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LANKA USA

Date : Jan 01, 1981

Volume No

1995

BANGLADESH

Review Meeting of Ganges Waters Agreement: Speech by Rao Birendra Singh

Following is the text of the speech by Rao Birendra Singh, minister (Agriculture, Rural Reconstruction and Irrigation) at the Review Meeting of Ganges Waters Agreement held at New Delhi on Jan 07, 1981:

Your Excellency, I have great pleasure in welcoming you and the members of your Delegation to this Second Inter-Governmental meeting for the First Review of the Indo-Bangladesh Agreement on sharing of the Ganga Waters at Farina and Augmenting its flows. I hope your stay will be fruitful, pleasant and comfortable.

Excellency, in the earlier round of the Review talks held in Dacca last November, it was agreed that each side would submit reports on Parts A and B of the 1977 Agreement. The two sides accordingly furnished to each other these reports on the 19th December, 1980. Apart from considering these reports, in our present round of talks, we have to decide the dates for the third and final round of Ministerial discussions. AS the Indian delegation repeatedly emphasised in the last round of talks, it is incumbent on us to bring the review to a conclusion as early as possible.

In our Review Report, we have taken great care to be strictly objective and have attempted to furnish all the relevant data to enable a proper assessment to be made by the two Governments on the working, impact, implementation and progress of the arrangements contained in the Agreement. We have demonstrated how Indian interests have grievously suffered by the operation of Part A of the Agreement while adverse effects in Bangladesh have at worst been marginal. We have also demonstrated the factors responsible for the failure to implement the provisions of Part B of the Agreement.

Permit me, Your Excellency, to deal briefly with the approach reflected in Part A of the Bangladesh Report.

BANGLADESH REPORT

The Bangladesh Report on Part A dwells at some length on the so-called historical rights of Bangladesh to the Ganga waters and an assertion of the right to so called natural flows. In fact, continuance of historical flow amounts to a total denial of beneficial development and the principle of equitable sharing of waters for beneficial uses enshrined in international practice. Assertion of a right to so-called natural flows amounts to

claiming a veto on the rights of the upper riparian to a reasonable and equitable share of the waters of the common rivers. Its acceptance would obstruct the rights of other riparians to implement development plans designed to use the water resources of the basin, thus perpetuating economic stagnation, accentuating human suffering and impeding progress to which, I am afraid, India cannot agree.

India, in any view, is by far the major riparian country for the Ganga waters; in terms of catchment area - 99 per cent, population - 94 per cent, and area dependent on waters - 94.5 per cent. India is thus entitled to an equitable and preponderant share of the Ganga waters taking into account relevant factors such as the geography and hydrology of the basin, economic needs, population, availability of other resources, avoidance of waste, past use, current needs and the comparative cost of alternative means and other factors. There can be absolutely no obligation to leave intact the existing quantum of flows.

INDIA'S CASE

For 90 per cent of its length - 1,925 km - the main channel of the Ganga
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flows through India, with its principal tributaries it flows through 8,000 km of Indian territory with a catchment area in India of 777,000 sq km. The geographical area in India dependent on the Ganga is 211 million acres (84 million ha) with a population of over 250 million. In 1971 more than 40 per cent of the country's total population and cultivable area of 1.50 million acres in the basin and large areas elsewhere were dependent on the Ganga waters. Compared with this, the length in Bangladesh is a mere 141 km (excluding the common boundary of 112 km.) The total length of the Ganga and tributaries in Bangladesh is hardly 173 km, the area in Bangladesh is hardly 0.7 per cent of that in India. The area is blessed with heavy rainfall and has the possibility of being served by the Brahmaputra and the Meghna. The relative rights and needs of India and Bangladesh on the Ganga waters could well be imagined by any objective and well accepted criteria

In fact, the Ganga-Brahmaputra-Meghna is one large international drainage basin of which Ganga is just one part. Instead of perpetuating shortages of the Ganga flows, our attempt has been to optimise the development of the flow in the Ganga, Brahmaputra and Meghna as available to India and Bangladesh for meeting the needs of both countries. It was in this context, that the Agreement of 1977 was entered into by India in a spirit of goodwill and cooperation at great sacrifices of her legitimate interests and rights and in the expectation that it would be possible to evolve with the cooperation of Bangladesh a scheme for the cooperative development of the abundant water resources

in the region available to the two countries to meet the requirements of both countries in full measure.

We are disappointed at the sweeping assertions made in the Bangladesh document without any supporting data. For example, it has been alleged that salinity in the Khulna, area in Bangladesh had a direct relationship to the flows at Hardinge Bridge. It has been stated that Gorai flows had been affected causing problems, without indicating the basis on which an assessment has been made. It is said that agricultural production has gone down without analysis of the causes, the trend of these activities in the rest of Bangladesh and the importance of various other relevant factors etc.

The data available to us clearly demonstrates that the salinity in the south-west region, in and around Khulna, is affected by local runoff and monsoon rainfall and is independent of the discharges flowing in the Ganga. Even otherwise, it is well known that waters with electrical conductivity of 5,000 microhms or more are being used in various parts of the world for irrigation particularly paddy, with or without suitable agronomic practices.

There is massive evidence based on officially published data in Bangladesh that the performance in the agricultural, fisheries and other sectors in the areas in Bangladesh claimed to be dependent upon Padma waters since the operation of the Farina barrage has been in line with the trend of these sectors in the rest of Bangladesh and has been even better in certain respects.

It flows from it that the monetary values assigned by Bangladesh of the losses suffered in these sectors due to the withdrawals of water by India at Farina are without any factual basis and hence misleading. It is quite clear that no adverse effects were in fact caused at all in Bangladesh as a result of the withdrawals at Farina.

It is our considered opinion that no useful purpose would be served by entering into such extravagant claims and extraordinary charges in the report, totally unsupported by data, that the withdrawals at Farina have given rise to increased incidence of hypertension, have resulted in change in rainfall pattern, temperature change and wind movement and have led to the monsoon behaving in an erratic fashion.

PRESERVATION OF CALCUTTA PORT

We are also disappointed to note that the Bangladesh document by innuendo casts doubts on the very purpose of the Farina, Barrage project. I should draw the attention of your Excellency to the comprehensive data supplied to the Bangladesh side ever since 1960 including clarifications. Whatever additional information they had needed at every stage was also furnished. Your Excellency would recall that in 1974

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the results of the latest studies made were also furnished to Bangladesh side. We are surprised to note that long after the Farakka Barrage has been commissioned and has been in operation for the last five years and has shown positive results subject to the limitation of flows made available to it, it is being suggested that a ship canal should be constructed and that the Damodar Valley complex which has been constructed and has been in operation for decades now should be abandoned. We have explained to the Bangladesh side on many occasions the respective complementary roles of Calcutta and Haldia ports and why the Calcutta Port needs preservation and improvement.

References have been made in the Bangladesh report to studies stated to have been made by Ippen and Wicker (1972) and Siddiqui (1976) which have however not been made available. As your Excellency is aware that over a period of more than 100 years several experts of international repute and committees and commissions went into the problem of Calcutta Port. It was their unanimous opinion that the provision of adequate head water supply was the only way to permanently and purposefully solve the problem of Calcutta Port. The commissioning of this project was the most purposeful measure towards the preservation of Calcutta Port, which has been deteriorating since the turn of the century. If only 40,000 cusecs are made available as per the design requirements the trend of improvements would be stabilised and accelerated and the heavy investments made on the project would be justified. In my view of the matter, Bangladesh accepted the Farina Barrage scheme as far back as in 1973 and 1974 (when the two Prime Ministers met). Also the 1977 agreement is based on the operation of Farina project. There is, therefore, no point in suggesting alternatives at this stage.

An implication has been made that in the year 1980 drought in the Ganga basin was not very severe as seen from the conditions in Bangladesh. Excellency, I can only state that in 1980 the severest drought known recently in India occurred and food production dropped sharply from over 130 million tons to 109 million tons. We are however very glad that in Bangladesh the drought intensity was not so severe.

I must also point out that ' the areas shown as being dependent on, Ganga waters in Bangladesh show a striking increase over earlier data supplied by Bangladesh itself. During the augmentation discussions in 1974 and 1975 a major part of Faridpur, Rajshahi, Pabna districts and the complete districts of Harisal and Patuakhali had been shown by Bangladesh to be dependent on the Brahmaputra waters. We now suddenly find that these figure amongst areas shown as being dependent on Ganga waters. According to the assessment made by India, the areas in Bangladesh dependent on Ganga waters are far too less, being of the order of less than 1 million ha.

The Bangladesh Report on Part A dwells at some length on events preceding the 1977 Agreement. As this clearly lies outside the purview of the present review I shall not enter into a discussion on these matters particularly since the Bangladesh arguments have already been refuted in the past.

