responsibility, we agree, Mr. Chairman, that this matter should also be examined by the International Law Commission. We have not suppressed this topic in order to escape any alleged responsibility. However, as the Commission itself has stated while dealing with the concept of state responsibility, such responsibility arises from an internationally wrongful act which is attributable to a state as an act of that state and involves breach of an obligation. On the question of the uses of international rivers or drainage basin, each riparian or basin state is entitled, within its territory, to a reasonable and equitable share in the beneficial uses of its waters. If this is the foundational concept, the use by one riparian state of its reasonable and equitable share of water cannot entail responsibility. This implies that with the exercise of this right, there is bound to be some variation in flow, if the upper riparian is to utilise its own share of water. To insist on the continued natural flow of a river is to deny the upper riparian of its legitimate uses of its own share of water. Injury or damage, if any, arising from variations in the natural flow of water cannot thus be described as damage or injury entailing responsibility, because it does not arise from an internationally wrongful act committed by the upper riparian. It may also be useful

to provide that one of the factors to be taken into account while exercising its right to an equitable and reasonable share of the waters of an international river or basin should be "the degree to which the needs of a basin state may be satisfied without causing substantial injury to a co-riparian state". The International Law Commission should also examine the doctrine of abuse of rights, remaining conscious, however, of what an eminent author had called "The uses and abuses of the abuse of rights".

Mr. Chairman, the distinguished delegate of Bangladesh had referred to some decisions or recommendations of learned associations or international organisations in support of the protection of existing uses and the requirement of prior consent. I do not wish to deal with all the examples given by him. They will obviously be looked into by the Commission in its study. The Commission will fully consider, we are sure, the state practice on the subject, the judicial decisions and doctrine. We have ourselves referred to some views in this statement. I should however only like to refer to the so-called "authoritative" Afro-Asian Formulation, prepared by the Asian-African Legal Consultative Committee at its fourteenth session held in New Delhi in 1973, which was cited by Bangladesh. The 1973 draft propositions on the Law of International Rivers were prepared by a Sub-committee of the Committee. The Sub-committee was unable to reach agreement on set of proposals on this subject and consequently together with the

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draft propositions certain notes were included as summary of discussion. The proposition concerning requirement of approval by a co-riparian state and cited by Bangladesh, also contained a note which read as follows:

"No agreement was reached on this question".

The Sub-committee recommended to the Plenary Session of the Committee to consider that report of 1973 at an opportune time in a future session. Mr. Chairman, this matter

has not yet come up for consideration by the Committee.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, it will be for the International Law Commission to assess whether, and if so, to what extent, existing uses of water are protected, and the requirement of prior consent is established, under the existing rules of customary international law. They should also deal with the question of state responsibility.

Mr. Chairman, my delegation in its statement of October 27 had concluded by saying that "it is not fair to expect a state to deny itself essential uses of waters within its own territory thereby causing untold hardship to its own people in order that the interests of a co-riparian state may be fully preserved. In such cases, the only practical way to safeguard both states against injury is by their agreeing to share the water equitably until additional resources of water are made available. That is the true spirit and essence of international cooperation.

INDIA USA BANGLADESH FINLAND

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INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Foreign Secretary's Statement on Farakka Issue

Following is the text of the statement made by Foreign Secretary, Mr. J. S. Mehta on November 16, 1976 in the Special Political Committee of the U.N. on the Farakka issue:

My delegation has listened with respect and attention to the statement made yesterday on behalf of Bangladesh by Rear Admiral M. H. Khan, the Deputy Chief Martial Law

Administrator of Bangladesh, accusing India of unilateral withdrawal of the waters of Ganga and urging the immediate resolution of a so-called dispute. To us the crux of the matter is the problem of development of two neighbours, tied irrevocably by a common river, facing the challenge of independence and progress. The choice is whether we recognise the sense of shared destiny and cooperate or seek to beggar our neighbour and estrange ourselves from each other.

The Indian delegation explained in the General Committee on 23rd September, and in the General Assembly on 24 September that India has serious misgivings on the desirability of involving the General Assembly in an issue which is intrinsically of a bilateral nature. We are convinced that the internationalisation of the issue will only complicate and politicize a problem of good neighbourliness: it will not spur it towards a constructive resolution and trust. However, now that the Special Political Committee has taken up this matter for consideration. It will be our endeavour once again to put the issue in its proper perspective and to demonstrate that the Bangladesh presentation is neither justified on its merits nor in its motivation.

Let me start delineating some common grounds between us and Bangladesh. For both our nations waters and rivers are the life blood for our people. The problem arises because, situated as we are in the tropics, our two countries are inundated with torrential rains and snow-fed rivers in one season and face acute shortage of water in another. The challenging task in the process of development is of conserving surplus water of the rainy season for beneficial use in the dry months.

I hope we recognize too that when two countries like India and Bangladesh share common physical features and common rivers, the optimum development of their water resources will only be possible through cooperative effort and a sense of irrevocably shared economic destinies on a lasting basis. It is not our contention that either country can determine the priorities and strategy of

development of the other. At the same time, neither country can deny the logic of independence and mutual cooperation.

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Since independence from the colonial Pule, the countries of the sub-continent have made impressive progress in the development of their water resources. They have, however, faced the constraints of resources and access to latest technology. While we must face the short-term problem of rational allocation of our shortages on a fair and equitable basis, the ultimate solution lies in our and joint efforts for accelerating the pace of development. This is indeed basically a question of development and the true dimension of problem.

Mr. Chairman, India's views regarding the utilisation of waters of an international river, or drainage basin, are similar to those which are held by the large majority of states all over the world. When a river crosses more than one country in its passage to the sea, each country is entitled, within its territory, to a reasonable and equitable share of the waters of that river. The quantum of that share has to be determined by taking into account the relevant factors, namely the geography and hydrology of the basin, the economic and social needs of the population dependent on those waters, the availability of other resources, the existing utilisation, the avoidance of unnecessary waste, etc. Each riparian state, in the exercise of sovereignty over its territory and autonomy in determining its water policy, has the right to plan and set out the priorities of use of the water to which it is entitled. That quantity of water may be used by each riparian state either for irrigation and other agricultural purposes, or for industry, or for other beneficial uses, including the protection of its ecology. It is well acknowledged the world over that no particular use of water has inherent priority over another.

The existing reasonable use of water by a riparian state should be taken into account when another co-riparian state decides to

utilise its own share of the water to which it is entitled. In this way there will be no clash between the use of water by all riparians, and they can make the optimum utilisation of the waters of that river. Nor is it necessary that a particular use should be subject to prior consent by the other co-riparian. There is no law imposing such an obligation, and there can be no impediment to a country's beneficial economic development.

In brief, the insistence on the continued natural flow of an international river, as asserted by Bangladesh, is inconsistent with the concept of equitable utilisation of the waters of such river.

It will be seen, Mr. Chairman, that these views do not conform to the Harman doctrine of absolute sovereignty of a riparian state over the waters within its territory as was implied in the statement of the distinguished representative of Bangladesh. We have always subscribed to the view that each riparian state has a reasonable and equitable share in the waters of an international river or drainage basin.

The rationale of Farakka is the saving of the port of Calcutta. This has been explained by us in the past. It bears repetition. The city has a population of more than 8 million. The operation of Calcutta port directly affects the well-being of over 100 million people in the hinterland, which is much more than the total population of Bangladesh. Indeed, the rationale of saving Calcutta city and port impinges upon the economy of as many as 13 states of India as well as of the neighbouring countries of Nepal and Bhutan. The industrial and commercial activities located in this area cover some of the most vital sectors of the Indian economy, including minerals and metals, transport, machinery, steel, textiles, tea, jute, food processing and leather industries. The utilisation of the Ganga waters by India for such vital purposes affecting the lives of such a large segment of humanity could by no stretch of imagination be characterised as wasteful.

From the early British days Calcutta was developed as the major port of India and maintained this position till recently. A gradual change in the course of the Ganga led to the hydrological decline of the river Bhagirathi-Hooghly, the name of the Ganga in its lower reaches in India, on which the port is situated. Inadequate headwater supply contributed over the years to the progressive silting of the Hooghly. Silting in turn caused increase in the intensity and frequency of 'bores', a phenomenon consisting of the sudden rise of a gigantic wall of water between one and two meters high which surges upstream at a great speed, capsizing boats and uprooting jetties and thus serious-

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ly impeding navigation. Until 1963, tidal 'bores' in the Hooghly occurred for about 40 days in the year. Now they occur on more than 160 days.

In 1963, ships of a draught of 26 ft. could use the port nearly 300 days a year. Now such vessels cannot use the port at all. The resulting decline in the traffic handled by the port has been drastic. The port handled 11 million tons of traffic in 1964-65 but 7.5 million tons in 1974-75. This decline took place despite the rapid industrialisation of the hinterland since India's independence in 1947. The deterioration of the Bhagirathi-Hooghly and the consequent decline of the Calcutta port have affected the health, sanitation and economic life not just on the banks of the river but a vast area of land historically dependent directly or indirectly on the river.

Mr. Chairman, this problem of Calcutta port has been studied for more than a century. Enquiries into the problem were started as early as 1853 by Sir Arthur Cotton and continued by a long series of experts and expert commissions. All of them concluded that the only means of saving the port from its impending destruction was by increasing and regulating the head-water supply through the construction of a barrage over the Ganga near Farakka. There are few examples in history where a river prob-

lem has been investigated as the Hooghly and for so long a period and where so many experts, applying their minds to the problem came to the same conclusion on what ought to be the best solution to the problem. All the alternatives to saving the port mentioned by the distinguished leader of the Bangladesh delegation were examined by these experts and expert commissions and ruled out as being not feasible.

Thus, Farakka is not a recently conceived project. It is a totally unwarranted insinuation that the Farakka was conceived by a big country to harm a small neighbour. It was planned for saving Calcutta port and its feasibility was established decades before the partition of India in 1947 and it was ultimately translated into reality only after partition of the sub-continent. The barrage was completed in 1971 and the feeder canal in 1975. The project was commissioned following an agreement between India and Bangladesh in April 1975. Representatives of the Government of Bangladesh were witness to the commissioning of the barrage.

Throughout the period of designing and construction of the project, great care was taken to ensure that its operation did not have any adverse effect on Bangladesh. Extensive consultations were held for this purpose first between India and the then Government of Pakistan and later between India and Bangladesh. Apart from ascertaining the needs of Bangladesh through exchange of information on plans and projects for the utilisation of the Ganga waters by the two countries, experiments based on hydraulic models under varying conditions in the dry season were carried out in order to 'determine the minimum flow required for rejuvenating the river Bhagirathi-Hooghly. These experiments and independent expert opinion established that 40,000 cusecs of water was required to achieve the purpose which would still leave adequate flow of water to meet the reasonable present and foreseeable requirement of water of Bangladesh.

We are, therefore, surprised by the wide-

ranging allegations made by the distinguished representative of Bangladesh regarding the adverse effects of the withdrawal of water by us at Farakka, as if it was hurriedly conceived and instantly executed.

These allegations are far-fetched and unfounded. In any case, in no way whatsoever India has transgressed the limitations of its rights and entitlements to the waters.

To say this is not to deny that a reduction in the quantum of river flows during the lean season may have some effects. However, this does not warrant that the water resources should not be put to beneficial use and be simply allowed to be drained into the sea unutilised. The effects of change in river flows have to be scientifically assessed with a view to taking remedial measures. We are convinced that given cooperation between the two countries, and the marshalling of science and modern technology, the process of adjustment can be rendered both prompt

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and smooth. That is why it was provided in the April 1975 agreement that the two countries should jointly assess the effects of Farakka withdrawals in both the countries and to take remedial measures as far as practicable. Unfortunately, the Bangladesh Government have refused to cooperate with us either in the joint assessment of the effects of withdrawal, or in determining the extent to which any adverse effects are attributable to Farakka or in discussing what remedial measures can be taken.

Instead, they have mounted a massive propaganda campaign both inside Bangladesh and in foreign countries. By creating a scare among their own people and by generating ill-will against India, they have made solution much more difficult. To quote only one example, one of the distinguished members of the Bangladesh delegation to the current General Assembly session 'and the editor of a leading Government-owned Bangladesh newspaper' recently wrote: "Farakka is no longer a question of national bondage in the totality of Indian expansionist design ... The politics of Farakka is the

main issue". Does this kind of propaganda create the necessary climate and provide the momentum and necessary impetus for an expeditious solution of the problem - a need which was repeatedly stressed in the statement of distinguished representative of Bangladesh.

It is important to remember that one-third length of Ganga below Farakka lies in India in West Bengal. We have been carrying out detail investigations and appraisal of the effects of withdrawal on our side and have not noticed any of the adverse effects mentioned by the Government of Bangladesh.

The Bangladesh Government also have not provided the base or benchmark data from the alleged decline or deterioration in the production of rice in the irrigation areas, irrigation facilities and irrigation, etc., are said to have taken place. Even if such data are available, it is extremely difficult, if not impossible, to isolate the effects of different factors and to demonstrate that the alleged adverse effects are attributable to Farakka. An analysis of available facts and figures indicates that most of these adverse effects are due to factors other than withdrawal at Farakka such as poor maintenance and repairs, lack of demand, absence of proper policies, etc.

Moreover, most of the problems attributed by the Bangladesh Government to Farakka are of an endemic nature and chronic to the river basins of both India and Bangladesh.

Lastly, whatever adverse effects might have been caused by Farakka, withdrawals must be weighed against the corroding damage visible over decades to the entire economy of eastern India through the process of slow strangulation by the silting of Calcutta.

In operating the Farakka barrage project, India has scrupulously adhered to the agreements concluded by it with Bangladesh. The provision for minimum withdrawals in the April 1975 agreement was limited to the lean season of that year. There was no

question of stretching the application of this provision beyond the lean months when the problem is one of floods and not of sharing of waters. India intended to reach agreement with Bangladesh on withdrawals in the next lean season, i.e. 1976. This could not be possible because of lack of cooperation on the part of Bangladesh Government. This left India with no option but to continue to withdraw water at Farakka to the extent of its technically determined requirements and release to Bangladesh the rest. As a gesture of friendship, India voluntarily reduced the intake of water of the feeder canal below the minimum required to flush the Hooghly, thus releasing additional water to Bangladesh.

On the other hand, the Government of Bangladesh have resiled from almost all their past commitments and agreements between the two countries. They have unilaterally decided to withdraw cooperation in joint observation and assessment of the effects of the Farakka withdrawals in both the countries. They have made it extremely difficult to reach agreement on either short-term or long-term solution by raising such extraneous issues as month-wise and year-long allocations and restoration of "natural" or "historical" flows. By insisting that additional water should be made available from the Ganga itself, they have gone back on the agreement reached in 1974 between

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the two countries that in considering the long-term problem of augmenting the flow in the lean season, water resources available to the region as a whole should be taken into account.

Mr. Chairman, whatever Criteria we apply, withdrawal of 40,000 cusecs of water by India at Farakka is well within the entitlement of its equitable share of the Ganga waters. It may be worth recapitulating that 90% of its length, the main channel of Ganga flows through India. 99 % of the catchment area of the Ganga and 91.5% of its entire irrigation potential lie within our country.