Excellency, I am constrained to point out that the Bangladesh Report on Review of the Implementation of Part 'B' of the Agreement is not a review as such but basically a detailed elaboration and justification of the Bangladesh proposal and outright rejection and condemnation of the Indian proposal. This goes against both the letter and the spirit of the 1977 Agreement. Article IX of the Agreement clearly implied that instead of rejecting each other's proposals on prima-facie grounds, as had been the trend of the earlier discussions of the JRC, the JRC which is an expert body would undertake a techno-economic study of the proposals with a view to recommending the most feasible and economical schemes. This basic understanding incorporated in Article IX of the Agreement is totally belied in the report on part 'B' submitted by Bangladesh.

Instead of unilaterally asserting the merits of their proposals and denouncing ours, we had expected Bangladesh Government to join us in bringing out the respective merits and demerits of the two proposals through the studies which the JRC was required to undertake as also agreed upon in the 14th meeting of the JRC. If

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there were indeed any validity in the unilateral appreciation of their own proposals and criticism of our proposal the Bangladesh Government should have agreed to have those facts established in the process of the study. The fact that the Bangladesh Government have decided not to allow the merits and demerits of the two proposals to be brought out by techno-economic studies but to merely assert them unilaterally would only go to show that the arguments produced by them would not have stood up to scrutiny in a body like the MC.

BASIN APPROACH UNTENABLE

Bangladesh has raised several objections against the Indian proposals: that India is diverting Brahmaputra waters into Ganga which is another basin without regard to the requirements of Brahmaputra waters in its own basin aggregating to 1,80,000 cusecs in Bangladesh: that the link canal runs against the direction of the natural flows: that it cuts Bangladesh into two: that the catchment areas of Dihang dam is in China, that the problem of water logging would occur: and that one million population would be affected along with over two lakh acres of land. India has on various occasions made clear that the basin approach is neither in conformity with 1977 Agreement nor with international practice and even if basin approach were accepted

for the sake of argument, Ganga-Brahmaputra-Meghna constitutes a single international drainage basin and hence there is no question of diversion of water from one basin to the other, The requirement of Bangladesh of 1,80,000 cusecs of Brahmaputra waters in large quantities. The link canal proposed by India runs along the contour as is the case with most of the big canals in the world. The canal does not divide Bangladesh into two but it connects with various river systems and provides much needed communication line through navigation. The fact that large part of the catchment area of Dihang dam is in China has no relevance because the Dihang dam including its reservoir would be located entirely in India. There should be no problem of water logging because Bangladesh is a country of perennial rivers and the canal can be lined if necessary to prevent any water logging. The sacrifices of India in terms of acquisition of land and displacement of homesteads is far greater, considering that the length in India is twice as much and that large areas would go under submergence under the proposed reservoirs. The objections raised against the construction of reservoirs such as seismicity and silt lack the correct appreciation. The Indian side had all along stressed that with the modern technology it should be possible to design, implement and operate the large reservoirs as contemplated in the Himalayan region.

The Brahmaputra basin is in no way different from the Ganga basin in Himalayan region where Bangladesh itself has proposed large reservoirs. India has carried out detailed explorations and investigations which have confirmed the earlier assessment that Dihang, Subansiri and Tipaimukh dams could be built up to the heights contemplated in the Indian proposal. The unfortunate part, however, has been that Bangladesh has not come forward to study the data on scientific and rational basis to discuss the scheme and then come to its conclusions.

The Bangladesh Report on Part 'B' has also confirmed what we have always suspected and frequently brought up in the previous meetings of the JRC, namely that the Bangladesh Government had no intention right from the beginning to proceed with these studies and make any efforts to find a solution to the long-term problem of augmentation. Some of the major arguments given in their report leave no doubt on this score. First, the report makes the extraordinary point that the Indian proposal for link canal is outside the scope of the Farina Agreement on the ground that the Agreement relates to the flows of the Ganges and not to the flows of the Brahmaputra.

Therefore, it is argued, that the scheme relating to the transfer of the Brahmaputra waters through a link canal is outside the scope of the Agreement. We find this argument surprising because it is nowhere mentioned in the 1977 Agreement that the augmentation of the Ganga Waters should be through Ganga waters only. It is clear from article IX, that the two countries could submit any proposal which would have to be studied by the MC

without attaching
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inter-se priority among them. It was also well known that the Indian proposal would be for the link canal. Therefore, the arguments given in the report that Indian proposal is outside the scope of the Agreement has come as a great surprise to us.

PREJUDICED APPROACH

Secondly, instead of agreeing to undertaking a study of our proposal, the Bangladesh side has adopted the persistent approach of rejecting it on prima-facie basis both through public statements of its eminent leaders and senior officials as well as in informal discussions in the JRC. This approach has found its fullest possible expression in the report submitted by Bangladesh. This again shows that the Bangladesh Government had no intention right from the beginning to study our proposal even though, according to the Agreement, the proposals submitted by both the countries were to be studied scientifically.

Thirdly, it is stated in the Bangladesh report that the solution to the problem like augmenting flows of an international river, "cannot possibly be found within a short time of 3 or 5 years or even in a decade", that a "time-bound solution to the problems of this nature is not possible", that one should not expect the completion of mandate on such a complex issue within 3 years, when "the conclusion of the present Agreement took more than a quarter of a century". This clearly shows that right from the beginning, Bangladesh had no intention to abide by the three year time limit laid down for the completion of the work of the JRC. Beyond this, it also indicates that Bangladesh would like the discussions on this issue to go on indefinitely.

Excellency, will not these facts lead any impartial observers to question whether Bangladesh intended to observe the terms of part (B) of the Agreement in good faith? The Bangladesh report amounts to an admission of the fact that Bangladesh never seriously intended to even examine the proposals submitted by India and that it had no intention, in any case, of arriving at any jointly agreed solution within the period of three years laid down in the Agreement. We must draw the conclusions which follow inevitably from this fact.

LONG-TERM SOLUTION

Finally, the Bangladesh report on Part 'B' states that the Indian proposal is "untenable for the purpose of ensuring the share of Bangladesh in respect of the flows of the Ganges." Surely this was not the purpose behind article IX of the Agreement. There is no such implication in the provisions of the Agreement relating to longterm arrangements; on the other hand the basic purpose of the long-term arrangements is as stated in the Preamble of the

Agreement viz. to ensure an optimum utilisation by the two countries of the water resources of their region and for augmenting the flows.

The Bangladesh report repeatedly harps on the theme of the so-called basin approach to the development of the water resources of the region. It is brought out in India's report on Part M' that during the course of the negotiations on the Ganga waters, India had, outright rejected this so-called basin approach. The Bangladesh side seeking to revive this approach now is to go against the letter and spirit of the 1977 Agreement.

The main thrust of the 1977 Agreement is to solve this problem bilaterally by the two countries. The task of recommending the most feasible and economical schemes for the solution of the long-term problem of the augmentation was entrusted to the JRC which is a bilateral institution. Bangladesh unfortunately right from the beginning started to dilute and alter this bilateral approach and made this an excuse for preventing the JRC from even commencing with the study of the proposals.

It has been stated in the Bangladesh report that the Joint Rivers Commission has done very useful work during the last three years and should therefore be given a fresh mandate to continue its exercise with a view to evolving a satisfactory long-term solution of the augmentation of the Ganga Waters. We fail to understand how the JRC can claim to have done any useful work when it in fact, was prevented by the Bangladesh side from even undertaking a study of the
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two proposals. Moreover, given the basic approach reflected in the Bangladesh report on part (B) we do not see any purpose being served by asking the JRC to continue with the exercise. Bangladesh has prima facie rejected India's proposal and in its report has unilaterally condemned it, going to the extent of saying that it is untenable, unnecessary and outside the scope of the Agreement. The Bangladesh side has also taken the position that the completion of the work of JRC on a matter like this may take decades and no time bound commitment can be given. Given this basic attitude of Bangladesh, any decision to ask JRC to continue with this work on augmentation can only result in endless discussions for decades of the long-term problem of augmentation without there ever being any hope for finding a solution.

On the other hand, our problems are most pressing and urgent. We can hardly afford to waste time and engage in such a futile open-ended discussion. This inescapable reality must be fully reflected in the final Review Report.

IDENTIFYING DIFFERENCES

Excellency, the Bangladesh Report compelled me to put the record straight and explain the issues in correct perspective. In this review meeting, however, we have the limited task of completing the first review of the Agreement. At the review meeting in Dacca, we had agreed that the date line for the finalisation of the review report would be agreed upon at the current meeting in Delhi. Now that both India and Bangladesh have submitted reports, relating to both Part (A) and Part (B) of the Report, and that we have the opportunity at this meeting to comment on each other's report, my delegation believes that this review exercise should be brought to an end and the review report finalised at the next review meeting to, be held within 3-4 weeks from now. The final review report should contain an agreed sanction giving a factual background of the actions taken during the last 3 years, relating to the working, impact, implementation and progress of the provisions of both Part (A) and Part (B) of the Agreement. This could be followed by a section which identifies the differences in the assessment of the two sides. The reports submitted by the two sides could form an integral part of the final documents.

In order to save time and with a view to complete the work by the next review meeting, I would suggest that we should make an effort at this meeting to finalise the agreed section of the report and also to identify the differences in assessment. I would further suggest that we entrust this task to a small group of officials, say 2 to 3 from each side. They should work during the course of the remaining part of the morning session and the whole of the afternoon session and submit a report to us tomorrow morning. I hope that my suggestion on how to conclude the first review exercise expeditiously would commend itself to your Excellency.

Once again, Your Excellency, on behalf of myself and my delegation, I welcome you and the distinguished members of your delegation.

NGLADESH LATVIA INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC CHINA UNITED KINGDOM

Date : Jan 07, 1981

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BANGLADESH

Bangladesh Minister's Speech at Review Meeting of Ganges Waters Agreement

Following is the text of the speech by Kazi Anwarul Huque,

Minister incharge of the Ministry of Power, Water Resources and Flood Control, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh on the occasion of the Review Meeting of the Ganges Waters Agreement in New Delhi from the 7th to the 9th January, 1981:

Your Excellency, Mr. Rao Birendra Singh and distinguished Members of the Indian Delegation, may I express at the outset, our warm congratulations on your assumption of the important office of the Minister of Irrigation. I am fully confident, that your wide experience, statesmanship and knowledge will serve amply to fulfil the heavy burden of responsibility entrusted to you. We look forward to working with you in close cooperation.

I would like to take this opportunity also to extend our felicitations to your predecessor His Excellency Mr. Kedar Pandey who has taken over charge of the Railway Ministry. We remember our association with him, and his cooperation and understanding.

I wish also to thank Your Excellency, for the excellent arrangements that have been made for our reception and stay in New Delhi and the hospitality that has been accorded to us.

Since our last meeting in Dacca, two months ago, officials and experts of both the countries have been engaged in the complex task of preparing respective reports on the working, impact, implementation and progress of the arrangements contained in Part 'A' and Part 'B' of the Ganges Waters Agreement, to facilitate the task of Review, in pursuance of Article XIV of the 1977 Agreement. These reports have been duly exchanged on the 19th December, 1980, in accordance with procedure agreed upon in the November meeting.

In approaching the task now before us there is, perhaps, no better starting place than the Epilogue on Page 24, Chapter two, of Part B of the Report of the Indian Irrigation Ministry. A number of interesting and thought-provoking statements have been made and searching questions posed which we find particularly relevant.

The Report poses the following questions:

FIRST "How the situation regarding availability of Ganga waters at Farina has been worsening? What are the future demands being built up, partly satisfied and partly unsatisfied in both the countries and how fast the suffering on either side is growing and how intense it is? These are the issues which arise in the situation as it exists today".

SECONDLY "How long shall both countries continue with make-shift arrangements of sharing waters".

THIRDLY "Would it be possible to live with short-term

arrangements when there is no hope of augmenting the Ganga flow in the near future" ?

The report concludes by stating:

"Both the sides will have to apply seriously to these questions and try to understand each other and redouble their efforts for most effective cooperation" towards completing their task.

These are, indeed, some of the major questions to which we seek answers and have addressed ourselves to, in the Bangladesh Report.

It is obvious that no review of the 1977 Agreement can be effectively divorced from the perspective in which it was conceived or the circumstances in which it was negotiated. For India and for Bangladesh particularly as the lower riparian, a permanent solution of the problem is an imperative of the highest importance in the interest of promoting the well-being of the peoples Of both the countries and also of fostering peace and good neighbourly relations.

INTER-LINKED FACTORS

In order to see the Agreement in its correct perspective several pertinent factors need be highlighted. All of these factors will demonstrate the high priority attached by Bangladesh to a permanent solution. Apart from historical backdrop under which the Agreement was concluded, Bangladesh in its Review Report has sought to stress several closely inter-linked factors of prime importance including the total dependence of Bangladesh on the historical flows of the Ganges; the inherent right of Bangladesh as a co-riparian to the use of the waters of this international river; the merits of the competing claims of Calcutta Port and Bangladesh in the use of the Ganges waters; the heavy burden of sacrifice borne by Bangladesh in reaching a solution; the magnitude of the full requirements of the Ganges waters for Bangladesh and finally the continuing adverse effects of the reduced flows on Bangladesh. Taken in their totality they make it abundantly clear that Bangladesh could not be content with an interim solution.

It may be recalled that bilateral negotiations on this issue spread over more than
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a quarter century prior to reaching the present agreement. Voluminous correspondence was exchanged. Numerous meetings at all levels were held. Plenty of data were collected and studies made, but with no result. Notwithstanding all the meetings, all the studies and all the explicit understandings that a mutually acceptable allocation of the Ganges waters at Farina during the periods of minimum flows would be reached, the Farina Barrage

became a "fait accompli" in 1973.

It was not until May 1974, that the Prime-Ministers of India and Bangladesh, for the first time since Bangladesh's emergence, discussed the problem of the Ganges waters. In their Joint Declaration of May 1974 "they (the two Prime Ministers) recognised that during the periods of minimum flow in the Ganga, there might not be enough water, to meet the needs of Calcutta Port and full requirements of Bangladesh and, therefore, the fair weather flows of the Ganga in the lean months would have to be augmented to meet the requirement of the two countries. It was agreed that problems should be approached with understanding so that the interests of both the countries are reconciled and the difficulties removed in a spirit of friendship and cooperation.

Here I would like to mention in passing a crucial point. In the Epilogue of their Review Report the Indian side refers to this important Declaration and states that "as far back as 1974 the, leaders of the two countries recognised and accepted that the flows of the Ganga at Farina and down below needed to be augmented in the lean season and that this was the only way for finding a permanent solution to meeting the growing requirements of water in the two countries."

It is clear from the actual text of the Declaration that the expression "growing requirement" of water in the two countries used by India in the report does not appear anywhere in the Declaration. Only two specific requirements were envisaged - the needs of "Calcutta Port" on the one hand and the "full requirements" of Bangladesh on the other.

It is important to note that the two Prime Ministers in their Joint Declaration in 1974 also "expressed their determination that before the Farina Barrage is commissioned they (the two countries) would arrive at a mutually acceptable allocation of the waters available during the periods of minimum flows in the Ganga". The significance of this historic declaration lies in the fact that the commissioning of the Farina barrage was agreed to be conditional upon reaching an agreement on the allocation of waters, on a mutually acceptable basis. It also explicitly gave a categorical recognition at the highest level to the internationally recognised rights of Bangladesh to the waters of the Ganges as a lower riparian.

While discussion on the allocation of waters was continuing, Bangladesh agreed, at the specific request of India, to a trial operation of the Farina Barrage. An agreement was accordingly reached for running the "feeder canal" for a limited period of 41 days (21 April - 31 May 1975) with discharges varying from 11,000 to 16,000 cuses in 10-day periods ensuring the remaining flows to Bangladesh. India, however, contrary to her commitment at the highest level and without renewing or entering into a fresh agreement on a mutually acceptable allocation, started unilateral

diversion with disastrous consequences to the economy and ecology of Bangladesh, and livelihood and welfare of its people.

Faced with this situation and despite repeated bilateral efforts to remedy it, Bangladesh had to take the issue to the United Nations General Assembly under Article 14 of the UN Charter. The Assembly's consensus statement of 26 November 1976 urged the two countries for an expeditious resolution of the issue through renewed bilateral negotiations in a spirit of cooperation. These negotiations culminated in the signing of the Ganges Water Agreement on 5 November 1977.

BANGLADESH'S CASE

It is stressed that the dependence of Bangladesh on the natural and historical flows of the Ganges water is total. The economic well-being and the survival of the people of Bangladesh are inextricably linked with the life-giving waters of its rivers. The Ganges waters in particular serve 37 per cent of the total area of Bangladesh

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and 33 per cent of the population of Bangladesh live in the basin. The river provides, drinking water to the people, sustains agriculture, forestry and fishery, serves as the main means of transport, keeps at bay saline intrusion from the sea and plays a dominant part in the ecology of the region. The issue involved therefore, in the historical usage of the Ganges waters. They are all existing uses, made over centuries, so that a pattern of interdependence and integral balance between land, water and human life has developed. Furthermore, Bangladesh has no alternative to replace or supplement the deprivation of the natural flows of the Ganges.