On the other hand, the length of the main channel of the Ganga in Bangladesh is only 140 kms. The Ganga and its tributaries flow through a catchment area in Bangladesh which is hardly 0.7% of that in India. The Ganga basin in Bangladesh contains 6.1 million acres and is inhabited by 12 million people. In quoting figures of the total area and populations affected by Farakka withdrawals, lying in the Ganga basin in Bangladesh, the Bangladesh Government appear to have included the entire area and population of all the districts of Bangladesh which abut the Ganga basin and not those parts of the districts which actually lie in the Ganga basin.

The distinguished representative of Bangladesh has stated that Bangladesh requires 49,000 cusecs of water for irrigation. No details have been given how this figure is arrived at. According to the data made available to us, at present only 1,000 to 1,500 cusecs are utilised for irrigating no more than 75,000 acres. The Bangladesh delegation has also argued that the prime consideration in demanding the restoration of the natural flow is to prevent the salinity belt from moving up in the delta. If 49,000 cusecs of water are required for irrigation purposes only as claimed by the Bangladesh delegation, it is difficult to understand how salinity intrusion can be prevented even if the traditional flow remains intact.

The representative of Bangladesh has dwelt at some length on apparent futility of bilateral contacts. The bilateral consultations between 1951 and 1971 were mainly in the nature of ascertaining each other's plans and projects for utilising the waters of the Ganga. It was not until 1960 that a project report on Farakka was furnished by India. The project on the proposed irrigation scheme in East Bengal was furnished by the then Government of Pakistan only in 1969 but there was no discussion on the sharing of the Ganga waters. Bilateral cooperation gathered real momentum and achieved commendable results after the emergence of Bangladesh as a sovereign nation in December 1971. Many important steps were taken during the period December 1971 and

August 1975. The Joint Rivers Commission was established. Joint aerial photographic surveys of the Ganga below Farakka were undertaken. Measures were instituted for flood control and valuable information on river development works of the two countries was exchanged. Finally, the May 1974 and April 1975 agreements provided a framework for arriving at an equitable sharing of the lean season flow and augmenting this flow in the long run. Unfortunately, a drastic change in climate of cooperation between the countries took place after August 1975, culminating in the decision of the Government of Bangladesh to politicize and internationalise the Farakka issue and to use it as an instrument of hostile propaganda against India both at home and abroad. That the process of bilateral negotiations and consultations in the last 14 months has proved unproductive is, therefore, not surprising. One of the most regrettable developments during this period has been that the work of the Joint Rivers Commission was brought to a standstill.

It is an index of India's faith in the bilateral approach that in spite of the action taken by the Bangladesh Government to internationalise the Farakka issue, we invited them for bilateral talks in Delhi in early September 1976. We joined these talks with a serious purpose of making progress towards solution and to this end made far-reaching proposals. Notwithstanding our requirements of 40,000 cusecs of water at Farakka during the lean season, in the spirit of sharing our shortages, we offered to reduce our own withdrawals to roughly equal to the amount of water available downstream for Bangladesh. This proposal was summarily rejected and we could not but suspect that this was because of the inducement provided by the internationalisation of the problem.

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For finding a solution to the long-term problem of maintaining the flow of the Ganga, India has advanced its proposal for linking the Brahmaputra with the Ganga supplemented by the storages of the Brahmaputra system. The chief merit of this pro-

posal is that it is based on an integrated multidisciplinary approach, including flood control, navigation, irrigation, hydro-power generation, preservation of the environment, etc. The proposal takes advantage of the obvious hydrological fact that the Brahmaputra starts rising two months before the Ganga rises. India is also convinced of the feasibility and cost effectiveness of this proposal. On the other hand, we have serious misgivings regarding the Bangladesh proposal for constructive storages upstream on the Ganga. Nevertheless, during the Delhi talks, we expressed our readiness to participate in an undertaking of joint techno-economic examination of the proposal put forward by Bangladesh, our own proposal, or any other feasible schemes for harnessing the resources of the water systems of the eastern region.

Mr. Chairman, under any practicable approach, the Farakka problem lends itself to solution only on a bilateral basis. The short-term problem of sharing the shortages during the lean season on an equitable basis calls for joint observation and assessment of the effects of Farakka withdrawals and the determination of the need for the beneficial use of water. The long-term problem of augmenting the flow of the water during the lean season involves undertaking complex techno-economic studies of all the available alternatives for achieving this purpose. No third party, howsoever well-intentioned, can dispense with these technical problems and processes and suggest a magic solution to the long and short-term problem.

Mr. Chairman, the problem is complex but the logic is simple and undeniable. We cannot serve our peoples without co-operation. If we do, the alluvial lands can blossom and sustain their large poverty-stricken population on both sides of the frontier. We need resources, but above all we must have faith and the will to cooperate. Trust and sacrifice is not something which can be extracted or conferred by an outsider or generated under threat or pressure. This must come from an appreciation of each other's difficulties and a perception of common interest. This is possible only through

a pursuit of the bilateral path.

Mr. Chairman, the needs of both the countries for water are mounting and our peoples are suffering for want of it. If the bilateral framework and process were functioning, we might by now have taken the first indispensable steps towards the goal of augmenting the flow of the Ganga within the framework of the optimum utilization of the water resources of the entire eastern region. The internationalisation of the issue has taken us off the track and has obliged both the countries to waste valuable time and resources while the development problems of our peoples are clamouring for solution.

If it is politics which we must play, then let it be the politics of development and progress and not the politics of confrontation and suspicion. It is important to remember that the Farakka issue, important though it is, is still not the entire story of actual or potential inter-dependence and cooperation between two neighbours.

India has made determined efforts for promoting peace and progress in the sub-continent, because we recognise it is in the interest of India as well as all our neighbours. Not just in profession but through patient negotiations and constructively inspired will for accommodation, we have recently made striking progress in tackling old problems including those relating to common rivers, in order to improve our relations with our neighbours. We are proud of our record of friendship with the people of Bangladesh. There is hardly an example of a country having suffered so much for another country. We do not seek or expect any gratitude for this, but we shall never tire of the hope that the climate of trust and cooperation shall soon be restored to our relations.

Mr. Chairman, let me assure you that India's firm faith and commitment is that Bangladesh may progress and advance towards the fulfilment of the national aspirations of its people and that India may have the privilege to be a trusted partner in this progress. This has happened before and

must inspire us again. We only have to accept the inevitable sense of shared destiny.

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If we deny faith in our own joint capabilities and if we have no sensitivity to our common problems and no interest in the welfare of our other neighbour, we will only be flying in the face of geography, history and our common culture and heritage. In the result we will be postponing the benefits that can flow through cooperation. It makes all the difference whether we discuss our problems in their manifold complexities alone or under the glare of suspicion and the shadow of our inadequacy or inability to solve them ourselves.

Mr. Chairman, our faith in good neighbourliness remains unshaken. I would like to assure Bangladesh that India would be willing, as a matter of urgency, for bilateral talks in the conviction that this is the only means of progressing towards equitable solutions and reinforcing the firm foundation for our friendship. We believe that this committee, after patient and sympathetic hearing, can serve the interest of the two countries by urging them to resume bilateral negotiations in a spirit of mutual trust and cooperation. We have heard a lot of the threat to the physical ecology of Bangladesh. What is more important is the ecology of good neighbourliness and trust. Good neighbourliness will not be fostered under suspicions and superintendence.

To sum up, Mr. Chairman, there is no legal dispute between Bangladesh and India in terms of the UN Charter. The problem, however, is one of sharing the limited flow of the Ganga waters during the lean season from mid-March to mid-May. This sharing is necessitated by the fact that there might not be enough water for both countries during these months, and consequently the two Governments are obliged to share whatever quantity of water there is on an equitable basis having regard to their reasonable requirements. The barrage at Farakka provides the technical means for sharing,

because it enables India to withdraw its reasonable requirement of water and to allow the rest to flow to Bangladesh. If there is a shortage, it inflicts common hardship but limited in time to two or three months, and the sharing of this hardship has to be decided by the two Governments in the exercise of their sovereignty through exchange of information and consultations and agreements. It cannot be on the basis of the intervention of any third party who decides what proportion of hardship each country should bear. We have tried to explain how important, indeed how vital, the withdrawals at Farakka are for the economic survival and political stability of a region and population larger than that of Bangladesh. The Farakka barrage was built for that very purpose and we cannot countenance its closing down under any circumstances. We are legally and morally entitled to withdraw waters within our jurisdiction for our reasonable and beneficial requirements. It is, of course, not our intention to cause any damage to Bangladesh. The *raison d'être* of Farakka barrage is to prevent the damage that has been caused to Calcutta progressively over a century. We have been able to achieve this and it is quite misleading to term the use of water for this purpose as "wasteful". It is on the contrary entirely beneficial for the survival of the economy of the eastern region of India and for the livelihood of over one hundred million people. It is our aim not to use any more water than is necessary for this purpose. The use of water for this purpose is also not new. It is a rational and an old use on the basis of which Calcutta was first established and its environment was built up and the dependence of the eastern region developed. We cannot possibly agree that Bangladesh is entitled to the entire natural flow of the Ganga, and that India is not entitled to draw any water from the Ganga without the prior consent of Bangladesh. We do not seek to question the use of the Ganga water by Bangladesh. It is for Bangladesh to determine its uses, set its priorities and apportion the water for various purposes. Equally we do not expect Bangladesh to question our own uses for our reasonable requirements. However, we are prepared to consult with Bangladesh how

best to tide over the common hardship caused by the shortage of water during the lean months, cooperating to find a long-term solution by augmenting the flow of water. We are prepared to consider with utmost sympathy and understanding the requirements of Bangladesh and we would expect the same from Bangladesh about our own requirements.

It is not at all clear to us that the UN can play a useful or helpful role at present except to urge both countries to persist in their efforts in good faith and with mutual

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goodwill to find satisfactory short-term and long-term solutions. We feel that one should not weaken the credibility of the UN by bringing to it every problem between member states, since quite often they can and do resolve bilateral questions through negotiations. The UN should encourage that process.

INDIA BANGLADESH USA LATVIA BHUTAN NEPAL CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC PAKISTAN PERU

Date : Nov 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Statement by Shri B. C. Mishra on Disarmament

Following is the text of statement by India's delegate, Shri B. C. Mishra in the First Committee of UN on November 17, 1976:

Once again we have gathered here to express our views on the multi-faceted issue of disarmament. There are before us 18

items relating to disarmament. They range from individual concerns to regional preoccupations, and some vitally affect the entire humanity. None of these items is new. Nor have the views of the Indian delegation undergone change on any of them. For decades we have stated our position on the items here in the First Committee as also in the CCD. There is thus no need for me today to go into detail.

what I should like to do today is to address myself to fundamentals. It is clear to all - even to those who over the years have espoused this idea or that proposal, this convention or that treaty - that the international community can claim only meagre results in the field of disarmament since the founding of the United Nations Organisation. One could say that in truth there has been no disarmament in the 31 years of this Organisation. Even the convention dealing with biological weapons has not been adhered to by all those who are capable of producing such weapons. The truth is that today this world of ours abounds in weapons as it has never before. And the quantity is matched by quality. What is more, it needs less number of persons than fingers of one hand to unleash total and, perhaps, irrevocable destruction. In truth just one is enough to do it. Humanity has never before faced such a situation. And without a radical change in our thinking there will not be - there cannot be - a change in this situation. The situation is radical. Old-fashioned ideas cannot cope with it.

One of the old-fashioned ideas is that if the security of a few is guaranteed the world will be a safe place to live in. And how is this security brought about? Not by disarmament but by a balance of terror. They are terrified of each other. So every opportunity is used to tilt the balance. Since each is doing the same the balance turns into a see-saw. To put it another way, we live on a roller-coaster with the pit of the stomach, the most conscious part of our bodies. Security in terror is not possible. One day the mind will be unable to cope with the terror and something will give. Where in such a situation is the safety for the rest

of us?

Another old-fashioned idea is that some are more responsible than others, that so long as nuclear weapons remain in the hands of a select few the world is safe. In this very committee a distinguished delegate was heard to say 10-12 years ago that there was nothing wrong in the five permanent members of the Security Council possessing nuclear weapons. After all, it was argued, they have special responsibility under the UN Charter to maintain peace and security in the world. The only grace in that statement was that it was not made by a permanent member. The speaker represented one of the allies. Most delegations then, as now, had no doubts about the evil character of nuclear weapons. Certainly my delegation has always held this view. We are against the proliferation of nuclear weapons, vertical or horizontal. We are for their total elimination. They are evil whether in the hands of a few or of many. We do not accept, we will never accept, that some of us are more responsible than others. Any thought to the contrary can only be the legacy of colonialism and imperialism, a product of the zealous missionary activity to civilise others undertaken in centuries past.

But such a thought persists. Over the last few years increasing attention is being paid to the overwhelming majority of nations

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which does not possess nuclear weapons rather than to those few which do possess them. So much so that a "club" of exporters of nuclear material and equipment is formed to bring to heel those who refuse to follow the discriminatory policies dictated by a few and sanctioned by none. In parallel, efforts are made to impose safeguards through international agencies, again without sanction. Do the members of this "club" discuss ways and means of eliminating the nuclear weapons stockpiles or even of preventing vertical proliferation? If they dared to, the "club" would dissolve in an instant.

The result is that nuclear technology so

desperately needed by most developing nations for peaceful purposes cannot be used independently, much less developed, by the newly-independent and developing countries. Political sovereignty and independence are sought to be nullified through the withholding of the latest technology and, of course, developmental assistance. It should not be a matter of surprise if nations resist an approach which is far from curbing the nuclear-weapon states and which, in fact, creates a monopoly of nuclear technology for peaceful purposes. Strange as it might seem, such an approach is deemed to prevent proliferation of nuclear-weapons. But it will never succeed in serving the purpose ascribed to it. What is one-sided, lacking in a balance of obligations, will remain so, no matter what the label given to it. And it will become more and more burdensome to the developing nations regardless of whether or not they subscribe to this or that treaty. Even some of those who became parties to the NPT are under suspicion. It will remain so because the bases of this approach are retention of power in the hands of a few, monopoly of nuclear technology and monopoly of commerce in nuclear material and equipment. All this in the name of preventing the proliferation of nuclear weapons.

I am reminded of the story of a monk who prayed and meditated beneath a tree by the side of a road. Anyone travelling the road was admonished by the monk to give up his evil ways. Years passed in this way and the monk died fully expecting to go to heaven. But it happened otherwise. He could not understand the situation and chided the dark messenger for bringing him to the wrong place. The messenger told him calmly, "This is the correct place for you. All these years you thought you were praying and meditating. But in reality your mind was constantly occupied with the evil ways of others. You are here by right."