The stated purpose for which the barrage at Farina was constructed was to improve the navigability of Calcutta Port. The efficacy of the diversion of water from the Ganges for this purpose has been questioned by many including eminent Indian experts. Experts like K. Bhattacharya and Dr. Ippen had concluded that the diversion of fresh water from the Ganges would not be a solution to the problem of Calcutta Port, On the contrary, the problems might accentuate with increasing diversions. Studies indicate that the permissible drafts in the Hooghly river has not shown any marked difference between pre and post diversion periods. The conclusion drawn by Experts clearly demonstrates that the diversion of Ganges Waters in the Hooghly river has little effect on the navigational improvement of the Calcutta Port.

The entire question of diversion of the Ganges Waters has to be considered, assessed and weighed in the context of relative merits of requirement and necessity of improving the channel of the Hooghly river on the one hand and the survival of one third

of the people of Bangladesh on the other. While Bangladesh, a flat deltaic land has no alternative, India has both the means and the alternative for maintaining the navigability of the Hooghly river. The recognition of gradual decline of Hooghly which was largely due to implementation of the Damodar Valley Project, is reflected in the setting up of a modern, deep water port at Haldia by the Government of India as early as mid fifties.

There is yet another crucial factor which has in the past been overlooked. For years has been said that Calcutta Port and for that matter Bangladesh would not today be in such dire straits if vast quantities of water were not quietly diverted from the upper and middle reaches of the Ganges in India. These charges have constantly been reiterated in the Indian press. They have been confirmed by studies carried out by experts and reports of important institutions such as the Irrigation Commission, and Calcutta's Centre for studies on Social Sciences among others. There appears to be ample evidence that there are over a dozen major projects and hundreds of smaller projects in the field of irrigation alone. Indian experts themselves hold that there is no clear perception of the total (current and projected) demand of the water by all claimants of the Ganges waters within India, not to mention Bangladesh, as well as utter confusion over proper use, availability and regulation of water. What is more serious is that there are complaints in India itself, of unplanned interference in the usage of water in the upper and middle reaches of the Ganges and indeed, misuse of water which has vitiated the planning of these vital and scarce resources. One can only reiterate the words used in the editorial of the Statesman on 15 July 1980, and I quote:

"Farakka is starved because of the centre's greater concern for irrigation, drinking water and industrial requirements in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. It is palpably unfair to continue to turn a blind eye to these increasingly lavish drawings and then invoke Calcutta's plight to persuade Bangladesh to make do with a much smaller quantity of water".

In a spirit of mutual understanding and good neighbourliness, Bangladesh signed the Ganges Waters Agreement. In doing so, sacrifices and concessions made by Bangladesh were immense. Bangladesh accepted as an interim arrangement a quantum of waters as its share which was 40 per cent less than the historical flows to which she was entitled.

During 1980 there was abnormally low flows in the Ganges at Farina. As a result Bangladesh had received a quantum much

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below the normal flows during the period from 24th January to 26th April, 1980. Even the guarantee clause of 80 per cent share to Bangladesh under the Agreement failed to safeguard the interests of Bangladesh. The abnormal decrease in the dry season

flows of the Ganges at Farina was the lowest ever recorded. India, despite the request of Bangladesh, did not furnish any data which could explain the abnormal behaviour of the dry season flows of the Ganges in 1980. Our own study shows that such abnormal behaviour cannot be explained by drought alone. Answer can only be found in the massive withdrawals in the upper reaches. No doubt, the reduced availability at Farina has resulted in a declining share for both Bangladesh and Calcutta Port. As a matter of fact, this particular situation has undermined the very basis of sharing of the Ganges Waters at Farakka.

DEVELOPMENT OF AGRICULTURE

The magnitude of Bangladesh current and potential requirements of water demonstrate the critical need of more water as a crucial determinant of the future survival of its people. Bangladesh's target of doubling its food production to meet the growing needs of its population is a vital priority objective of its 2nd Five Year Plan. To achieve this target, Bangladesh has launched an integrated and comprehensive Agricultural Development Programme of which water is the key input. Any reduction in the availability of waters in the Ganges will seriously hamper the development of agriculture in the South and South-Western region of the country which is wholly dependent on the waters of the Ganges. Disruption of agriculture in 1/3rd of the area of the country cannot but jeopardise seriously the overall economy of Bangladesh. The need for augmenting the dry season flows of the Ganges is of paramount importance to Bangladesh.

Excellent, Bangladesh has devoted a large part of its report to detail the impact of the post-1977 reduced flows which has had dire effects on the economic and ecological infrastructure of Bangladesh in varying degrees of intensity. It is not our intention to repeat these details. Suffice it to say that the Indian contention that apprehensions expressed by Bangladesh about adverse effects of withdrawals at Farina were exaggerated has been proved to be unfounded. This has been borne out by the field experience and data presented in the report. As a matter of fact anyone going through the relevant part of the Bangladesh report will realise that the Indian claim that Bangladesh's actual requirements were much less than the availability is a travesty of truth. The impact has been devastating, cumulative and in some areas irreparable.

In the interest of peace and cooperation and friendship Bangladesh agreed to make sacrifice temporarily in the April 1975 Agreement and again in 1977 in the hope that not only her historical flow would be restored but also that the dry season flows would be augmented and, made available to Bangladesh in an acceptable proportion to meet the increasing needs of water for full development of the area dependent on the Ganges. Thus, the Ganges Waters Agreement held out a promise that the development

of the waters of the Ganges would be effected in its totality i.e. from its source to the outfall in cooperation with all coriparian states. The spirit motivating this sacrifice needs be comprehended and acted upon. Bangladesh too, asks the question as to how long we are to live with an interim arrangement.

I would like to invite your attention to the working and progress of the short term arrangements under Part-A of the Agreement. The sharing of the Ganges waters at Farina started from the 1st January 1978. During the course of the last three years, the Joint Committee set up by the Governments had accomplished their task in conformity with the provisions of the Agreement. Unfortunately, a controversy arose while finalising the annual report of the Joint Committee for the 3rd year in 1980. India's side maintained that Bangladesh was undermeasuring the discharges of the Ganges at Hardinge Bridge. Bangladesh side held that India was overmeasuring the discharge of the Ganges at Farina. Such contentious arguments do not lead us anywhere. Instead of questioning each others method, manner and equipment in use, both sides should try their best to measure the discharge as accurately as

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possible. As the discharges are measured jointly, we would expect them to use their best judgement to reconcile the issue.

STORAGE DAMS IN NEPAL

One of the important tasks of this meeting is to review the progress in finding a long-term arrangement for augmenting the dry season flows of the Ganges under Part B of the Agreement. Bangladesh and India exchanged proposals for long-term augmentation of the dry season flows of the Ganges in March, 1978. Bangladesh proposal envisaged construction of storage dams in the upper reaches of the Ganges in India and Nepal to conserve the monsoon flows for augmenting the dry season flows of the Ganges. Bangladesh held that there was enough water in the Ganges basin itself to meet the needs of all the co-riparians.

The Bangladesh proposal was discussed by the JRC in 1975 in pursuance of the declaration of May 1974. The Indian side rejected the Bangladesh proposal prima facie on the ground that the JRC being a bilateral body was not competent to discuss projects in a third country (Nepal). This aspect was kept in view while negotiating the Ganges Waters Agreement. With the signing of the Agreement in 1977, the basis on which the Indian objection rested was removed. In the Side Letter to the Agreement it was agreed that the schemes for building and construction of storage dams in the upper reaches in Nepal would not be excluded from the study. In the same Side Letter the two Governments also agreed to take further steps in this direction. Farina, Agreement, therefore, clearly indicated that involvement of Nepal in the investigation and study of a scheme was necessary. Bangladesh in

requesting involvement of Nepal was merely pressing for a faithful implementation of what had already been provided for in the Ganges Waters Agreement i.e. to take further steps necessary for investigation and study of the proposal for construction of storage dams in Nepal.

INDIA'S POINT OF VIEW

In the note verbale dated 31st August, 1978 the Government of India put their pre-conditions to the study of the Bangladesh Proposal in the following manner:

"If in the process of the study of the two proposals it is demonstrated that an approach to Nepal for collecting facts and data for some elements in the Bangladesh proposals is necessary, the form and content of approach could be considered provided (a) it does not call for Nepal being a party to the existing or proposed institutional arrangement and (b) it does not require Nepal being made a participant in the study in any way."

The proposal which envisaged among others, construction of storage dams in Nepal could not be considered without the active participation of Nepal - a sovereign country. Bangladesh, a country committed to the concept of sovereign equality of all nations could not be a party to requiring a neighbouring country to furnish data about projects proposed to be located in the latter's territory without requesting her co-operation and participation. The Indian precondition summarily ruled out Nepal and blocked any meaningful study of the Bangladesh proposal.

About the alleged insistence of Bangladesh on involvement of Nepal in an institutional frame work, it may be pointed out that Bangladesh maintained a flexible stand. She did suggest in the Note Verbale dated 31st July, 1978 that HMG Nepal could be jointly approached for its co-operation and that Nepal might have been included in the study by modifying the statute of JRC or by setting up a new Commission with the 3 countries for the development of the Ganges basin. As this was not acceptable to India, Bangladesh suggested that a joint delegation of Bangladesh and India might visit Nepal on the question of her participation in the joint study of the Bangladesh proposal for construction of storage dams in Nepal. Even involvement of Nepal in the joint study of the Bangladesh proposal was not acceptable to India. It is thus clear Bangladesh's stand on the manner of involvement of Nepal in the study of her proposal was reasonable and flexible.

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Pursuant to May 1974 declaration, the JRC discussed the proposal at length over a period of one year--- The discussion had been recorded in a joint report submitted to the two Governments in June, 1975. While Bangladesh rejected the Indian proposal after exhaustive discussion, deliberation and careful consideration of the technical, social and economic aspects of the Indian

proposal, India rejected the Bangladesh proposal outright without going into its merits. India rejected involvement of Nepal in terms of Bangladesh proposal on the following grounds:

"The Indian side has consistently taken the stand that JRC is a bilateral forum and as such it would be improper for it to involve a third country" (Nepal).

With the signing of the Ganges Waters Agreement whatever basis the Indian stand had, ceased to be valid and as a matter of fact steady progress towards approaching Nepal for her involvement was made throughout 1979. The first major step was the formation of a committee on Nepal by the JRC. Unfortunately, however, from the beginning of 1980 India reverted to her earlier stand despite the provisions in the Side Letter to the Agreement.

The task entrusted by the Agreement to the JRC was to find a long term solution to the problem of augmentation of the dry season flows of the Ganges. The Indian proposal on the contrary was to transfer the waters of one river to another. In explaining the aims and objectives of the Indian proposal it has been stated in the Indian Review Report that the proposal "aims at optimum utilisation of Brahmaputra and Meghna river waters" (page 13, Chapter II). This observation in the Indian report alone throws ample light on the circumstances which prevented the JRC from finding a long term solution. The task before the JRC was to find the best means of augmenting the dry season flows of the Ganges. But the Indian side came up with a proposal which was concerned with so called "optimum utilisation of the Brahmaputra and the Meghna waters". The Indian proposal therefore, departed from the very mandate given to JRC under the Ganges Waters Agreement.

COMPLEXITIES RECOGNISED

Excellency, indeed the JRC could not submit any recommendation about long term augmentation of the dry season flows of the Ganges within a period of 3 years. The solution of the problem relating to international rivers cannot possibly be found within a short period of time. It needs be recognised that an easy and time bound solution to the problem of such nature is not possible. The complexities of the problems were duly recognised by the Prime Ministers of Bangladesh and India as early as in 1974, when they declared that "it would take some years" before a mutually acceptable solution could be found. Although the JRC has not yet been able to find a long term solution within the limited period of three years the exercise undertaken have broadened the perspective and sharpened the comprehension of the issues involved. The experience gained by the Joint Rivers Commission will be an invaluable aid to the continued search for a long term solution. The Minister for External Affairs of India in a recent statement said that the negotiations between the two countries had resulted in a greater understanding of each others point of view. This understanding could be considered as the basis for a

systematic approach towards finding a solution through the existing institutional arrangements. Our experience of the past has shown that with continued cooperation and firm determination it will be possible for a high level and technically qualified body like the JRC to find a mutually acceptable solution to the problem of augmenting the dry season flows of the Ganges Waters. We have noted that the Indian Review Report in its Epilogue has called for a "redoubling" of efforts. It would appear to be in the fitness of things, that an institution which is already in existence and which has amassed vast experience and expertise and also considerable insight into the problems should be entrusted with the task of intensifying the joint endeavours of the two countries

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for finding a mutually acceptable long term solution.

Before I conclude, Your Excellency, I would like to assure you of our full cooperation in completing the task of review entrusted to us in a spirit of understanding and friendship. I again thank you for your warm welcome to me and my delegation and the hospitalities extended to us.

NGLADESH INDIA LATVIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC NEPAL

Date : Jan 07, 1981

Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's Message on 20th Anniversary of Belgrade Conference

Following is the text of the Prime Minister. Smt. Indira Gandhi's message on the 20th Anniversary of Belgrade conference:

The non-aligned community consists mostly of countries which liberated themselves from colonialism and foreign domination. They stand for equality, the work for peace, and they believe in a world order based on co-operation.

Two notable international gatherings, the Asian Relations Conference, held in New Delhi in March 1947 at the initiatives of Jawaharlal Nehru and the Conference of Afro-Asian Nations in Bandung in 1955 proclaimed the determination of Asian and African countries to consolidate their independence and to pursue their own political, economic and social development.

At their first triennial conference in Belgrade in 1961 under the presidentship of President Tito, the non-aligned countries reiterated their resolve to stay clear of military alliances and rededicated themselves to the goals of world peace.

INCREASE IN MEMBERSHIP

The membership of the non-aligned movement has increased nearly four-fold. Since then, virtually every nation which attained independence during the past two decades has decided to follow the policy of non-alignment. This in itself is testimony to the validity and vitality of the policy of non-alignment.

Our movement has consistently worked for the eradication of colonialism, racism and imperialist domination. We have supported liberation struggles all over the world and await the final victory of African peoples against apartheid and the success of the struggle of the Palestinian people.

A SETBACK To DETENTE

Peaceful co-existence is one of the first articles of the credo of non-alignment. The elimination of nuclear weapons and of war is imperative if the people of the world can grow to their fullest stature. But the international situation is again deteriorating. Detente has had a setback in Europe, and there is open talk of resumption of a nuclear race. Big power presences have increased in various parts of the world. Armed conflicts have increased. These developments give special urgency to efforts to find peaceful resolution of tensions. Non-alignment thus assumes added relevance.

The growing disparity between rich and poor countries is another major source of conflict. The non-aligned movement has always encouraged greater economic co-operation. In this field too there is much work to do.

It is India's privilege to host a meeting of the Foreign Ministers of Non-Aligned Countries in New Delhi next month. I hope that every country will exert itself to the utmost to strengthen the unity and purpose of the non-aligned community. At this moment we should recall and be inspired by the wisdom and vision of the great pioneer of our movement.

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GOSLAVIA INDIA INDONESIA USA

Date : Jan 07, 1981

Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

President N.Sanjiva Reddy's Republic Day Message

Following is the text of the President, Shri N. Sanjiva Reddy's broadcast to the Nation on the eve of the Republic Day 1981:

Tomorrow is the thirty-second Republic Day. I take this opportunity to greet our countrymen at home and abroad and convey my best wishes for the future.

The Republic Day is a joyous occasion in the history of our nation. It gives us an opportunity to count the blessings of our freedom, to look back at our achievements with satisfaction and ponder over our shortcomings, so that we can face the future with greater confidence.

We are a relatively young Republic, although we represent one of the ancient civilisations of the world. Since our independence, democracy has taken deep roots in our soil and the electorate has become increasingly assertive over issues of public welfare. A better awareness on the part of the people of their rights and obligations in a free society is perhaps the best guarantee for successful functioning of our democratic system. But we have to put greater content into our freedom to make it more meaningful for the majority of our people living below the poverty line. The real challenge today for any developing society like ours is how to combine economic growth with social justice. We have to shape our future in such a way that all sections of our people can reap the fruits of our progress in an atmosphere of freedom.

IMPRESSIVE PROGRESS

The planning process has come to stay as an integral part of our socio-economic philosophy. The country has made impressive progress in the field of agriculture and the nation owes a deep gratitude to its farmers for bringing about the green revolution. In the industrial sphere too, sound foundations have been laid for sustained growth and increased self-reliance. However, the country has still to overcome many hurdles before it can reach self-sufficiency in all vital spheres, learning through trial and error, as we move towards new horizons.

I am happy to note that the general economic situation has begun to show some positive signs of improvement after a period of stagnation. Production in core sectors like coal and power is taking an upward curve. As a result of some timely steps taken by the Government, the availability of essential supplies has

somewhat improved and the price situation also is showing some signs of stability. But a lot more needs to be done for increasing production, ensuring better distribution and containing inflation.