As in the field of nuclear disarmament so in relation to disarmament in the field of conventional weapons, the same discriminatory approach is rearing its head. Lest there be misunderstanding, it is not my purpose that the developing countries should

waste their scarce resources in unnecessarily arming themselves. Indeed, no group of nations is more conscious of the need to husband its resources and to devote them to productive goals. We plead for general and complete disarmament in order that we could do so. But now suggestions have been made that the "transfer" of arms from one country to another or from one group of countries to another should be subjected to selective control. Once again the targets of the suggested controls are the newly-independent and developing countries. Arms would be "transferred" to them in accordance with policies suited to the so-called global interests of supplier states. Let there be no doubt that the suggested controls are politically motivated. As in the nuclear field so here, they are designed to retain power in the hands of a few. There is no suggestion, none at all, that the nations which have monopoly of arms manufacture should stop the development and production of more and more sophisticated weapons. So, a small group of countries will have more and more powerful means to control the vast majority of nations. We have all talked of the ever-widening economic gap between the industrialised and developed states on the one hand and the newly-independent and developing states on the other. Most of us have not yet paid attention to this other ever-widening gap. This is not disarmament, not even arms limitation. This is control of many by a few. Again, some are thought to be more responsible than others.

So, Mr. Chairman, we are trying to cope with a radical situation through old-fashioned ideas. Whatsoever is based on such ideas is deemed to failure. It is repeatedly said that lack of progress in disarmament is due to a lack of political will to disarm. True enough. But the political will of the vast majority cannot be aroused by the dictates of a few. Maintenance of peace and security

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by means of a balance of terror among a few and the defencelessness of the vast majority are not a sound basis for disarmament, much less for peace. No wonder,

therefore, that the recent conference of heads of state or government of non-aligned countries incorporated this passage in its political declaration: "The conference emphasized the necessity to strengthen international peace and security and ratified their firm decision to reinforce solidarity and mutual assistance among the non-aligned countries in order to confront more effectively threats, pressures, aggressions and other political or economic actions directed against them by imperialism".

In the same declaration the conference reiterated the urgent need to adopt effective measures leading to the convening of a world disarmament conference and recommended that in the meantime the U.N. General Assembly hold a special session with this agenda: A review of the problem of disarmament, the promotion and elaboration of a programme of priorities and recommendations in the field of disarmament, and, finally, the question of convening a world disarmament conference.

At the special session and, hopefully, soon thereafter at the world disarmament conference, we must re-examine our ideas and recast our approach in relation to disarmament negotiations and agreements. To succeed the new approach must be based on:

1. The primary and urgent necessity of the elimination of nuclear weapons and their means of delivery. It is obvious that action in this regard can be taken only by those who possess the weapons. No amount of restrictions on non-nuclear weapon-states will remedy the situation.

2. Science and technology should be handmaids of economic development of all, not only a few. They must be available to all on a non-discriminatory basis.

3. The necessity of stopping the further development and sophistication of conventional weapons by the industrialised developed states as a first step towards halting the race in such weapons.

4. The end of practices whereby a few industrialised developed states remain heavi-

ly armed on the pretext of assuring their own security but impose defenselessness upon the newly independent and developing states.

We live in a world which is inter-dependent as never before. There are no isolated phenomena. The security of a few cannot guarantee the security of all, Until we construct policies which do assure the security of all, disarmament will not move from the forum of debate to the field of actuality.

INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC RUSSIA

Date : Nov 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

ITALY

Indo-Italian Cultural Agreement

The following press release on the Indo-Italian cultural agreement was issued in New Delhi on November 10, 1976:

A Cultural Agreement between India and Italy was signed in Rome on November 9, 1976. Indian Ambassador to Rome, Smt. K. Rukmini Menon and the Italian Foreign Minister, H.E. Mr. Arnaldo Forlanic signed the agreement on behalf of their respective Governments.

This is the first cultural agreement signed between Italy and India. The object of the Agreement is to develop cooperation in the fields of education, art, culture, sports, public health and mass media and to strengthen further the friendly ties. The

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Agreement envisages the establishment of Cultural Institutes and Friendship Associations in the two countries and provides

for cooperation and exchange of professors, teachers, scholars, scientists and students between universities.

A joint committee consisting of the representatives of both Governments would be set up for implementing the agreement. This committee will meet every two years alternatively in Italy under an Italian Chairman and in India under an Indian Chairman.

The Italian Foreign Minister in his brief speech on the occasion said that the accord was specially significant in view of the ancient and rich cultural heritages of India and Italy. He said that Italy in the Mediterranean and India in the Indian Ocean are engaged in efforts for promoting peace and relaxation of international tension. After stating that the agreement would secure more solid ties between the two countries, the Italian Foreign Minister declared that his country would respond with equal enthusiasm for promoting major understanding and cultural links between Italy and India. Earlier in her speech delivered in fluent Italian the Indian Ambassador looked forward to Italy playing a more important role in the cultural relations and said that the present agreement was one of the steps in that direction.

ITALY INDIA UNITED KINGDOM USA

Date : Nov 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

JORDAN

Speech by the Vice-President at Dinner in Honour of Crown Prince of Jordan

The Vice-President, Shri B. D. Jatti, made the following speech at the dinner in honour of His Royal Highness Prince Hassan

Bin Talal, the Crown Prince of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, in New Delhi on November 24, 1976:

I extend the warmest and a most cordial welcome this evening, to Their Royal Highness Hassan Bin Talal, Princess Sarvath, Princess Alia and the distinguished members of their party. This is Their Royal Highnesses' first visit to India and provides us a welcome opportunity to strengthen the friendly ties and understanding which so happily exist between our two countries.

Our friendly ties with Jordan are of long standing and we greatly value them. Our trade and economic relations have shown steady progress over the years. We admire the progress Jordan has made under His Majesty King Hussein's wise and enlightened leadership and continue to cherish the happy memories of His Majesty's visit to India.

We are glad that the bloodshed and turmoil of the last year in Lebanon has subsided through the collective efforts and wisdom of Arab leaders. The problems of Israeli occupation of Arab lands and the continued denial to the Palestinians of their legitimate rights remain. The maintenance of Arab unity is vital for the struggle to achieve a just and lasting peace in the Middle East. India has always extended its principled support to our Arab brothers in this just struggle.

Peace is vital for all our countries in facing the challenge of development and overcoming the economic legacy of colonialism. Our policy of non-alignment and search for friendship and cooperation with all countries flows from this conviction. In our own region, we have taken a number of initiatives to settle outstanding problems through bilateral discussions and negotiations and to increase the areas of cooperation. It is our continuing effort to consolidate and enlarge this atmosphere of

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accommodation and good neighbourliness which will enable the countries in our region to discharge their responsibilities to their

peoples.

We have been endeavouring for the last three decades, often against heavy odds, to overcome the vast problems of the social, economic and cultural advancement of this second most populous country in the world. Though much remains to be done, we have succeeded in laying the foundations of a diversified and self-reliant economy. We have learnt the hard way that transplantation of technology from the advanced countries does not always work and that there is no substitute for the development and nurturing of indigenous skills and ingenuity for research and development. We take some justifiable pride at the outstanding achievements by scientists and technologists in a number of advanced industrial and scientific fields.

There has recently been a welcome turning away from our habit of looking always to developed countries for help and guidance to solution of our own developmental problems. Cooperation between developing countries and learning from each others' experience vital for our growth and for success in shaping the more equitable international economic order we all seek. We have acted on this conviction for many years. Thousands of Indian doctors, engineers and other technical personnel are participating in the implementation of the development plans of countries in Asia and Africa. We have freely made available our training facilities for personnel from these countries. Our consultancy and manufacturing organisations are involved in infrastructural projects in the fields of transport and telecommunications, housing, power generation, etc. in many developing countries. It is our earnest desire further to expand and enlarge such cooperation.

Your Royal Highness is deeply involved with the economic development of your country. The progress achieved under Jordan's Development Plans since 1972 is due in large measure to your inspiration and dynamism. I am glad that your visit gives us an opportunity to acquaint you with our own developmental experience. You will see

how our people are working under the leadership of our Prime Minister unitedly and confident of the future to create a new society on economic and social justice.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, may I now request you to join me in a toast to the health of His Majesty King Hussein and Queen Alia, to Their Royal Highnesses, to the well being and prosperity of the Jordanian people and to lasting friendship and cooperation between India and Jordan.

JORDAN INDIA USA LEBANON ISRAEL RUSSIA

Date : Nov 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

JORDAN

Crown Prince of Jordan's Reply

Replying, the Crown Prince of Jordan delivered the following speech:

It is a great challenge for me to be speaking to you here this evening for many reasons and it is possibly because of this challenge that I have not come prepared with a written text, for which I hope you will forgive me.

I know very well, Sir, that the context of the relations between our two countries has been clearly defined by our leaders over 13 years ago at the time when His Majesty first visited this great country. But the lapse of time is definitely a daunting task to substitute with both words and gestures in a visit the duration of which to the political capital of this country is hardly more than 48 hours. I have, however, been encouraged by many factors in coming here. I think that in looking for the common ground bet-

ween our two countries, one should possibly begin with the abstract and move to the specific.

Our country, as you well know, small in size, is located at the heart of a very vital area to the world and, I believe, to the Indian subcontinent. It is a country that has tried to equate its basic resources with the political role demanded of it and it is a country that has persistently sought for friends and

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understanding in the broadest possible context. It is always difficult to transcend regional realities and steps outside one's immediate area in the search for friends, but the complementarity that exists between our two areas of the world, I feel, is one that exists in many different contexts. Maybe the crucial location of my country and its immediate areas is one. Certainly the determined efforts of our people to face the basic problems of frustration and deprivation is another. When we speak of people, of course we speak of numerically vastly disparate numbers by comparison with the challenge that you are faced and are facing under the wise leadership of your Prime Minister and Government, but when we speak of people, we are speaking too of what we hope will be a qualitative experiment in our immediate area, an experiment which we feel is designed to take the longer-time view of listening with one ear to the sensational interpretations and misinterpretations of developments in our area and stealing every opportunity that we can to construct and further develop in the interest and the context of stability and peace.

There are many other areas in common. I feel that our attitude to the dangers that beset our people both politically and socially are very much similar. It is very difficult, as I was saying earlier, for a monarchy to interpret itself in monetary terms through a socialist government, but I have had this opportunity in the past to say that we are achieving strides based not on the outward description of what we are, but based on a very well kept secret. I feel that we are

more progressive in many areas than many of those who have raised the title and the slogan of progress, we would like to be progressive and faster, if only the resources were made available to us and in that we join with you and possibly the third area of similarity in our attempts, in our continuous dialogue with those countries which as you said don't substitute the transference of know-how to the original and inventive ideas and potentials of peoples, but who have for a very long period of time monopolised this know-how and kept it from us.

In terms of specifics, I hope very much that during the days ahead and the peak hours in which I am privileged to be with you, that I can learn a lot from your experiment, that I can make UP for the time-lag by bringing you up-to-date in developments in our areas as we see them, we too are very grateful for the fact that in recent weeks Arab countries have come together as a result of the summit meetings held in Riyadh and Cairo to take a common stand on basic issues and on the issues of the immediate security of the area, the issues which are so fundamental to us and to the climate of progress towards peace which we earnestly hope can come about at an early date. We too hope that this unity will continue for definitely the explanation of the Arab case and cause in the area as a whole, the case and cause of our immediate region in particular is the distance that we can keep ahead of developments in the area which have so often and which would so are likely to endanger the possibilities of this peace ever being achieved if they were allowed to catch up with us. We succumb to all sorts of influences, we are regarded in all sorts of lights as we border so many different international appreciations of security from different angles and with different vantage points, but basically we have always tried to keep our priorities clearly defined, to keep a correct profile in our relations with the world and certainly such personal contacts as those which we shall hold here with our friends add very much in our understanding and furthering the case and cause of peace and stability in the Middle-East.

I was very impressed by the list of industries you mentioned and I don't think that you need refer to "etcetra" because I think you probably covered the gamut of discussion that we will be holding in this very short period of time. I do hope that the transfer of technology from India to the Middle East will make use of our central position, of our manpower, of our capability to supplement the wealth of the area with the drive and determination of our people. I do hope that Government and business will combine to make this clearer to us and we shall certainly from our side put every effort to making the construction of this bridge a solid one.

I would like to thank you once again for your generous hospitality and to say what a pleasure and privilege it is for me to be here after such a long period of time and to excuse myself once again for not having

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been more specific. I am sure that having rounded off my talks with all of you, the ground for more specific statements will have been more clear to us. I am much encouraged by everything I have seen and heard and certainly by meeting my friends here today.

I would like you to join me in raising your glasses to drink the health of the President of India, the Vice-President and Madam Minister and also to the friendship and cooperation and prosperity of the relations between the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and India.

JORDAN USA INDIA FRANCE EGYPT SAUDI ARABIA PERU

Date : Nov 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

Indo-Sri Lanka Agreement on Gulf of Manaar Boundary

The following press release on the Indo-Sri Lanka agreement on Gulf of Manaar boundary was issued in New Delhi on November 22, 1976:

A Supplementary Agreement between India and Sri Lanka extending the maritime boundary in the Gulf of Manaar from position 13m to the trijunction point between India, Sri Lanka and the Maldives was signed in Colombo on November 22, by India's Acting High Commissioner, Mr. B. M. Oza, and the Sri Lanka Foreign Secretary, Mr. W. T. Jayasinghe.

It may be recalled that an agreement determining the maritime boundary between India and Sri Lanka in the Palk Strait was signed in 1974 and was ratified by the two Governments in July 1974. Another agreement determining the maritime boundary between the two countries in the Gulf of Manaar and the Bay of Bengal and related matters was signed on March 23, 1976. This agreement was ratified by the Governments of India and Sri Lanka on July 6 and 8, 1976 respectively.

In respect of the marine area between the two countries in the Gulf of Manaar, the agreement defined, by latitudes and longitudes, 13 points which were equidistant from the coasts of the two countries. Under the Agreement the lines connecting these points constituted the maritime boundary in the area. It was further provided that the extension of this boundary beyond position 13 would be considered subsequently.

In June 1976 tripartite negotiations between India, Sri Lanka and the Maldives were held in Colombo for the purpose of fixing the trijunction point between the three countries in the Gulf of Manaar. An agreement between the three countries was signed in July 1976, which came into force on July 30,

1976.

During negotiations on fixing the trijunction point, the question of extending the maritime boundary between India and Sri Lanka in the Gulf of Manaar beyond point 13m upto the trijunction point was also considered by the Governments of India and Sri Lanka. An agreement entitled "Supplementary Agreement between India and Sri Lanka on the Extension of the Maritime Boundary between the two countries in the Gulf of Manaar from position 13m to the Trijunction Point between India, Sri Lanka and the Maldives (Point T)" was prepared and initialled in Colombo on September 6, 1976, which has now been formally signed.

The agreement (i) depicts the coordinates of point 13 m and the trijunction point; (ii) extends the maritime boundary between India and Sri Lanka in the Gulf of Manaar from point 13 m to the trijunction point (T); and (iii) provides that the agreement shall be supplementary to and an integral part of the March 1976 Maritime Agreement between the two countries.

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SRI LANKA INDIA MALDIVES

Date : Nov 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Indo-U.S. Tax Agreement

The following press release on the Indo-US tax agreement was issued in New Delhi on November 26, 1976:

Letters were exchanged here today between the Government of India and

the Government of U.S.A. constituting an Agreement between the two Governments for the avoidance of double taxation of income of the international airlines of the two countries.

As a result of the Agreement, profits of Air-India will not be taxed in the United States and of PAN AM and TWA will not be taxed in India.