TOWARDS ORDERLY DEVELOPMENT

The country is passing through a difficult decade and it has to keep pace with the velocity of change the world over to be able to cope with the mounting challenges of orderly development. The task of combining economic growth with social justice cannot be tackled by the Government without the unstinted cooperation of all sections of the people. I, therefore, appeal to all political parties including the ruling parties to rise above controversy and treat the problems of public welfare as a national responsibility that concerns all of them. The living standards of the people, whether in towns or villages, cannot be improved without increased agricultural and industrial production. In the present inflationary situation it is the duty of every political party and every citizen to cooperate in discouraging strikes and agitations to keep up production in all vital spheres. It is the poor that are hit the hardest by economic disruption, since shortages inevitably lead to high prices 'causing widespread privation.

It is sad to see even employees with four-figure incomes resorting to strikes to hold the country to ransom and compel the Government to concede their demands with threats of further dislocation. The political parties must not encourage industrial unrest and impede production at a time when the country is faced with many difficult problems. They must make this positive contribution to the economic recovery of the country by pledging their full cooperation. The organised labour too must play its part,

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with people in the higher income groups eschewing strikes as a first step towards better industrial relations.

FAITH IN FUTURE

As a developing society trying to catch up with the missed opportunities of the past, India has been going through what one might call a churning process out of which the country is bound to emerge stronger with greater faith in its future. We have yet to learn the hard way that reconciliation is more constructive than recrimination. The country has the capacity to opt for creative alternatives to some of these legacies of the past.

The eighties have begun with greater ferment and renewed tensions in our region, which pose a threat to our ability to develop in conditions of continued stability and peace. The Government has been repeatedly cautioning the people against these dangers and

doing its best to restore normalcy in the region.

As I speak to you tonight, my thoughts go to the valiant jawans guarding our frontiers. But the common people have an equally important role to play in preserving the country's internal security without which it is impossible to ensure its external defence. The maintenance of law and order is as important as increased productivity for the welfare of the people. As we enter another year of our Republic's life, let us all rededicate ourselves to the tasks of self-discipline to strive for greater unity, tolerance and compassion in tackling our problems.

A INDIA

Date : Jan 07, 1981

Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

India's Initiatives in Foreign Policy: A Review by Minister of External Affairs P. V. Narasimha Rao

The Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao has in the following article reviewed the Indian initiatives in the foreign policy during the three decades of Indian Republic:

An international outlook was part of India's struggle for independence. Jawaharlal Nehru, our first Prime Minister, retained the Foreign Ministry under his supervision throughout his tenure. It was an essential part of his thinking, developed during the years of struggle for independence, during travels abroad, discussions with foreign leaders, and during long periods of contemplation about India's place in the world, that the future of India would be conditioned by and would in turn condition world affairs. Clearly India was too large not to play an important role. Equally the speed of communications brought developments in all parts of the world closer to home.

INDIA'S INITIATIVES

The long and difficult struggle against colonial rule led to a natural and strong desire to see every colony anywhere in the world liberated and this expressed itself in some of the earliest initiatives taken by India in foreign policy.

Soon after independence India extended its friendship and support to the people of Indonesia in their struggle to free themselves

from colonial rule. It was at its initiative that an 18-member conference was held in New Delhi in January 1949. The Conference called upon the United Nations to take steps towards the independence of Indonesia and the adoption of a resolution by that organisation helped towards the emergence of Indonesia as an independent State.

PROCESS OF DECOLONIZATION

Elsewhere in Asia, India, under the leadership and guidance of Jawaharlal Nehru, took an equally keen interest in speeding up the process of de-colonisation. India extended full support to the desire of the peoples of Indo-China to free themselves of French rule and was closely associated with the Geneva Conference and the follow-up action thereafter. As Chairman of the International Commissions for Supervision and Control established to oversee the Geneva accords, India's prime concern was to ensure peaceful and orderly transition to genuine independence for those countries.

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In 1956 when the Suez crisis endangered international peace and security following the Anglo-French-Israeli attack on Egypt, India took the initiative in strongly condemning such action. It played a constructive role towards defusing of tension and its proposals were incorporated in the plans submitted by the Foreign Ministers of Britain, France and Egypt for peaceful negotiations and settlement. Its positive support to Egypt, both within and outside the United Nations, contributed towards the final settlement resulting in the withdrawal of foreign troops from Egyptian territory and recognition of Egypt's sovereignty over the Suez Canal.

TOWARDS NON-ALIGNMENT

When India became independent the cold war had frozen into inflexibility the attitudes of the major powers. In this international environment charged with tension, India adopted a policy of non-alignment to promote peace and thus to enable it to devote its attention to the country's progress and development. This also aimed at taking independent decisions on international problems without being tied to any country or group of countries.

When the Korean crisis broke out in 1950, India demonstrated its independent policy by not taking sides. Its moderating and impartial approach received recognition when it was chosen Chairman of the United Nations Repatriation Commission which did commendable work.

PANCH SHEEL

India's decision to establish good neighbourly relations was reflected in the agreement signed with China in 1954 which

enunciated the five principles of peaceful co-existence as the basis for developing relations between States. These principles provided for peaceful co-existence, mutual respect for each other's territorial integrity and sovereignty, non-aggression, non-interference in each other's internal Affairs and recognition of equality and mutual benefit. These found support from most of the African and Asian countries and were affirmed at the Bandung Conference of countries of Asia and Africa held in April 1955.

FIRST NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE

The wider acceptance of India's policy of non-alignment led to the holding of the first Non-aligned Conference at Belgrade in 1961 in which 25 countries took part. The Conference indicated the utility of joint consultations and exchange of views by the nonaligned countries from time to time and since then the holding of such conferences has become a regular feature. More and more countries have joined the non-aligned movement. The membership of the movement now comprises 94 countries as compared to 25 in 1961.. While the enlargement of the membership has resulted in differences on some international issues, by and large, all members recognise the continuous validity of the movement and the need for greater unity among the non-aligned nations to meet the political and economic challenges posed by new forces that have complicated the international situation in a multi-polar world and increased the danger of confrontation among the great powers.

EFFORTS FOR DISARMAMENT

Side by side, in its efforts to promote peace, India has, both within and outside the United Nations, laid great stress on the need' for arms control and disarmament. Prime Minister Nehru in 1954 suggested a standstill agreement for the cessation of tests of all nuclear weapons pending an agreement on the prohibition and elimination of such weapons. In November 1957 he appealed to the United Nations and the Soviet Union to stop nuclear tests and take steps to bring about effective disarmament. In 1959 India inscribed an item on the agenda of the United Nations General Assembly for the cessation of nuclear and thermonuclear tests. At the Belgrade Conference in 1961 Prime Minister Nehru laid stress on the need for negotiations between the Soviet Union and the United States as a step towards promoting peace and finally bringing about universal disarmament. The Conference drafted an appeal requesting both these countries to settle their differences through negotiations. When the partial nuclear test ban treaty was signed by the Soviet Union, the United States and Britain in July 1963, India was one of the first countries to sign the treaty the same year. The

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Secretary-General of the United Nations said that India and the other non-aligned States exercised a catalytic influence in helping to bring about this agreement.

SUPPORT TO U.N. ACTIVITIES

In the wider interest of international peace, India lent full support to the activities of the United Nations in various fields to defuse tension in different parts of the world. Thus, following the Suez crisis, India contributed the largest contingent for the United Nations Emergency Force stationed in West Asia. Later, following the crisis in Congo in 1960, India supported efforts of the United Nations to prevent the disintegration of the newly independent State and it had the largest contingent in the United Nations force sent to Congo to prevent a civil war and preserve the territorial integrity of that newly independent State.

TREATIES OF FRIENDSHIP

Nearer home, India regretted that China did not adhere to the principles of co-existence laid down in the 1954 agreement in regard to the conduct of bilateral relations and embarked upon aggression against India in 1962. While China continues to be in illegal occupation of large areas of Indian territory, India has taken the initiative to work for normalisation of relations with that country. After a period of 15 years, Ambassadors were exchanged in 1976. India believes that the outstanding differences with that country can be settled through bilateral negotiations.

The conclusion of a boundary agreement with Burma in 1967 and an agreement with Sri Lanka in June 1974 regarding the maritime boundary in the Palk Strait reflect India's policy of settling unresolved problems with neighbours through bilateral negotiations on the basis of mutual accommodation and understanding. The signing of a 25 year Treaty of Peace and Friendship with Bangladesh in March 1972 demonstrated India's desire to have friendly relations with that country and the agreement of 1974 regarding a land boundary marked a further step towards friendship and good neighbourliness. India is continuing its efforts to settle the question of the maritime boundary with Bangladesh and the distribution of the waters of the Ganga at Farina through bilateral negotiations.