Shri S. R. Mehta, Chairman, Central Board of Direct Taxes, and Additional Secretary to the Government of India, and Mr. David T. Schneider, Charge d'Affaires, Embassy of the United States of America in India, exchanged the Letters on behalf of their respective Governments.

Today's Agreement follows talks between the two Governments at the delegation level in May, 1976 when a draft agreement was initialled.

India has entered into similar limited agreements in respect of air and or shipping profits with Afghanistan, Iran, Italy, Lebanon, Romania and Switzerland.

Comprehensive agreements covering all types of income have also been entered into with several countries.

USA INDIA AFGHANISTAN IRAN ITALY OMAN ROMANIA SWITZERLAND

Date : Nov 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

VIETNAM

India-Vietnam Post and Telecommunication Agreement

The following press release on the India-Vietnam post and telecommunication agree-

ment was issued in New Delhi on November 10, 1976:

India today signed an agreement with the Socialist Republic of Vietnam on the exchange of letter-post items and parcels and telecommunication services between the two countries.

The agreement was signed in Hanoi by Shri G. R. Gharekhan, Indian Ambassador and Mr. Pham Mien, Director General of the P.T.T. General Department.

The agreement enables the two countries to introduce parcel service and envisages airmail services also. It also paves the way for setting up telecom links in accordance with international practices.

As a result of the agreement, mail for third countries can be routed through either of the two countries.

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VIETNAM INDIA

Date : Nov 01, 1976

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YUGOSLAVIA

Indo-Yugoslav Protocol on Equivalence of Degrees

The following press release on the Indo-Yugoslav protocol on equivalence of degrees was issued in New Delhi on November 12, 1976:

The Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia have signed a Protocol here today on the equivalence of

certificates degrees and diplomas awarded by secondary schools, universities, institutions of higher learning and other educational and scientific organisations. Shri B. N. Tandon, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Education & Social Welfare has signed on behalf of the Government of India. Dr. Rozina Ivanovic, Secretary for Culture, Education and Science of the Socialist Republic of Montenegro has signed on behalf of the Government of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

According to this Protocol, the Higher Secondary School Leaving Certificate Pre-University Certificate in India will be equivalent to the certificate awarded on final examination in secondary schools in Yugoslavia. Master's Degree in humanities, social sciences and sciences will be equivalent to the diploma awarded on the completion of studies of higher learning (second diploma) in the corresponding fields of study, in Yugoslavia. M. Phil degree in India is equated with academic degree of Magister in Yugoslavia. In the fields of engineering and technology, agriculture and veterinary science, the second diploma in Yugoslavia is equated with Bachelor's degree in India and academic degree of Magister with Master's degree.

Keeping in view the educational system at post-graduate and doctoral levels, and also taking note of the qualifications for recruitment to teaching and research positions in both the countries, it was agreed that doctorate degrees in both the countries be recognised for such employment and placement.

The Protocol is yet another milestone in the process to further strengthening of cordial and friendly relations existing between the two countries and promoting the mutually beneficial cooperation in the scientific, educational and cultural fields particularly in the University Education in accordance with the common goal of the policy of the non-aligned countries. It will enable exchange of scholars between the countries for study and research and for employment in educational, scientific or research institutions.

YUGOSLAVIA INDIA

Date : Nov 01, 1976

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LATVIA POLAND PORTUGAL VIETNAM ZAMBIA USA

Date : Dec 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Indo-Czechoslovak Protocol on Economic Cooperation

The following press release on the Indo-Czechoslovak protocol on economic co-operation was issued in New Delhi on December 17, 1976:

The seventh meeting of the Indo-Czechoslovak Joint Committee for Economic, Trade and Technical Cooperation concluded its Ministerial-level deliberations here today on an optimistic note.

The two Co-Chairmen of the Joint Committee, Prof. D. P. Chattopadhyaya, Minister of Commerce, and His Excellency Mr. Ing. Andrej Barack, Minister of Foreign Trade, have been holding discussions since December 16, 1976. These discussions were preceded by official-level discussions between the Indian and the Czechoslovak members, headed by Dr. P. C. Alexander, Secretary (Foreign Trade) and H.E. Mr. J. Janik, Deputy Minister of the Czechoslovak Federal Ministry of Heavy Engineering and Metallurgy.

The Joint Committee reviewed the implementation of the tasks set out in the Protocol of the Sixth meeting of the Joint Committee held in Prague in September 1975 and expressed satisfaction with the progress made in this regard. It was also noted that the discussions, in the separate Working Groups, were held in a cordial atmosphere marked by complete mutual understanding, keeping in view the economic developments in India and Czechoslovakia. The Joint Committee agreed that Indo-Czechoslovak cooperation was steadily strengthening and there were good prospects for further developments of economic and industrial cooperation.

The Indo-Czechoslovak Joint Committee

was set up in 1966. The Joint Committee is expected to periodically review, identify and recommend areas of cooperation so that bilateral ties take into account the changing needs and capabilities of the two countries.

The Protocol concluded today covered areas like Trade Exchanges and Economic Cooperation, including Shipping, Industrial Cooperation and Science and Technology.

In the field of Trade Exchanges, it was noted by both sides that the trade Protocol for 1977 would increase the two-way trade turnover by five per cent. Increased provisions for several commodities and engineering products have been made in the 1977 Trade Plan. Czechoslovakia is likely to purchase several new light engineering products from India. During the period 1978-80, there are good possibilities of India exporting a number of heavy engineering goods to Czechoslovakia.

In the field of Industrial Cooperation, both sides noted with satisfaction the progress in respect of on-going projects on mutual cooperation. India is likely to export coke oven equipment, cranes and rolling mill equipment to Czechoslovakia. India and Czechoslovakia will cooperate in the manufacture of 57 HP tractors in India. The experts of the two sides will be holding discussions in Czechoslovakia to evolve an action-oriented programme for strengthening industrial cooperation for implementation of third country projects.

In the field of Science and Technology, both sides reviewed the implementation of the items included in the current working programme and agreed to extend its validity till December 31, 1977. A new programme will be signed in Czechoslovakia in June 1977.

Volume No

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DENMARK

Indo-Danish Agreement on Cooperation in Family Planning

The following press release on the Indo-Danish agreement on cooperation in family planning was issued in New Delhi on December 10, 1976:

An agreement for Danish assistance, amounting to 18.2 million Danish Kroners, for the national family planning programme was signed here today. The amount is to be spent on the construction in New Delhi of a building complex for the National Institute of Health and Family Planning, which will provide research, training and consultancy services to promote integrated health and family planning programmes.

Shrimati Sarla Grewal, Additional Secretary and Commissioner (FP), Union Ministry of Health and Family Planning, signed on behalf of the Indian Government and Mr. Per W. Frellesvig, Danish Ambassador to India, initialled on behalf of Denmark.

Under the Agreement, valid till March 31, 1980, the Danish Government will provide funds for the construction of the building with all its installations. Of the total assistance, 2.43 million Kroners have already been advanced, the balance of 15.77 million to be given in instalments, as mutually agreed upon.

The Indian Government, according to the plan of operation, will provide the 32-acre building site near the Jawaharlal Nehru University campus, work out the building programme, its time-schedule, under the supervision of a Building Committee, advise the Danish International Development

Agency (DANIDA) Mission of the Danish Embassy on the transfer of instalments; from Denmark, and pay the taxes, fiscal charges and import duties, if any, on all equipment and material imported for the project by the Government of Denmark.

DENMARK INDIA USA

Date : Dec 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

HUNGARY

President Ahmed's Speech at Banquet in Honour of Hungarian President

The President, Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, made the following speech at the banquet in honour of His Excellency Mr. Pal Losonczi, President of the Presidential Council of the Hungarian People's Republic, in New Delhi on December 7, 1976:

It gives me and my wife great pleasure to welcome you and your wife, Madame Losonczi, once again to our country. Your presence here this evening, in response to my invitation, as the distinguished representative of the friendly Government and people of Hungary is a source of particular satisfaction to us. I would like to take this opportunity, Mr. President, to extend a cordial and warm welcome to the other members of your delegation also.

Excellency, we were privileged to welcome you in our country seven years ago and we hope that during this visit you would get an opportunity to familiarise yourself with the tremendous changes that have taken

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place in India in these years. Your present

visit is a happy continuation of what has become a fine tradition between our two countries.

High level visits between Hungary and India are symbolic of the close bonds of friendship and cooperation between us. My visit to your beautiful country in September last is green in my memory. The memorable welcome that you gave us and the warmth of your hospitality made a deep impact on me and my wife. The wide ranging and fruitful exchange of views that we had revealed a remarkable identity of views between Hungary and India. We are grateful to you for having given us this opportunity to return at least a part of the generous hospitality that we received in your country.

Excellency, in recent years, we have passed through periods of great stress and strain. These were dappled years of light and shade marked by anxiety, misfortune and set backs but also of a great renewal of national will to overcome the problems, to progress and to build. During 1971, for instance, we had to cope with an unprecedented influx of refugees. This was followed by successive years of drought which built up pressures on our economy and social system that would have posed a challenge to even the most affluent societies. We faced these adversities with determination and courage and the people responded to the steps taken by the Government with an enthusiasm and warmth that had not been witnessed before and which served to reinforce the nation's confidence in its destiny.

During our talks last year. I had an opportunity to appraise you of the developments in India. Since then we have taken several measures to achieve social and economic justice within the country. We have abolished the barbarous practice of bonded labour and are taking vigorous steps for implementing land reforms and tackling rural indebtedness and other problems. In the process, the Government of India inevitably had to face the resistance of the forces of reaction and of forces opposed to national unity and harmony. It became necessary, therefore, to strengthen national discipline

so that the forces of disruption and destabilisation were kept in check and so that the gains of national independence could be preserved and Consolidated

During your stay in this country, Mr. President, you would see the new sense of cohesion, unity and purposiveness among the people which has injected a renewed dynamism to the process of economic growth with social justice. As a result of the Government's new economic programme, a remarkable upsurge has taken place in industrial growth. There has been considerable improvement in the production and supply of power and in the availability of such strategic inputs as coal, steel, cement. The performance of the agricultural sector is particularly encouraging with a record harvest over 118 million tons of foodgrains this year. The scourge of inflation has been brought under control. The stability of prices and growth in the economy achieved in the last year has enable the Government to undertake an even bolder programme for investment for the year 1976-77.

Your Excellency is perhaps aware that a considerable part of our economic growth has been swallowed over the years by the rapid rise in our population which itself was a result of the vastly improved and extensive medical care facilities now available to our people.

Like Alice in Wonderland, we have to run very hard in order to stand still! Family planning is thus one of the most essential components of our national development strategy and I am glad to say that as a result of the vigorous drive on this front, there is now a distinct possibility of our being able to contain this problem.

Mr. President & Madame Losonczi, your country represents an ancient as well as a flourishing civilisation with which we have had several links during the course of history. There is a belief that the Magyars, who are known to have come from somewhere east of the Urals, may have come originally from the vast central Asian landmass. It is no wonder, therefore, that your

people retain a singular independence of spirit and an intense love for nature. I recall the words of one of your greatest poets, Petofi, who wrote more than 100 years ago:

"My eagle's soul is liberated from its
prison
When I see the infinity of the plains."

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I believe it was the same "eagle's spirit" that brought your Korosi Csoma to the Himalayas in search of the origins of the Hungarian language and culture. His works on the grammar and dictionary of the Tibetan language, the biography of Buddha and the numerous other papers he wrote on Indian Buddhist and Tibetan themes are greatly valued in India even today. Perhaps it was the same curiosity for the search of a common identity that took Rabindra Nath Tagore at the beginning of this century to Hungary with which he instantly fell in love. In more recent times these cultural and historical links have acquired new content and dimension. They now encompass widening and deepening cooperation between our two countries in the political, economic, commercial, scientific and technological fields. It gives me great satisfaction to note that there are regular contacts between our two countries through exchange of visits at all levels.

Mr. President, in the implementation of a development strategy at home calculated to provide a better life and a better future to millions of its people, impoverished by colonial exploitation, India has pursued a foreign policy aimed at the preservation of peace and promotion of cooperation in the world as a whole. It is only in conditions of peace and harmony that human endeavour can hope to find its fulfilment. When we adopted non-alignment as the basic precept of our foreign policy in a world divided by ideologies and conflicting interests, it was a deliberate choice in favour of harmony and peaceful co-existence and against tension and conflict. We have followed the policy of good neighbourliness and made constant efforts to normalise, improve and expand relations with our neighbours. I am happy to be able

to say that this has led to relaxation of tensions and strengthening of mutual confidence on the basis of which it is now possible to work towards greater cooperation and understanding in this region.

Your country, Mr. President, is situated in the very heart of Europe and consequently the successful conclusion of the European Conference on Security and Cooperation in Helsinki last year must be of special satisfaction to you. We welcome the results of the Helsinki Conference which introduced a new era of detente and peaceful cooperation between the countries of Europe having different social systems. It is our belief that in order for detente to be stabilised in the Continent of Europe, it must spread to other areas which are still suffering from tension and conflict.

Ours is a shrinking world with growing interdependence and the creation of harmonious conditions and peaceful cooperation in place of conflict and confrontation in one region is bound to have a benevolent effect on situations elsewhere. Equally, a smouldering conflict in one area is likely to disturb, if not damage, peace and tranquillity in other regions. That is why we attach such importance to detente and mutual cooperation becoming a global process instead of it being limited to any one continent.

The rapid development of relations between India and Hungary, Mr. President, in the last two decades has been a source of great satisfaction to us. Indo-Hungarian cooperation in the political, economic, scientific, technological and cultural fields is flourishing to the mutual advantage of our peoples. Indo-Hungarian trade, for example, has recorded significant growth in the last few years and as yet a great deal of the potential of the two countries remains to be tapped. Considerable manufacturing capacities have been set up in the two countries and this has created the possibility of not only diversifying Indo-Hungarian cooperation, but also of exploring new areas and modes of cooperation. In fact, if I may say so, 'Mr. President, it is essential that the two sides undertake a search for new ideas to

inject fresh vitality into Indo-Hungarian economic and industrial collaboration. I am glad to note that the two sides are already aware of this necessity.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen:
May I now request you to raise your glasses to the health and well-being of His Excellency Mr. Pal Losonczi, President of the Presidential Council of the Hungarian People's Republic, and Madame Losonczi, to the prosperity and continued successes of the great Hungarian people and to growing friendship between Hungary and India.

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HUNGARY INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC MALI FINLAND RUSSIA

Date : Dec 01, 1976

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HUNGARY

Hungarian President's Reply

Replying, the Hungarian President. Mr. Pal Losonczi delivered the following speech:

I listened with great pleasure to and I thank you whole-heartedly, Mr. President, for your words of appreciation addressed to my people and to me. I can assure you that our people and the leaders of our State reciprocate the same feeling towards the peoples of India, towards the social, political and humanitarian aspirations and achievements of this country.

When the high-ranking State leaders of the two countries, the Republic of India and the Hungarian People's Republic, meet officially, conduct talks and exchange 'views, as it happens to be the case now, a rightful

question arises; to what extent is this a natural act in the practice of international relations? The relations and exchanges of views on the highest level facilitate mutual knowledge the most effectively, they forward the best the cause of co-operation.

Our official relations look back already to a past of three decades. From the little source sprung forth in 1948, the multi-sided Indian-Hungarian friendship has become now-a-days a wide, rolling-river, which - just like a growing structure - gathers more and more strength and State, which in the last 15 years have become almost regular, constitute phases of paramount importance on the way of our friendship and co-operation. It is merely a year that we could welcome in our country His Excellency Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, the highly respected President of India. We still remember vividly the visit he paid to us, meanwhile the results of that visit have manifested themselves in the tangible improvement of our bilateral relations. We particularly highly appreciate our friendship with India and we consider the Republic of India as a friendly country. Moreover, we look upon our relations and co-operation as on a factor which serves well the cause of the Indian and Hungarian peoples, the common fight to safeguard world peace and to develop co-operation among peoples.

I am happy that in accord with your statement, Mr. President, I can also say that our bilateral relations are progressing steadily and in a balanced way in all spheres, in the political, economic or cultural domains as well. From the point of view of the development of these relations we consider highly positive and unequivocally useful the high-level meetings and exchanges of views. Who could deny that all such meetings, that have taken place so far, have brought rich crop? Who could deny that the development of our bilateral contacts has gained new momentum after each of these high-level meetings, through the implementation of the concluded agreements. I am convinced that this will be the same in the future! I wish to emphasize this, all the more so, because both Parties clearly see that we haven't yet

exhausted fully all those possibilities which are required by the need to further develop our relations. Let me express my conviction that our present talks will contribute to the enhancement of modern and effective forms of economic co-operation, for instance, to a wider utilisation of technical and scientific co-operation and of the co-operation in the field of production. I am certain that the exchanges of views to which we shall proceed during my stay here, and the agreements which will be signed as a result of these talks, will open up generally more widely the road of our co-operation. Or referring back to my previous comparison, they will divert the flow of our co-operation into a wider channel.

I can confidently say that not only of those questions which arise in connection with our bilateral affairs, but also of far-reaching and vital aspects of international politics. Since we can mutually and gladly state that in the main questions of international politics we adopt identical stands, we have identical or similar views.

And that offers us and creates further good conditions for developing and widening our friendly relations and co-operation.

The aspiration for peace, the desire of peace and the wish for peace runs through the whole history of mankind as a red thread. Peace is that precious and rare treasure, the blessings of which mankind has enjoyed only seldom and the benefits of which it could not always share undisturbedly. Indian history

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itself is also a good illustration of the nightmare of this heavy malediction which befell humanity! In the sea of four thousand years of history of the peoples of the Ancient-India, Ashoka's age and work, who had united in a great empire the small States existing at that time, almost without striking a blow, stands high by the wonder of its exceptionality. Ashoka was not a sovereign of arms, but that of justice, not of wars, but that of peace.

But the Golden Age so much longed for, has not yet arrived! The request for it is,

at the same time, not only more and more urgent and louder, but also more effective. That is why, in the centre of the foreign political efforts of the government of the Hungarian People's Republic lies the fight for peace, the continuous struggle for the strengthening and further deepening of the process of detente, for the consolidation of international peace and security and of the entente and co-operation among peoples. This is the only policy which corresponds to the basic national interests of all peoples!

Fortunately enough, the reality of our era is that international detente creates more favourable conditions than ever for the forces of progress and peace and consequently for the developing countries, too, in their fight to prevail their national interests. We are confident that the intensified activity of governments conducting an anti-colonialist and non-aligned policy will effectively contribute to the widening, deepening and consolidation of the process of international detente. Our government believes and is of the firm opinion that the non-aligned movement plays an important and precious, forward-looking role on the present time international scene. We therefore highly appreciate the activity of the Indian government and its promotive and progressive role, which it has carried out in the preparation of the recently held non-aligned summit-meeting in Colombo, in the successful work done by the Conference and in the preservation of the anti-imperialist unity of the movement of the non-aligned countries.

We look with optimism to the future of the development of our relations. The present level and the prospects of our bilateral relations, as well as the common pulsation of our foreign political aspirations are those two sources which continuously feed the widely flowing river of our friendship. I raise my glass to this friendship, to the true and sincere friendship of our peoples, to the social and economic progress of the Indian people, to the health of deeply respected Mr. President and Begum Ahmed, and also to the health of highly esteemed Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and of all those present.

Date : Dec 01, 1976

Volume No

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HUNGARY

Indo-Hungarian Trade Protocol

The following press release on the Indo-Hungarian trade protocol was issued in New Delhi on December 8, 1976:

The long-term Trade and Payments Agreement between Hungary and India, which was due to expire at the end of this month, has been extended by one year in a Protocol signed here this morning, by Dr. P. C. Alexander, Foreign Trade Secretary and Mr. Istvan Torok, Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade of the Hungarian People's Republic. Another Protocol for the Trade Plan for 1977 was also concluded which envisages a trade turn-over of Rs. 710 million during 1977.

Reviewing the slow growth rate of Indo-Hungarian trade, Mr. Torok said that one of the constraints is the present bilateral clearing accounts system of trade in non-convertible rupees, and advocated a change over to trade in free foreign exchange. The Indian delegation said that this proposal would be given serious consideration.

Under the new Trade Protocol, Hungary is to supply to India special steel products, micro wave equipment, machine tools, various kinds of machinery including garment making machines a large range of testing and measuring instruments, components for hydro power stations and drugs and

medicines in bulk and chemicals. India

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would be exporting to Hungary many non-traditional consumer goods like tinned fruits, juices and vegetables, cosmetics and toiletries, gramophone records including cassetts, cotton hosiery and knit-wear, garments, batteries, leather goods and stationery articles in addition to traditional commodities like de-oiled groundnut cakes, iron ore, jute goods, textiles, tobacco, tea and coffee and mica.

HUNGARY INDIA USA

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HUNGARY

Indo-Hungarian Agreement on Co-operation in Health

The following press release on the Indo-Hungarian agreement on co-operation in health was issued in New Delhi on December 9, 1976:

India and Hungary will co-operate with each other in the development of public health services through a regular exchange of medical information, personnel and the setting up of joint working groups of specialists for research on health problems common to the two countries.

An Agreement to this effect, valid for five years, was signed here today by Chowdhary Ram Sewak, Minister of State for Health and Family Planning, on behalf of the Government of India and Dr. Eva Zsogon, Under Secretary, Ministry of Health, for the People's Republic of Hungary.

In his welcome speech, Chowdhary Ram Sewak said that the Agreement would contribute to "the enhancement of effective exchanges in the field of public health", where, more than in any other sphere of human endeavour, immense possibilities existed to promote the well-being of man. Noting that the death rate in Hungary had been reduced to almost nil, the Minister hoped that the Agreement would strengthen the existing bonds of friendship between the two countries.

The Agreement specified that in case of communicable diseases, both will inform each other, "without delay and by the most immediate means", of events of epidemiological importance that are likely to influence the epidemiological situation in either country.

The Agreement also provides for the regular exchange of information on important achievements in scientific research, the organization of health services, methods of medical education, of health information and statistics, measures to promote promotive, curative, and environmental health, of textbooks, journals, published papers and films on public health as well as the agenda and proceedings of medical, pharmacological conferences and symposia to be held in the two countries. Apart from the periodic exchange of physicians, pharmacists, university teachers and health workers for extension courses, the Agreement calls for closer co-operation between the medical colleges, research institutes and medical societies of India and Hungary.

Under the terms of Agreement, the two sides will provide medical facilities to each others' citizens suffering from acute diseases requiring urgent medical attention, during their provisional stay in the two countries.

To facilitate the implementation of the Agreement, plans of work, spelling out the modalities and conditions of financing co-operative projects, will be drawn up by the Health Ministries of India and Hungary.

Volume No

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HUNGARY

Indo-Hungarian Joint Communiqué

Following is the text of the joint communiqué issued in New Delhi on December 13, 1976 at the conclusion of the official visit of the Hungarian President, Mr. Pal Losonczi to India:

At the invitation of the President of India, Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, the President of the Presidential Council of the Hungarian People's Republic, H.E. Mr. Pal Losonczi accompanied by Madame Losonczi, paid an official visit to India from December 7 to 13, 1976.

During their stay in Delhi. H.E. Mr. Pal Losonczi and his entourage paid homage to the memory of Mahatma Gandhi and Shri Jawaharlal Nehru by laying wreaths at Raj-

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ghat and Shantivana. They visited the Agricultural Experimental Research Institute in Hissar, industrial projects in Bangalore and Madras and also paid a visit to Darjeeling where they laid wreath on the memorial of Korosi Csoma Sandor, the celebrated Hungarian scholar.

The President of the Presidential Council of the Hungarian People's Republic had friendly and fruitful talks with the President of India, Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, the Vice-President of India, Shri B. D. Jatti, and the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi.

He also received the Minister of External Affairs of India, Shri Y. B. Chavan, and the Minister of Industry, Shri T. A. Pai.

The exchange of views between President Losonczi and Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi covered wide ranging matters of bilateral cooperation as well as international questions of mutual concern. The talks revealed a broad identity of close similarity of views on various issues discussed.

The two leaders noted with satisfaction that bilateral relations between India and Hungary were developing favourably in the political, economic, scientific, technological and cultural fields for the benefit of their peoples. They recognised in this connection that regular exchange of visits and experience at various levels, which has become a happy tradition, was contributing significantly to the deepening and expansion of mutually advantageous cooperation and understanding between the two countries.

The two leaders shared the view that there are good possibilities of further developing the economic and trade relations between India and Hungary. They stressed the need for increased efforts to explore and establish new areas and modes of cooperation in order to take fuller advantage of the significant industrial and technological advances recorded by their respective economies. The two leaders expressed satisfaction at the pace of implementation of their cooperation programme as determined by the Indo-Hungarian Joint Commission. In this connection, they stressed the importance of the agreements in the fields, of trade and public health which were concluded during the visit of the President of the Presidential Council of Hungary.

The Prime Minister of India informed the President of the Presidential Council of the Hungarian People's Republic of the significant progress made in the development of the national economy and the promotion of social justice. The Prime Minister described the measures taken by the Government of

India to contain the forces of reaction and disruption and to preserve and consolidate the gains of independence. The President appreciated the efforts of the Government of India for social advancement and strengthening of national unity in the country.

The Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi informed President Pal Losonczi of India's constant efforts to normalise and improve relations and cooperation with its neighbours in pursuit of its peaceful foreign policy based on non-alignment and cooperation with all states. President Losonczi highly assessed the constructive role of the Government of India and expressed the hope that all problems in the area would be resolved by means of peaceful bilateral negotiations.

The President of the Presidential Council of the Hungarian People's Republic informed the Prime Minister of India of the successes achieved by the Hungarian people in social, economic and cultural advancement and the significant improvement in the living standards of the Hungarian people. He described the peaceful foreign policy activities of the Hungarian People's Republic in promoting friendship and cooperation amongst states and peoples. The Prime Minister of India welcomed the success of the Hungarian people and expressed appreciation for the contribution made by the Hungarian People's Republic to the process of detente and cooperation in Europe.

The two leaders welcomed the progress made in the promotion of detente and cooperation in Europe and noted that the Conference on European Security and Cooperation in Helsinki had made a historic contribution to this process. At the same time they stressed the need for the strengthening and stabilisation of detente in Europe and its extension to other regions of the world which were still suffering from tension and conflict.

The two leaders reiterated the need for total and universal disarmament, including

national supervision and control. They also expressed support for the convening of a World Conference on Disarmament.

The two leaders reaffirmed the important role of the United Nations Organisation. They reiterated their determination to work for the further strengthening of the UN and its organs in compliance with principles and purposes of the United Nations Charter.

The two leaders stressed the contribution made by the non-aligned movement to the struggle for peace and security of nations and for the fight against imperialism, neo-colonialism and racial discrimination. They welcomed the positive results of the 5th Non-aligned Summit held in Colombo in August 1976.

The two leaders agreed that the emergence of a sovereign, independent and united Vietnam was an important factor in the strengthening of peace, stability and co-operation in the region. They expressed the hope, that the Socialist Republic of Vietnam would soon take its due place among the member-states of the United Nations Organisation.

The two sides stressed the necessity of making the Indian Ocean a zone of peace. Both expressed their opposition to the presence of foreign military bases in the Indian Ocean and called for the dismantling of these bases. In this context, they stated that the expansion of military facilities in Diego Garcia was not conducive to the promotion of peace and stability in the area.

The two leaders welcomed the victories achieved by the national liberation movements in Africa. They considered that the victory of the MPLA in Angola had made a major contribution to the struggle of peoples still living under colonial oppression and fighting against the evil practices of apartheid. They condemned all forms of colonialism, racial discrimination & policy of apartheid and expressed their firm support for the freedom struggle of the peoples of Zimbabwe and Namibia.

The President and the Prime Minister expressed serious concern at the continuing conflict and tension in West Asia. They came out firmly in support of the struggle of the peoples of Arab countries and called for a just political settlement of the West Asia crisis based on the speedy withdrawal of Israeli troops from all the Arab territories occupied by Israel in 1967, ensuring the legitimate demands of the Arab people of Palestine, including the right to establish their own state, and guaranteeing the rights of all states in the area to independent existence and development.

H.E. Mr. Pal Losonczi, President of the Presidential Council of the Hungarian People's Republic, expressed his gratitude for the warm hospitality extended to him and his entourage throughout their stay in India. The two leaders agreed that his visit had made a significant contribution to the deepening of mutual understanding and co-operation between the two countries. The President of the Presidential Council of the Hungarian People's Republic extended a warm and cordial invitation to the President of India Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed and Begum Abida. Ahmed and to Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi to visit Hungary. The invitations were accepted with pleasure.

HUNGARY INDIA USA MALI FINLAND SRI LANKA VIETNAM ANGOLA NAMIBIA ISRAEL

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Volume No

1995

INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Statement by Permanent Representative of India on Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries

Following is the text of statement made by the Permanent Representative of India, Ambassador R. Jaipal to the UN General

Assembly on December 1, 1976 on "Implementation of the Declaration on the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples":

My delegation would like to take this opportunity to extend its felicitations to

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Angola and to welcome its admission to the U.N. The entry of Angola into the organization provides an appropriately significant background to the examination of the progress or perhaps lack of progress in the implementation of the Declaration on the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples.

This important declaration, adopted 16 years ago, envisaged that immediate steps should be taken by the administering authorities to transfer all powers to the peoples of non-self-governing territories so that they might enjoy complete freedom. Nothing of the kind has happened of course, because in practice colonial authorities have proved to be extremely reluctant to surrender power to the people: except under sustained political, economic or military pressure since they seem immune to immoral pressures. As a result, the declaration on decolonization has had to be implemented more often by the people themselves than by the administering authorities, or for that matter by the United Nations.

Recent history is full of National Liberation movements that were and are obliged to resort to armed struggle for wresting power from the colonial authorities. That has unfortunately resulted in avoidable loss of lives and damage to the economies of the territories, but the responsibility for that should be placed on those that resist the forces of freedom. Regrettable as this might be, the one important lesson that history teaches us is that the people of the colonial territories should be prepared to fight for their freedom, and the United Nations should be ready to assist them, if necessary. Indeed that is becoming more the rule than the exception nowadays.