INDO-PAK RELATIONS

As regards Pakistan, unfortunately, on three occasions that country used force in an effort to detach the State of Jammu and Kashmir from India. India had to take action in defence of its territorial integrity. However, the signing of the Simla Agreement in July 1972 demonstrated its peaceful intentions towards Pakistan. Most important of all the agreement provided for the settlement of all issues between India and Pakistan through bilateral negotiations and for a step by step normalisation of relations. India also agreed at Simla

unilaterally to withdraw its troops from the territories occupied by it during the 1971 war. In view of the changed situation in the region resulting from the developments in Afghanistan, India has maintained a dialogue with Pakistan in order to assure it that India is interested in friendship with that country and Pakistan need not have any fears from India as regards its security.

CLOSE RELATIONS WITH SUPER POWERS

While following the policy of non-alignment, India has not kept itself isolated. It has developed close ties with the super powers. It has found in the Soviet Union a strong Asian neighbour with understanding of and sympathy for India's policy and aspirations. The Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation signed between India and the Soviet Union in 1971 highlighted India's close ties with that country. India continued to develop relations with the Soviet Union based on all round cooperation. While the perceptions of India and the United States have varied on a number of international problems, India has continued to work for cooperation with that country in various fields. It is India's hope that the United States will honour its obligations regarding the supply of nuclear fuel for the Tarapur plant and that its relations with the United States will continue to develop on the basis of equality and mutual benefit.

In recent times, India has noted with great concern the setback to detente because of growing competition for extension of in-

fluence by the super powers in various parts of the world. Developments in Afghanistan and the war between Iran and Iraq posed a threat to peace and security around the Indian sub-continent. India took the initiative to de-escalate the tensions resulting from these events and to prevent these developments from leading to confrontation among the great powers. As regards Afghanistan, India held consultations with its neighbours, with leaders of non-aligned countries and with the United States and the Soviet Union. Such consultations contributed towards preventing any hasty action by the major powers and helped in creating greater understanding of the various issues involved. By laying emphasis on the non-use of force in international relations and non-interference in the internal affairs of other countries, India highlighted the need for finding a political solution to the problem through peaceful means and by negotiations between the countries concerned. As regards the Iran-Iraq conflict, India expressed its regret and concern at these two non-aligned countries fighting each other. It has worked in association with a number of other non-aligned countries to promote a solution through dialogue with these two countries in order to bring an end to the conflict.

In South-East Asia, the developments in Kampuchea have

highlighted the need for a reduction of tension and restoration of stability. India extended diplomatic recognition to the government in Kampuchea headed by President Heng Samrin in July 1980, thus accepting the reality of the political situation in that country. This policy in no way affected India's desire to maintain closer ties with the ASEAN countries. In fact, it is India's belief that the problems of the area can be settled by peaceful discussions between the countries concerned, without any interference from outside powers in the affairs of the region.

INDIAN OCEAN - A ZONE OF PEACE

India has noted that the developments in South-West Asia have led to a setback to the process of detente and has increased big power military presence in the Indian Ocean. Having a large coastline, India is naturally concerned about its security in the context of the developing situation in the Indian Ocean region. At the United Nations and elsewhere India has taken an active part in promoting the concept of the Indian Ocean being declared a zone of peace, free from big power competition and rivalry. It has supported the idea of the holding of a conference on the Indian Ocean in Colombo during 1981, in which the great powers, the littoral States and the major maritime users would take part. In this connection, it has been holding consultations with the littoral and other user countries.

A SETBACK To DETENTE

India is conscious that the current setback to the process of detente must be reversed as this can only act as a hurdle in the process of disarmament and come in the way of economic development and the promotion of a new international economic order through co-operation between the developed and the developing countries. India is continuing its efforts for unity and cohesion among the non-aligned countries so that they can unitedly promote not only self-reliance through mutual cooperation but also act as a force to defuse tension in different parts of the world and thus contribute towards the task of disarmament and development to the benefit of both developed and developing countries. Despite all the vicissitudes and differences among the nonaligned countries, a spirit of unity among them will enable them to, make an effective contribution towards promoting international peace and security.

DIA USA INDONESIA CHINA SWITZERLAND EGYPT ISRAEL FRANCE KOREA YUGOSLAVIA
CONGO MALI BURMA SRI LANKA BANGLADESH PAKISTAN AFGHANISTAN IRAN IRAQ

Date : Jan 07, 1981

Volume No

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's Inaugural Address at International Seminar on Islam's Contribution to Culture and Civilisation of The World With Special Reference to India

Following is the text of the Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi's Inaugural Address at the International Seminar on Islam's contribution to the culture and civilisation of the world, with special reference to India in New Delhi on Jan 28, 1981:

As you know this is a seminar on Islam's contribution to the culture and civilisation of the world, with special reference to India. As one entrusted with the responsibility of the government of a nation with the second largest Muslim population of the entire world, I welcome and greet you all, scholars of the great Islamic tradition, from various parts of the world.

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But to us more important than the size of the Muslim community is its vital contribution to Indian life through several centuries. Islamic elements have interacted with other elements of our land, influencing and being influenced in practically every branch of human activity - in philosophy and matters of the spirit, in statecraft and social organisation, in art, architecture, music and literature, in mathematics, medicine and crafts and technologies, indeed, in the food we eat, the dress we wear, the very words we speak.

At several points of time in the last 1400 years since the rise of Islam Delhi has attracted some of the greatest seers and scholars of the Islamic world. Even today, Delhi and other cities give visual and aural evidence of this long connection.

INDIA'S COMPOSITE CULTURE

Our great pride is that Indian culture is a composite one, born of many strands and colours, and that in the process of assimilating or influencing, it has been India's special genius to allow each component to retain its distinctive flavour and character. The metaphor used by some writers is that India is not a melting pot but a mosaic.

There have been Muslim kingdoms and conquerors in India. But Islam came as a religion and as a culture to India several centuries before it came as a political force. For several centuries, if not millennia, before the advent of the Holy Prophet there were links of culture and commerce between the people of India and the people of West Asia. So when Islam

transformed the life and intellectual horizons of the people of Arabia it did not take long for the influence to be felt in India.

ACHIEVEMENTS OF ISLAM

A great European who became an Indian - Mrs. Annie Besant, recalled the marvels and miracles achieved by Islam in its first decades:

"From the eighth century till the fourteenth in the hand of the children of Islam is gripped the torch, of science. Whenever they go they carry learning with them; they conquer, but where they conquer they found schools, universities. The universities of Cairo, of Baghdad, of Cordova grew up under the shadow of the Prophet. Christian Europe crowds to Andalusia to learn from the Musalman teacher the elements of forgotten science; they bring astronomy; they translate the Siddhants of India and other books. They invent, what do they not invent? They take up mathematics from the Hindu and the Greek, they discover equations of the second degree, then the quadratic -they discover and invent spherical trigonometry; they study the stars; they measure the size of the earth within a degree or two. They make a new architecture, they discover a new music, they teach scientific agriculture, they bring manufactures to the highest pitch of excellence. But is that all? No. In philosophy they are still greater. They dive into the very being of the Supreme".

The quotation is long but I have quoted it because it captures the excitement and achievement of Islamic civilisation as few other brief accounts have done.

RELEVANCE OF ISLAM TODAY

It is for scholars like you to delve into the more abstruse points of Islamic philosophy. I shall content myself by paying tribute to the extraordinary illumination, compassion and ever-renewing relevance of the Holy Prophet's teaching. He said: "Unto every one of you", we have given a law and an open path; and if God had pleased, He had surely made you one people. But He hath thought fit to give you different laws, that He might try you in that which He hath given you respectively. Therefore strive to excel each other in good works; unto God shall ye all return, and then will He declare unto you that concerning which ye have disagreed."

Can there be a greater statement of the concept of tolerance, the one virtue
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which we need above all to save man and the world at this critical stage of history?

In his surpassing humility the Holy Prophet described himself as unlettered. Yet who could be wiser than the person who declared: "Knowledge enables its possessor to distinguish what is forbidden from what is not; it lights the way to heaven; it is our friend in the desert, our society' in solitude, our companion when bereft of friends - an armour against enemies".

Through this emphasis on knowledge, on striving, on compassion and on duty, Islam became a great catalyst of worldwide change, building a democratic fraternity, bring about equality between women and men, and inspiring numerous tribes and sects with the vision of common human destiny.

INDIA'S LINKS

India's links with the trades and seafarers of the Arab world enabled Islam to come here soon after its rise in Arabia. Al-Ishatakhri, an Arab writer of the tenth century, wrote about Musalmans and masjids in the cities of the Rashtrakuta empire. The Ravuttans and Labbe community of Muslims in Tamil Nadu are among the continuing proof of the early arrival of Islam in India. The tomb of Nathed Vali at Tiruchirapalli bears the date 417 A.H. The remains of the saint Hazrat Aliyar Shah Sahib were buried near Madurai even earlier. The fame of Khwaja Muinuddin Chishti, who is laid to rest in Ajmer, is too widespread to need recounting. All this shows that the cultural contact of Islam had commenced much before Muslim rulers came to conquer and build kingdoms in this country.