The role of the United Nations in such situations has been unhappily that of a powerless but sympathetic spectator, for even the limited action taken by the United Nations collectively in one or two cases has proved to be totally ineffective. The inevitable veto has prevented decisive measures from being taken. The consequent failure of the United Nations has been a signal to National Liberation Movements to go their own way, seeking and obtaining whatever assistance they can from friendly countries. This has now become an incapable fact of life and the United Nations has indeed recognised it as the only option available to peoples of colonial territories in certain situations. The General Assembly has on several occasions called upon all states willing to do so to provide National Liberation Movements with material and other forms of assistance in their struggles for independence. Apparently this is the least that we can do in the present circumstances of the functioning of the United Nations.

When one examines the record of the administering authorities, one finds a variety of dismal and frustrating experiences, with a few notable exceptions. Some have had the wisdom to know when to hand over power gracefully. Some have abandoned their territories in the face of superior forces. Others have passed on their problems to the United Nations when the situation became too hot for them to handle. Some of course still hang on to their colonies either for economic gain or for considerations of security. Some have unfortunately allowed racist minorities to seize power unilaterally and illegally. Some are last ditchers by nature and are prepared to fight to the bitter end, using mercenaries and other dubious means. And we have now a new phenomenon, a deviation in decolonisation, in the form of spurious independent states, satellites of colonial powers, such as Transkei, which cannot hope to survive and will surely be swept away by the people in course of time.

The attitudes of the administering authorities towards the United Nations in the field of decolonization have also not been

uniform. Only a few of them have been responsive to the resolutions of the General Assembly, or even to the obligations placed upon them by the United Nations Charter. Some continue to cherish the illusion that territories scattered far and wide still remain integral parts of the metropolitan area legally and culturally. Others interpret their obligations under the Charter within such a narrow framework of international accountability that they refuse to provide full information about the territories under their administration. They also refuse to receive visiting missions from the United Nations. But happily there are some administering authorities who cooperate with the United Nations, and while one should not minimise the importance of this, at the same time one should not exaggerate it.

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However, the hard nuts of decolonisation have remained impervious to United Nations resolution on questions such as the liberation of Zimbabwe, the removal from Namibia of the illegal regime there, the liquidation of apartheid and the establishment of a separate new nation state for the Palestinian Arab people. These are the hard core problems of colonialism and racism, problems which have a colonial legacy and have also a bearing on the maintenance of international peace and security. These are all situations in which the people themselves have been forced by circumstances to take direct action to assert their legitimate national rights, because the United Nations has proved to be unable to intervene and uphold the principles and purposes of the Charter.

One has heard from this forum, a good deal of nonsense, distortions of history, counsels for moderation and expressions of pious hopes from the apologists of colonialism. The plain fact of the matter is that even in a straightforward case such as that of Namibia, where the entire world community, including the Pretoria regime, regards Namibia as having the status of an international territory, nothing has been done to bring that territory under United Nations

administration. We are still fiddling about with futile institutions such as a commissioner, a council, etc., as if the oppressed people of Namibia have all the time in the world. There is no greater blow to the authority of the United Nations than the failure of the Security Council to recover the international territory of Namibia from the Pretoria regime. The dilemma facing us today is - whether the United Nations or, to be precise, the Security Council is prepared to use its powers, or whether the people concerned must use their own power.

There is one other general point I wish to make and that is that in promoting the process of decolonization, we must be very careful not to confuse decolonization with self-determination. We have seen the new advocates of the right of self-determination sowing the seeds of confusion, dividing peoples and neighbours and generally exploiting the resulting situation. In our view decolonisation simply means termination of colonial rule and the vacation of colonial territories by colonial authorities. It is absurd to say that the people should be consulted whether or not they wish to be free. Self-determination of peoples is a principle of internal policy. It embodies the principle of popular sovereignty. The exercise of the right of self-determination cannot be a precondition to termination of colonial rule. We must not therefore confuse decolonisation, which is the termination of colonial rule, with self-determination which is indeed the beginning of independent existence. For example, Transkei is nothing more than a mirage of freedom on the shifting sands of self-determination. The principle of self-determination is also sometimes abused in the process of decolonisation in an attempt to destabilise neighbouring governments and states.

To sum up, Mr. President, although the United Nations in adopting the declaration on decolonisation has provided much encouragement and hope to peoples under colonial rule, it has done precious little collectively as an Organisation, except to reaffirm and reiterate its resolutions. It could certainly do much more but it has not done

so, and that is largely due to the attitude of some member states who use the power of the veto. Even so, what is remarkable is that colonial peoples still look up to the United Nations in the hope that under the mandate from the General Assembly, member states would feel free to provide direct assistance to National Liberation Movements. What is sometimes incredible is that some former colonial territories upon becoming independent should want to join an organisation that has done so little for them. Evidently, the promises contained in the Charter of the United Nations constitute a far stronger and deeper attraction than its inherent inability to fulfil them, and therein perhaps lies the secret of the survival of this organisation.

Let us not mindlessly congratulate the United Nations because we have not done as much as we should to implement the Declaration on decolonisation. Let us concentrate our efforts and priorities during the coming year on two questions. Firstly, the liberation of Zimbabwe in which the British Government should and could play a crucial role if they would accept the challenge and the opportunity to rectify the mistake of 1965. Secondly, the liberation of Namibia by

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all rights is the responsibility of Security Council. Failure to live up to the demands of these historic responsibilities will only result in the people taking up arms to liberate themselves with such help as friends may offer them.

INDIA ANGOLA USA NAMIBIA ZIMBABWE SOUTH AFRICA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Dec 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

The Permanent Representative of India to the UN, Ambassador R. Jaipal made the following statement in the Special Political Committee on December 9, 1976 on peace keeping operations:

India has participated in United Nations peace-keeping operations in the past and has acquired a variety of experience in the gentle art of sustaining peace in seemingly impossible circumstances through the use of soldier-diplomats. To say the least, this is a difficult and complex job full of uncertainties and it would be useful therefore to evolve general guidelines for peace-keeping operations. However, no peace-keeping operation is the same as another, for each operation has its own specific features resulting from its historical circumstances. The general guidelines should therefore indicate the broad areas of international responsibility, which form as it were the common ground on which to build the unique structure of each peace-keeping venture, for each operation is indeed a venture.

One might well ask, since the existing operations in the Middle East and Cyprus are doing well, whether any general guidelines are really necessary. It might be argued that it would be better to set up each operation on an ad hoc basis with that degree of flexibility necessitated by the circumstances of each case. There is, of course, something to be said for such a pragmatic approach, but given the doctrinal differences between the great powers, it is clearly desirable to have general and agreed guidelines for peace keeping operations.

The work of the special committee established for this purpose has been disappointingly slow. It was set up in 1965 at a time of financial crisis and it was hoped that under pressure of that crisis it would produce quick results. Unfortunately, no real progress has been achieved so far and we see no hope of an early agreement. In the

circumstances we wonder whether there is any point in extending the life of this committee on a regular annual basis in a routine fashion. We are inclined to the view that if this committee is unable to produce agreed guidelines by the next General Assembly session, it might be given a decent burial.

We say this with deliberation, because India is a member of the special committee as well as of the working group and we are fully aware of the difficulties caused by major differences over the interpretation of the responsibilities of the U.N. - differences that have not been reconciled so far. Apparently the so-called political will is lacking in the matter of reaching agreement on general guidelines for peace-keeping operations. I have often wondered whether this is a reflection of the lack of political will in regard to peace-making. Be that as it may, the discussions in the committee as a consequence have tended to become somewhat academic and repetitive.

The peace-keeping operations of the United Nations are only one aspect - an important aspect nevertheless - of the Charter responsibilities for maintaining international peace and security. But there is a tendency for a peace-keeping operation, once it is established, to perpetuate itself. One tends to forget that the original objective of a peace-keeping operation is to maintain a ceasefire, to reduce tensions and to create the appropriate climate for negotiations to be undertaken. However, the certainty of the presence in a conflict area of a peace-keeping force for an indefinite period has quite the contrary effect on the prospects of peace-making negotiations being undertaken without delay.

For example, while the Middle East may have special features in regard to peace-keeping operations there, the situation in Cyprus is unique in the sense that it is the

only member state which has within its sovereign territory a United Nations peace-keeping force in order to keep the peace in

a civil war situation. This U.N. Force was in Cyprus even before the recent external intervention took place. One cannot help wondering whether a gradual reduction of the U.N. Force in Cyprus might induce the two communities to get together and work out their common destiny, while at the same time influence the external military forces to withdraw from Cyprus.

I say this because the U.N. has not introduced a peace keeping force into every conflict situation since its establishment. On the contrary in the vast majority of conflict situations, the countries concerned responded positively to the call of the United Nations to cease fire and withdraw, and since then they have kept the peace themselves through the medium of bilateral mechanisms. That is the sort of thing that is expected of member states of the U.N. and that indeed should be the objective of U.N. peace-keeping operations.

In other words, a U.N. peace-keeping operation should be the exception rather than the rule. In fact it has been the exception, because out of 88 questions with which the Security Council has been seized, there are active peace-keeping operations now in only two of them. In short, our aim should be to wind up peace keeping operations as far as possible by encouraging the countries concerned to keep the peace themselves through bilateral efforts and at the same time assist them to resolve through negotiations the differences that had led to the initial breaches of peace.

My delegation does not regard peace keeping as an end in itself but rather 'as an important means to peace making. It is in this sense that we approach the tasks of the special committee and the working group. We agree that the committee should continue to pay attention to specific questions relating to the practical implementation of peace keeping operations. The 13 articles of guidelines drafted by the working group form a good basis for further elaboration and for reaching agreement either separately on them or as a package, but we should like to see a more direct relationship established bet-

ween peace-keeping and peace-making. For example, the extension of the term and mandate of a peace-keeping force should be dependent on the progress made in peace-making.

INDIA USA CYPRUS PERU

Date : Dec 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

ITALY

Indo-Italian Joint Communiqué on Economic Cooperation

Following is the text of the Indo-Italian joint communiqué on economic cooperation issued on December 5, 1976 at the conclusion of the meeting of the Indo-Italian Committee for Economic Cooperation held in Rome:

Professor D. P. Chattopadhyaya, Minister of Commerce, Government of India visited Italy from December 3 to 7 at the invitation of the Italian Minister for Foreign Trade, Dr. Rinaldo Ossola and at the time of the meeting of the Indo-Italian Joint Committee.

The discussions at the Joint Committee covered a wide range of subjects which inter alia included the means and modalities for increasing Indo-Italian Economic relations, exploring the possibilities of further deepening industrial cooperation between the two countries and the possibilities of collaboration in joint ventures between themselves as well as in third countries. The two Ministers had extensive exchange of views on bilateral economic relations and agreed that steps needed to be taken on both sides for realising more fully the potential which exists for increasing Indo-Italian exchanges.

In this connection they noted with satisfaction that the agreed Minutes of the Joint Committee, constituted a positive step in the furtherance of Indo-Italian economic relations. They also felt that there was need to draw up a specific programme to actively pursue and implement at suitable level, both in the public and private sector, the recommendations and suggestions contained in the agreed Minutes. There was need to continue dialogue at appropriate level so that a better understanding of each other's need and potential was reached and the level of Indo-Italian economic relations could be maximised to the mutual benefit of both countries.

The Indian Minister of Commerce extended an invitation to the Italian Minister of Foreign Trade to visit India for Continuing their discussions at a date convenient to both Governments. The Italian Minister gratefully accepted this Invitation.

CORNER STONE

The Italian Minister of Foreign Trade, Mr. Rinaldo Ossola described the deliberations of the Joint Committee as a corner stone in Indo-Italian economic relations. Follow-up arrangements were also discussed in respect of various commodities.

Regarding engineering goods, the prospects of further development of production, cooperation were discussed, and it was agreed that there was substantial scope in areas like chemical plant and equipment and automotive ancillaries. Particular reference was made to the negotiations in progress with the Fiat group for assessing their scope of supplies from India of automotive components.

Regarding iron-ore and pellets, the Italian side took note of India's interest to export more iron-ore. Further discussions were held for collaboration in respect of the setting up of the two million tonnes iron-ore pellet plant in Goa about which discussions were held at the last session of the joint

commission meeting in New Delhi.

About chemicals, the Italian side agreed to explore possibilities of collaboration and technical knowhow which the Indian parties require in the production of citric acid and furfural with sugar bagasse as the base and also for the production of rayon grade pulp from jute stick having high cellulosic content. On the subject of fabrications installation the Italian side agreed to consider the offer of the Indian side for the manufacture of equipment or fertilisers, petroleum and petrochemical plants for Indian purchase being set up with Italian knowhow as also for third country exports. The Italian side also promised to help India with manufacturing equipment to arrest environmental pollution.

LEATHER GOODS

Both sides agreed that there was large scope for increasing mutual cooperation regarding leather industry in the form of export of chemicals, machines, technical and marketing knowhow from Italy to India and reliable base for supply of leather and leather goods from India to Italy. The Italian side also expressed interest for turnkey projects for manufacture of leather and leather goods, footwear and leather boards.

Detailed discussions also took place regarding trading in coal, steel and non-ferrous metals. Possibilities of export of coal to Italy were discussed. It was mentioned that a trial shipment of 20,000 tonnes of Indian coal to Italy was already under consideration.

THIRD COUNTRY VENTURE

New dimensions of mutual economic cooperation in respect of projects for third countries were discussed. Specifically, the members of the Indian delegation and the representatives of the Italian Association of Private Building Construction Companies agreed that profiles of companies capable of undertaking construction and turnkey projects in third countries would be exchanged. Focal points to expedite quick communication and exchange of in-

formation were named. It was agreed that on the Indian side the focal point would be the EEPC while on the Italian side it would be ANCER. Exchange of visits between delegations of the two countries in this sector were also considered.

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ITALY USA INDIA RUSSIA

Date : Dec 01, 1976

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JAPAN

Indo-Japanese Joint Press Statement on Official Talks

The following joint press statement on the Indo-Japanese official talks was issued in New Delhi on December 7, 1976:

The 11th Consultative Meeting of the officials of the Ministry of External Affairs of India and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan was held at the Ministry of External Affairs on December 6 and 7, 1976.

The Japanese delegation was led by His Excellency Mr. Keisuke Arita, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs (Leader of the delegation), and included His Excellency Mr. Takashi Suzuki, Ambassador of Japan to India, Mr. Sumio Edamura, Deputy Director General of the Asian Affairs Bureau, Mr. Shigeo Takenaka, First Secretary, Mr. Kenzo Oshima, First Secretary of the Embassy of Japan, Mr. Tatsuo Masuda, Official of the Southwest Asian Division, Asian Affairs Bureau, and Mr. Tetsukichi Haruta, First Secretary of the Embassy of Japan.

The Indian delegation was led by Shri M. A. Vellodi, Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs (Leader of the delegation) and included Shri Eric Gonsalves, Ambassador of India to Japan, Shri K. K. Damodaran, Joint Secretary (Policy Planning), Shri N. N. Jha, Joint Secretary (East Asia Division), Miss N. N. Haralu, Director (East Asia) and Shri Pravesh Chandra, Under Secretary (Far East),

His Excellency Mr. Keisuke Arita called on Shri Y. B. Chavan, Minister of External Affairs and Shri J. S. Mehta, Foreign Secretary.

A wide range of subjects of mutual interest as well as bilateral relations between the two countries were covered during the discussions. The matters discussed included consideration of international situation in general, the situation in Asia and cooperation between India and Japan in various fields.

The discussions were held in frank and friendly atmosphere and made significant contribution to better understanding of the views of the two Governments on various matters of mutual interest. The two delegations reaffirmed their intention to maintain close contact on all matters of mutual interest through diplomatic channels and also to promote greater interaction at all levels between the two countries.

It was agreed that the 12th Consultative Meeting should be held in Tokyo on a date to be mutually agreed upon.

JAPAN INDIA UNITED KINGDOM USA

Date : Dec 01, 1976

Volume No

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JAPAN

The following press release on the Indo-Japanese debit rescheduling agreement was issued in New Delhi on December 15, 1976:

India's Ambassador, Mr. Eric Gonsalves, and the President, Export-Import Bank of Japan, Mr. S. Sumita signed a debit re-scheduling agreement for fiscal year 1976 in Tokyo on December 15, 1976. The amount of debit relief assistance under debt-rescheduling is 12.2 billion yen (equivalent to Rs. 40 crores). The rescheduled debit will be repaid over a period of twenty years after a grace period of ten years at interest rate of 2.5 per cent per annum.

The notes concerning debit-rescheduling were earlier exchanged between the representatives of the two Governments on November 30, 1976 in New Delhi.

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JAPAN INDIA

Date : Dec 01, 1976

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JORDAN

India-Jordan Press Statement

Following is the text of the India-Jordan press statement issued in New Delhi on December 1, 1976 at the conclusion of the visit of Their Royal Highnesses Crown Prince Ell Hassan Bin Talal of Jordan and Princess Sarvath to India:

Their Royal Highnesses Crown Prince Ell Hassan Bin Talal of Jordan and Princess Sarvath visited India from November 24 to December 1, 1976, at the invitation of Shri B. D. Jatti, Vice-President of India. They were accompanied by Her Royal Highness Princess Alia, His Excellency Lt. General Amer Mamash, Minister of Royal Hashemite Court, His Excellency Mr. Abdul Rauf Rawabdeh, Minister of Communications, His Excellency Mr. Abdel Wahab Majali, Chairman, Jordanian Phosphate Mines Company and a distinguished party of advisers. During their stay in Delhi, His Royal Highness called on Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, President of India, and held discussions with Shrimati Indira Gandhi, Prime Minister of India. His Royal Highness received the Ministers of External Affairs, Agriculture and Irrigation, Communications, Commerce and Education and the Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission.

The official members of the party, led by His Excellency Mr. Abdul Rauf Rawabdeh, Minister of Communications of Jordan, held discussions with an Indian team led by Prof. D. P. Chattopadhyaya, Minister of Commerce of India.

While in India Their Royal Highnesses and their party visited places of historical interest as well as industrial scientific and commercial centres in Delhi, Agra, Bangalore and Bombay. His Royal Highness addressed the leaders of business and industry in Delhi.

Bilateral discussions between the two sides confirmed the potential of developing considerably the present economic, technical and cultural relations that exist so happily between Jordan and India. During the visit, the two sides initialled agreements on Economic and Technical Cooperation and on Cooperation in Science and Technology. The Government of India agreed to provide to the Jordanian Government technical experts in the field of economic planning, education, science and technology. The Government of India also agreed to cooperate in the formulation of Jordanian National Science Policy. They also agreed to the holding of periodic

consultations between appropriate authorities of the two countries to promote cooperation between the two countries in diverse fields.

The Government of India welcomed the visit of the Crown Prince which has provided fresh impetus for exploring new avenues of cooperation in the fields of telecommunications, rural electrification and power generation. The two sides agreed to accelerate their cooperation in economic, technical and cultural fields as well as in science, technology and trade. The Government of Jordan welcomed the prospects of cooperation with the Government of India for building up industrial units through joint ventures, particularly in the manufacture of agricultural machinery, cement and electronics. It was agreed to devise a mechanism for ensuring the supply of Indian machinery for Jordanian development projects.

The Indian leaders expressed satisfaction that the bloodshed in Lebanon had subsided and that there were improved prospects for reconciliation among the different parties, in the wake of recent summit level meetings in Riyadh and Cairo. They expressed the hope that the Geneva Conference would be resumed with the participation of all parties concerned in order to bring about a just resolution of the Arab-Israeli conflict, including the restoration of the rights of the Palestinian people at an early date.

His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan expressed satisfaction at the steps taken by India for creating an environment of peace and cooperation in South Asia to en-

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able the countries of the region to devote themselves to the urgent task of economic and social development.

Their Royal Highnesses Crown Prince Hassan and Princess Sarvath thanked the Vice-President of India for the hospitality and warm welcome extended to them during their sojourn in India.

His Royal Highness Crown Principal Hassan conveyed cordial invitations to the Vice-President and the Prime Minister of India to visit Jordan. The invitations were accepted with pleasure. Dates for these visits will be settled through mutual consultations.

JORDAN INDIA USA LATVIA RUSSIA LEBANON EGYPT SAUDI ARABIA SWITZERLAND ISRAEL

Date : Dec 01, 1976

Volume No

1995

MALDIVES

Foreign Minister's Speech at Dinner in Honour of Vice-President of Maldives

The Minister of External Affairs, Shri Y. B. Chavan made the following speech at the dinner in honour of His Excellency Amir Ahamed Hilmy, Fashana Kilegefaanu, Vice-President of the Republic of Maldives, in New Delhi on December 27, 1976:

It is, indeed, a great pleasure and privilege for us to welcome Your Excellency to our country. Your presence here in our midst is a testimony to the close and friendly relations that exist between our countries.

Our peoples have known each other since the dawn of history. Our countries have a long tradition of cultural and commercial contacts. The great traveller of the Middle Ages, Ibn-e-Batuta, is known to have spent a number of years in the Maldives and even acted as the Chief Kazi of the Islands before coming over to India. In the era of Western dominance, we came under the control of the same metropolitan power. It is not surprising that India and Maldives, in the post-colonial period, should endeavour to renew their age-old contacts. Your visit, therefore, reflects our common desire to forge closer

links and to establish new bases for friendly cooperation. The Maritime Boundary Agreement which we will be signing tomorrow, exemplifies the spirit of good-neighbourliness and our trust and confidence in each other. I do not propose to reveal a State secret tonight, but permit me to say, Mr. Vice-President, that our negotiations on this boundary question have proceeded with such remarkable speed and expediency that they could well serve as a model of negotiations between States.

Your Excellency, the concept of Non-Alignment is a basic tenet of our foreign policy. We believe in peaceful co-existence and the right of all States and peoples to choose their own path for their development. We believe that while we can all learn from each other, no nation or society can serve as a prototype. We also believe that in a world characterised by ideological and power rivalries, the policy of non-alignment is an imperative necessity not only to consolidate our own independence and foster our economic and social advancement but also to preserve world peace. We are, indeed, glad that Maldives has also chosen to follow the path of non-alignment and decided to associate itself with the Non-Aligned Group at the last Summit held in Colombo as a full participant.

In the geographical region to which both India and Maldives belong, there is today a new hope and a new confidence, arising from growing understanding, cooperation and friendliness among the States of the region. We have, on our part, taken various initiatives to normalise our relations with our immediate neighbours. We shall continue to

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pursue the policy of peace and friendship as this policy alone will create a sense of regional harmony and enable us all to harness all our resources and energies for our real task -- to raise the standard of living of our people, to give them a life of dignity and to banish the age-old scourges of poverty, illiteracy and disease.

The first pre-requisite to maintain the tempo of development is peace - peace in the world and peace in our region. This is why we have noted with great pleasure and appreciation, the support of Your Excellency's Government to the concept of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace.

Excellency, thanks to the determined steps taken by our leader, Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi, we have registered visible progress in various spheres. There has been growth in agricultural and industrial production. India has advanced in the field of science and technology. We have invested considerably in developing our manpower and human resources. We know that a lot remains to be done, but what is important is - as I am sure, Your Excellency will note in your journey through India - the air of purposefulness and discipline that pervades the country and the commitment to the cherished values of democracy, secularism and socialism.

It is gratifying to know that our countries are expanding their collaboration in many fields. We consider it a privilege to be associated with your development projects. We would be glad to provide educational and training facilities for our young Maldivian friends and to make available the services of our experts in fields of your choice. A good beginning has been made by developing direct communications between the two countries which should act as a catalyst to promote the flow of information as well as travel and trade. We have also opened a resident Embassy in Male a few months ago. We have taken these steps with a view to strengthening our bilateral relations.

Your Excellency, your visit is much too brief, but I hope it would serve to give you some glimpses of Indian life in its dynamic diversity. We wish you a pleasant and interesting sojourn in India.

May I request Your Excellency to convey the cordial greetings of the Government and the people of India to His Excellency President Ibrahim Nasir and to the brotherly people of Maldives?

May I, with these words, ladies and gentlemen, invite you to drink to the health of the President Nasir, to the health of His Excellency Mr. Amir Ahamed Himy, Vice-President of the Maldives and to growing friendship between the Indian and the Maldivian peoples?

MALDIVES INDIA USA SRI LANKA MALI

Date : Dec 01, 1976

Volume No

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MALDIVES

India-Maldives Maritime Boundary Agreement

The following press release on the India-Maldives maritime boundary agreement was issued in New Delhi on December 28, 1976:

The Agreement on maritime boundary between India and Maldives was signed here today by Shri Y. B. Chavan, Minister of External Affairs and H.E. Amir Ahmed Hilmy, Vice-President of the Republic of Maldives, on behalf of their respective Governments.

Earlier this year the boundary agreement was negotiated between the two countries in a spirit of understanding and cordiality and a draft agreement was initialled on August 8, 1976. Thus the present agreement marks another step in consolidating the friendly relations existing between the two countries.

Starting from the trijunction point between India, Maldives and Sri Lanka, the maritime boundary between the two countries runs along the median line between the west coast of India and Maldives and between Minicoy Island (India) and the northern

Atoll Ihavandiffulu (Maldives). It then extends Westwards into the Arabian Sea upto 200 miles from Minicoy and the western Atoll

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of Maldives. The Agreement provides that each party shall have sovereignty over all islands falling on its side of the boundary as well as over its territorial waters and the air space above them. Each party shall have sovereign and exclusive jurisdiction over the continental shelf and the exclusive economic zone as well as over their resources, whether living or non-living, falling on its own side of the boundary.

The trijunction point of the maritime boundaries between India, Maldives and Sri Lanka was settled by an Agreement which came into force on July 31, 1976. The maritime boundary between India and Sri Lanka in the Gulf of Manaar was extended unto the trijunction point by an Agreement which was signed on November 22, 1976. With the conclusion of the present agreement between India and Maldives, the entire maritime boundary between India and Sri Lanka and India and Maldives has been established.

SHRI CHAVAN'S SPEECH

This is a memorable event in the long history of relations between India and Maldives.

It is significant that this Agreement demarcates the entire maritime boundary, from the tri-junction between India, Sri Lanka and Maldives in the Gulf of Manaar in the east, to the point in the Arabian Sea, 200 miles distant from the coasts of our respective territories, in the west. We have today established a frontier of peace and friendship, a line which does not divide peoples but joins them in friendly cooperation.

The embodiment of the concept of exclusive economic zone in this Agreement is an important aspect which reflects our common desire to utilise the living and non-living resources of the sea around us for the good of our people.

We hope that this Agreement, which reflects the close friendship between our countries, would lead to more agreements which would contribute not only to the strengthening of bilateral contacts but also to regional harmony.

May I take this opportunity, Excellency, to reiterate our desire for intensifying friendly cooperation between our countries in every sphere of human activity. Whatever skills, expertise and experience we possess is at the service of the people of Maldives. We shall consider it a privilege to be their partners in development.

Your Excellency, with the signing of this Agreement, your visit to India at our invitation has acquired a new dimension. Mr. Vice-President, may I thank you once again for the trouble you have taken to come to India at our invitation and to express our sense of deep satisfaction, which, I believe, is mutual, at the signing of this Agreement.

MR. HILMY'S SPEECH

The signing of this Maritime Boundary Agreement certainly marks an historic occasion in the relations between our two countries.

It is indeed a great honour for me to have had the opportunity of signing this agreement on behalf of my Government.

I am so happy to note the desire of your Excellency's Government for intensifying friendly relations and technical cooperation between our two countries.

I assure you, Excellency, on behalf of the Government of the Republic of Maldives that we reciprocate this kind gesture.

I have noted with satisfaction the tremendous achievements India has made in industrialisation. We hope to be benefitted by the technical know-how of the Indian expertise.

Mr. Minister, please accept and convey

to the Government and the people of India
my best wishes and warm appreciations.

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MALDIVES INDIA USA SRI LANKA

Date : Dec 01, 1976

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NEPAL

Indo-Nepalese Agreement on Assistance for Irrigation Projects

The following press release on the Indo-Nepalese agreement on assistance for irrigation projects was issued in New Delhi on December 24, 1976:

Letters were exchanged here today between Shri C. C. Patel, Secretary, Department of Irrigation, on behalf of the Government of India, and Shri K. B. Malla, Nepalese Ambassador to India on behalf of His Majesty's Government of Nepal for the release of Rs. 60 lakhs as assistance to Irrigation Projects in Nepal. this sum was released with regard to the understanding reached between the Nepalese delegation and the Department of Irrigation, Union Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, in New Delhi, earlier this week.

The letters were exchanged pending finalisation of an agreement between the two governments, whose officers had met in July this year and estimated the total cost of Indo-Nepal Irrigation works at Rs. 16.55 crores (Nepalese Currency) or Rs. 11.90 crores (Indian Currency).

The collaboration is the outcome of discussions held between representatives of the two governments sometime back. It had

been agreed that certain irrigation works benefitting Nepal would be investigated, planned and implemented by His Majesty's Government of Nepal for which the funds would be provided by the Government of India.

The following irrigation projects have been selected for the purpose:

- (1) Renovation and extension of the Chandra Canal System.
- (2) Construction of a Pumped Canal from the Western Kosi Canal.
- (3) Construction of distribution system from the Western Kosi Canal.

NEPAL LATVIA INDIA USA

Date : Dec 01, 1976

Volume No

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NORWAY

Norwegian Fertiliser Aid to India

The following press note on the Norwegian fertilizer aid to India was issued in New Delhi on December 29, 1976:

Norway is to give aid to the tune of 25.3 million Norwegian Kroners (Rs. 4 crores approx.) to India in the form of fertilisers.

A Plan of Operation to this effect was signed here this evening by Shri P. S. Kohli, Joint Secretary, Department of Agriculture on behalf of the Government of India and Mr. Carl Anonsen, Counsellor of the Norwegian Agency for International Development.

This is in pursuance of an agreement signed in June, 1973 between the Government of India and the Government of Norway according to which the former received fertilisers to the extent of about 100 million N. Kr. during the period 1973 to 1976 as gift.

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NORWAY INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Dec 01, 1976

Volume No

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POLAND

Indo-Polish Protocol on Economic Cooperation

The following press release on the Indo-Polish protocol on economic cooperation was issued in New Delhi on December 18, 1976:

Addressing a press conference at the conclusion of the Fourth Meeting of the Indo-Polish Joint Commission for Economic, Trade, Scientific and Technical Co-operation, the Union Minister for Energy, Shri K. C. Pant announced the signing of a protocol by the two countries here today.

The protocol was signed by Mr. J. Tejchma, Deputy Prime Minister of the Polish People's Republic on behalf of Poland and by Shri K. C. Pant, Minister for Energy, on behalf of India. Both Mr. J. Tejchma and Shri K. C. Pant are the co-chairmen of the Indo-Polish Joint Commission.

The protocol covered areas of cooperation in the field of Trade Exchanges, Coal Mining, Industrial Cooperation, Agriculture and Fisheries and Science and Technology. The discussions were held in a friendly and

cordial atmosphere. Both sides expressed their interest in further consolidation and expansion of mutually beneficial economic cooperation, keeping in mind the developing economic and industrial potentials of both countries.

In the field of Trade Exchanges, it was noted with satisfaction the conclusion of long-term trade development for the period 1977-80 provided a sound foundation for further expansion and diversification of trade on a stable basis in the years to come, taking into account the changing requirements and possibilities of both countries.

In the field of coal mining, Poland gave valuable assistance in the past covering areas like planning and development of coal fields and shaft making. Apart from these, assistance has also been received in improving mining methods and manufacture of plant and equipment for mining and coal beneficiation by availing know-how and technology. It has now been agreed that Poland will extend further assistance in the Planning and Development of Jharia Coalfield, Sudamdin and Monidih Projects and supply of mining machinery, etc.

In the field of industrial cooperation, both sides noted with satisfaction on the progress of industrial cooperation between the two countries, especially in respect of machine-tools, calcium carbide furnaces, and the Visakhapatnam Zinc Smelter Project. Amongst the new areas identified for similar cooperation are ship-building, textile machinery, automotive ancillaries and components and agro-based industries. Both sides agreed to take positive steps to implement third country projects relating to sugarcane plants, soda-ash plant, glass making plants, power generation and distribution projects, etc.

In the field of agriculture, an agreement has already been signed for conducting a survey of fishery resources of the North-West Coast of India. Joint ventures shall be established for exploiting of fishery resources as well as production and processing of meat products which are export-oriented.

The possibility of Poland supplying fishing trawlers is also envisaged.

As regards Science and Technology, both sides reviewed the implementation of the agreed programme of cooperation, discussed ways and means of strengthening the on-going projects and explore the possibility of widening the scope of further cooperation. It was agreed to conclude a two-year working programme for the years 1977 and 1978 in January 1977. The programme covers areas like mining, non-ferrous metallurgy, building industry, electrical industry and plant cultivation.

The Fourth Meeting of the Indo-Polish Joint Commission for Economic, Trade, Scientific and Technical Co-operation was held in New Delhi from 15 to 18 December, 1976. The Indian delegation was led by

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Shri K. C. Pant, Minister of Energy, and the Polish delegation by H.E. Mr. J. Tejchma, Deputy Prime Minister of the Polish People's Republic.

The official-level discussions between the two sides headed by Shri K. S. R. Chari, Secretary, Department of Coal and H.E. Mr. E. Sznajder, Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission of Poland were held from December 8-15, 1976, in order to prepare for the Ministerial-level discussions which were held in two plenary sessions on December 15 and 18, 1976.

POLAND INDIA USA RUSSIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Dec 01, 1976

Volume No

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PORTUGAL

India-Portugal Trade Agreement

The following press release on the India-Portugal trade agreement was issued in New Delhi on December 7, 1976:

A mutually accepted draft of the first-ever Trade Agreement between India and Portugal was initialled, here today by Dr. P. C. Alexander, Union Foreign Trade Secretary, and Dr. Antonio Celeste, Secretary of State for External Trade, Government of Portugal, on behalf of their respective Governments. The broad-based Agreement Which Would function as an instrument for increasing trade and economic cooperation between the two countries, would be formally signed as soon as possible, after the completion of formalities in this regard on both sides.

The new Agreement identifies several commodities and industries which could help expand economic cooperation between the two countries. Regarding trade, both sides that. there were considerable possibilities for exports of coffee, tobacco, iron-ore, sea-foods like shrimps and sardines and certain types of electrical and engineering goods from India to Portugal. Similarly, there were good possibilities for exports from Portugal to India of items like specialised textile machinery, materials handling equipment, fishing vessels particularly trawlers and cork and cork manufactures.

A Portuguese delegation of entrepreneurs may visit India in near future in establishing direct contacts with Indian organisations. Both sides also agreed that the visit to Portugal by an Indian delegation would help in gaining first-hand knowledge regarding capabilities of the Portuguese industry and market conditions.

VAST POTENTIALITIES

After reviewing the economic conditions of the two countries Indian and Portuguese delegations agreed that there were vast scope for increasing trade and economic cooperation between the two countries in the

coming years. It was pointed out that the present level of trade between India and Portugal was not commensurate with the potentialities of the two economies and that they should take appropriate measures in order to expand and diversify the pattern of trade between the two countries.

Indian and Portuguese delegations also exchanged views on possible cooperation between two sides in the field of shipping, particularly the use of ship repair facilities in Portugal and the transshipment of cargos between India and South America through Portuguese Ports.

In respect of Industries, Science and Technology, the two sides noted the possibilities for cooperation not only at the bil-

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teral level but also for executing projects in third countries.

Several industries were identified for this purpose. It was agreed that on the Portuguese side there were possibilities for cooperation in fields like nitrogenous fertilisers, offshore oil exploration, antibiotics, supply of specialised textile machinery, supply of know-how and equipments for fish processing and supply of equipment for port handling facilities. On the Indian side areas for possible cooperation identified were the supply of know-how for mining, process plants for manufacture of sugar, railway engineering and railway equipments. The two sides agreed that these areas needed to be further explored with a view to formulating concrete proposal for cooperation between the two countries.

The Indian side also indicated that they would be interested in collaboration with Portugal in oceanography and marine biology, information sciences and documentation, dam design and construction and machine tool research. The Portuguese side agreed that they would send a Mission of Experts in these four fields to hold more detailed discussions.

FOCAL POINTS

With regard to cooperation in third countries, there was a discussion on the capabilities of the two sides to supply various types of plant, equipment and consultancy services. The two sides also agreed to designate focal points for coordinating Possibilities for cooperation in this area. It was also agreed that there was a considerable information gap regarding the capabilities of the two economies and that appropriate measures would be taken by the two countries to bridge this gap through the designation of focal points on both sides, exchange of delegations and similar other measures. It was also emphasised by the leaders of the two delegations that the two sides should try and identify items for long-term supply arrangements. It was felt that these measures would lead to a sustained and continuous increase in the direct trade between India and Portugal.

Both sides recalled that an Indian Trade Delegation had visited Lisbon in February, 1976 and had identified specific items which had substantial export possibilities on both sides. The two expressed satisfaction that since the commencement of trade between the two countries, some items had started moving in both directions. Indian exports to Portugal were mainly of products like sugar, coir and coir manufactures, spices, seeds for perfumery and medicinal products. Portuguese exports to India were mainly cork and cork manufactures and mineral manufactures.

The draft Agreement is the outcome of discussions between Indian and Portuguese delegations from December 2 to 7, 1976. The talks were held in a cordial and friendly atmosphere.

PORTUGAL INDIA MALI USA RUSSIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

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Indo-Soviet Trade Protocol for 1977

The following press release on the Indo-Soviet trade Protocol for 1977 was issued in New Delhi on December 28, 1976:

The Indo-Soviet, trade plan for 1977, which was signed here today, envisages a total turn-over of Rs. 9000 million.

The protocol was signed by Dr. P. C. Alexander, Foreign Trade Secretary and Mr. I. T. Grishin, Soviet Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade on behalf of their respective countries.

An important development during the trade talks has been the Soviet offer of crude

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oil on a long-term basis beginning from 1 million tons in 1977 and 1.5 million tons in each of the subsequent years 1978-1980. Discussions were held on the commodities which might be supplied by India for payment of the crude oil. It is expected that pig iron and steel products would form a major part of the commodities to be supplied in 1977.

Some of the Soviet experts who accompanied the trade delegation are staying back to identify specific products which could be included in the export list. Both sides have agreed about a large number of items and it has been decided that discussions in this regard would be continued with a view to finalising the arrangement for 1977 within the next two months. With the addition of crude oil and the commodities to be exported in return from India, the trade turnover in 1977 would cross Rs. 10000 million mark.

JOINT DECLARATION

Leader of the delegation later called on

the Union Commerce Minister, Prof. D. P. Chattopadhyaya and apprised him about the details of the new agreement. The Commerce Minister welcomed the Soviet offer of crude oil to India and expressed the hope that it would be possible to reach the target of doubling the volume of Indo-Soviet trade during the second half of the decade as mentioned in the Joint Declaration made by Smt. Indira Gandhi, Prime Minister of India and Mr. L. I. Brezhnev, Chairman of the Soviet Communist Party in 1973.

USSR is one of India's most important trading partners and is a major customer for India's exports. The trade between the two countries recorded a high level of Rs. 755 crores in 1975.

Under the new Protocol, USSR will supply increased quantities of petroleum products, sulphur, various non-ferrous metals, selected engineering goods and has agreed to take from India increased quantities of automobile storage batteries, hand tools, aluminium power cables, electronic instruments, parts and computer software, drugs and medicines, paints, detergents, cosmetics, tyres, finished leather in addition to leather shoes, ready-made garments, knitwear, carpets, jute goods, etc. Provisions have been agreed for export of new items like machine tools, fork lift trucks, freight containers, medical instruments, aluminium foils, wood veneers. Specific provisions have been agreed, for the first time, for export of machinery and equipment from projects set up with Soviet assistance like the Heavy Engineering Corporation.

INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

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VIETNAM

India-Vietnam Cultural Agreement

Following is the text of the India-Vietnam cultural agreement signed in Hanoi on December 18, 1976:

The Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam,

Inspired by a common desire to establish and develop closer cultural relations, and

Desirous of promoting and developing in every possible manner the relations and understanding between India and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam in the realms of art, culture, education, including academic activity in the field of science and technology, sports, public health and media of information and education,

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Have agreed to conclude the following Agreement:

ARTICLE 1

The Contracting Parties shall facilitate and encourage co-operation in the fields of art and culture, education including academic activity in the field of science and technology, public health, 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:

- (a) reciprocal visits of professors and experts for delivering lectures, study tours and conducting special courses;
- (b) reciprocal visits of representatives of educational, literary, scientific, technical, artistic, sports and journalists'

associations and organisations and participation in congresses, conferences, symposia and seminars; and

(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, documents and films, and as far as possible, exchange of archaeological specimens.

ARTICLE 3

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 condition 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 artistes, 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 cine-

matography 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 territories.

ARTICLE 8

Each Contracting Party will consider measures necessary to ensure correct and proper presentation of the other Party in text-books prescribed in its educational institutions, particularly in the books on subjects such as History, Geography and languages.

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.

ARTICLE 10

The regular implementation of the Cultural Agreement will be carried out through diplomatic channels.

ARTICLE 11

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

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shall be renewed automatically thereafter each time for a subsequent period of five years, unless either Contracting Party gives to the other a six months' prior notice in writing to terminate it.

Done at Hanoi on the 18th December, 1976 in six originals, two each in Hindi, Vietnamese and English languages, all texts being equally authentic except in case of doubt when English text shall prevail.

VIETNAM INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

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ZAMBIA

India-Zambia Memorandum of Understanding for Industrial Cooperation

Following is the text of the memorandum of understanding signed at Lusaka on December 19, 1976 at the conclusion of the visit of Shri A. P. Sharma, Minister of State for Industry to Zambia:

An Indian delegation led by His Excellency Shri A. P. Sharma, Minister of State for Industry, Government of the Republic of India, visited Zambia from 14th December, 1976 to 19th December 1976, for identifying areas of mutual cooperation and assistance between the two Governments in the field of industrial development with particular reference to small scale industry.

His Excellency Shri Sharma referred to the visit of the Prime Minister of the Republic of India, Her Excellency Shrimati Indira Gandhi to Zambia during October 1976 which had confirmed the fundamental similarity of outlook of various important issues between the two countries and genuine belief in constructive bilateral and multilateral cooperation between developing countries in economic and technical fields. Both Zambia and India had then reaffirmed their determination to ensure that the mutually beneficial economic ties between the two coun-

tries are further strengthened and diversified. The visit of the present Indian delegation was a step in that direction.

During their stay, the delegation was received by the Chairman of the Economic Sub-committee of the Central Committee of the UNIP, Hon. Humphrey Mulemba the Minister of Mines and Industry, Hon. A.J. Soko, the Minister of Commerce, Hon. Dr. Mutumba Bull, the Minister of State for Mines and Industry, Hon. M. M. Tamba and the Minister of State for Economic and Technical Cooperation, Hon. Madam Lily Monze.

The delegation visited Kafue Gore Electricity Generation Unit and some units engaged in the manufacture of textiles, cement, light engineering goods, their fabrication and spares. The delegation was impressed with the working of the industrial units and the progress made by them so far. The delegation noticed the keen awareness and desire of the Government of Zambia for an accelerated pace of industrial development particularly in the small and medium sector.

During their stay in Zambia, His Excellency Shri Sharma and his delegation held discussions with Hon. Tamba, Minister of State for Mines and Industry and senior officials of his Ministry. The acting High Commissioner of India in Zambia, Shri P. S. Sahai, participated in these discussions.

The discussions were held in a friendly and cordial atmosphere reflecting the desire of both the countries for closer cooperation in the economic and technical fields. As a result of discussions, the following areas were identified for further mutual cooperation and assistance.

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SMALL SCALE DEVELOPMENT

The delegation was informed that the draft national development plan for Zambia, which was under finalisation, laid great emphasis on small and rural industries development. Since the plan programme is to commence from January, 1978, it was emphasiz-

ed that this was the opportune time to put forward concrete proposals for an action plan for the development of small scale sector. Some of the approaches to this issue could be the following:

- (a) An investigation team would be deputed to conduct a survey necessary for ascertaining the existing socioeconomic conditions, infrastructure and trends of migration of population in order to draw up a profile for promoting small industries development on planned basis.
- (b) The team would also recommend a suitable organisational and institutional set up for promotion and development of small scale industries.

CREDIT TO ZAMBIA

The Zambian representatives thanked the Indian side for the offer of commercial credit of rupees One Hundred Million by the Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) to an appropriate agency of the Government of Zambia.

TRAINING FACILITIES

On the suggestion of the Government of Zambia, the Indian delegation agreed to provide, to the extent possible, training facilities to the technical and other personnel nominated by the Government of Zambia in selected institutions in India and in Zambia. The number of trainees, the type of training required and the terms and conditions for provision of training facilities would be mutually settled by the two Governments after further discussions.

Both sides emphasised the need to review from time to time the projects to be undertaken in Zambia.

The memorandum was finalised at the official talks yesterday.

ZAMBIA INDIA USA RUSSIA MALDIVES

Date : Dec 01, 1976