SUFISM AND BHAKTI MOVEMENTS

The contact of Islamic and earlier Indian thought gave fillip to two important movements within Islam and Hinduism -namely Sufism and the Bhakti School. Somewhere in the course of the tentative mutual probings of these two great cultures, the scriptural texts indicating the attributes of God came to be studied with attention. In the words of the Quran, one of the main attributes of God is: 'Loftiest in the heavens and the earth', and the Sufis strove to conceive this through their own experience. The Southern Vaishnavas liken God to an 'ocean of all nectar-like attributes'. Again, the attributes of God are many, says the Quran, in the Indian epic the Mahabharata, the Kuru patriarch Bhishma teaches the thousand known names of God. According to some of the commentators of the Quran, the world itself is but a tajalli, or manifestation of His attributes, and the creation of the world a form of emanation. "Behold the Opus of the Lord!" exclaims the Atharva Veda.

Sufism leaned heavily on the Quranic concept of tawakkul, trust in God, which had its Indian equivalent in prapatti. The stream of Ramanuja's bhakti commingling with Sufism, reached its fulfilment in Kabir who praised Rama-Rahim and Krishna-Karim and in the faith propounded by Guru Nanak.

RELIGIOUS SYNTHESIS

From this kind of interaction of Sufism with Bhakti emerged several eclectic, egalitarian and reformist orders which gave deep emotional solace to the larger population. As my father, Jawaharlal Nehru wrote in his *Discovery of India*, "Hinduism as a whole felt the impact of the new ideas. Muslim mysticism and Sufism, which probably had had its beginnings in neo-Platonism, grew ... The idea of the brotherhood of Islam and of the theoretical equality of its adherents made a powerful appeal... From this ideological impact grew up various movements aiming at a religious synthesis. Each person could take his choice of these or of more popular and simpler forms of worship. He could be a Vaishnavite and believe in a personal God and pour out his faith to him. Or more philosophically inclined, he could wander in the tenuous realms of metaphysics and high philosophy."

The Hindu-Muslim exchange created famous landmarks in literature, philosophy, architecture, language, music and art. In his work *Nur Sipahr*, Amir Khusrau makes special mention of Indians as 'the creators of the Pancha-tantra', the immortal storybook of worldly wisdom which was translated into Persian, Turkish, Arabic and Dari. This became famous as the Arabic *Kalilah Damnah*. Professor Mujeeb points out that the translation of the Upanishads, made by

prince Dara Shikoh, was due not merely to literary curiosity, but to a passionate search for truth, and he must have felt that in the Upanishads, the goal, 'the confluence of the two oceans' had been reached. The famous Hari Mandir of the Sikhs in Amritsar, the Govinda Deva temple in Brindavan, and the Tirumalai Nayak Mahal in Madurai all reveal influences of Muslim architecture. The age-old plastic idiom of the art of Ajanta yielded to the new laws of symmetry, proportion and spacing from Samarqand and Herat. Muslim builders, in turn, absorbed many an insight from Hindu and Buddhist building skills.

SECULARISM

We have always recognised Islam as one of our own religions and Islam will continue to grow and flourish in India. Our mosaic allows each piece to retain its shape and colour while forming part of a grand design. Muslims in India are full and equal partners in national life - its politics, its production processes its commerce, its defence, its education, its art and literature, its self-expression. Every opportunity that is open to any Indian is open to an Indian Muslim. We make no discrimination against the adherent of any religion. All faiths are entitled to equal protection and equal respect. This we have named "Secularism", which entitles each Indian to pursue his own belief and learn more about his own creed. But it also requires him to extend the same right to persons of other religions.

Numerous research and teaching institutions of India will continue to provide the fullest opportunities for the study of Islamic thought and cultural heritage. The political rebirth of so many Islamic nations, and the new relations we have established with them provide fresh impetus to Islamic studies in India.

As Islam enters the fifteenth century of its history, I give my greetings and good wishes to every Muslim in India and everywhere else in the wide world. I have pleasure now in inaugurating this Seminar and I give my good wishes, to its deliberations and also to all the other programmes connected with these celebrations.

DIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC EGYPT IRAQ RUSSIA

Date : Jan 28, 1981

Volume No

1995

ITALY

Indo-Italian Agreement on Avoidance of Double Taxation

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Jan 15, 1981:

An Indo-Italian agreement for avoidance of double taxation and the prevention of fiscal evasion with respect to taxes on income has been signed in Rome. It was signed by the Indian Ambassador, Shri J. C. Ajmani, on behalf of India and by Mr. Maurizio Bucci, Director General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs on behalf of Italy on Monday, January 12, 1981 in Rome.

The agreement provides for a further incentive for growth of trade and industrial cooperation between Italy and India. In 1980, the trade between the two countries is expected to be well over Rs. 4000 million. About 191 industrial collaboration agreements have been concluded by June 1980.
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ALY INDIA USA

Date : Jan 15, 1981

Volume No

1995

JAPAN

Japanese Grant Aid to India

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Jan 13, 1981:

India and Japan exchanged here Notes concerning the extension of Japanese Grant Aid to India of an amount of twenty-nine million Yen (equivalent to Rs. 1.13 million at the current exchange rate) for promotion of Japanese language education in India.

The Notes were exchanged yesterday between Shri R. N. Malhotra, Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs and His Excellency, Mr. Masao Kanazawa, Ambassador of Japan to India on behalf of their respective Governments.

The Grant Aid will be utilized for the supply of equipment for language laboratory system to University of Delhi and Jawaharlal Nehru University.

PAN INDIA

Date : Jan 13, 1981

Volume No

1995

MEXICO

President N. Sanjiva Reddy's Speech at Banquet in Honour of Mexican President

Following is the text of the President, Shri N. Sanjiva Reddy's speech at the banquet in honour of Mr. Jose Lopez Portillo, President of the Republic of Mexico in New Delhi on Jan 25, 1981 :

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you and your family along with the distinguished members of your delegation to India.

The glories of the ancient civilisations of India and Mexico are

too well known to need recounting. It is also interesting to note that the relationship between Asia and your country goes back many centuries. Jawaharlal Nehru in his "Glimpses of World History" has mentioned the possible existence of a land communication between Asia and America even as long as the Stone Age. The painting in your impressive museum of Anthropology depicts the first settlers of the American continents coming across the Bering States from Asia. Scholars have written at great length of the similarity not only in their religious rituals and symbols sacred to ancient India and ancient Mexico but even pointed to the similarity in matters of daily life such as food and dress. The Mexican National Emblem where the eagle is seen killing the serpent reminds us of a legend in the Puranas. We in India greatly admire the architectural marvels of the Mayan and Aztec civilizations as also their astrological and architectural brilliance as exemplified in their calendars.

One has to circle half the globe to reach from Mexico to India. But this distance has not diminished the warmth and cordiality of our relations. It is fitting that I should repeat the words that Jawaharlal Nehru uttered two decades ago in Mexico City when he said 'even if between our countries there exists geographical distance, in the geography of the minds we are very close to one another.'

COMMON VISION OF WORLD

When on the 15th of September 1810 the people of Mexico began their march towards national independence, our land was

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gradually being brought under the control of a foreign empire. The Mexican revolution and the struggle of the Mexican people for social and economic justice served to awaken the spirit of national independence in the consciousness of the Indian people'. Your leaders like father Hidalgo and Benito Juarez have inspired us in our struggle for independence. The common nature of our history and the achievement of independence from colonialism has served to generate mutual admiration and respect which has grown over the years. Our Vision of the future world has also much in common and our cooperation in the international field has been close and fruitful.

GREAT-POWER RIVALRY

Mr. President, the world today is beset with many conflicts and tensions. Recent, events in your neighbourhood and ours cause us growing concern that the peace and stability which we value so high is being undermined. Areas of tensions and conflict not only continue to emerge but are often intensified by great power influence and rivalries. The arms race continues unabated, despite hunger, want and disease afflicting a large proportion of mankind. In these circumstances, there is an ever-greater

responsibility cast upon the nations to seek a constructive and peaceful resolution of the problems confronting us. We in India are deeply appreciative that Mexico has pursued such efforts with true independence of judgment. We cannot but hope that such efforts will bring reason to the policies and the leaders of the great powers who have so great role to play.

CRISIS IN WORLD ECONOMY

The world economy based on outdated principles faces a crisis of confidence. In this age, of global inter-dependence no country can remain and prosper in isolation. The world cannot be a happy place, where people in a few countries live in opulence while in the vast majority of other countries, in indigence. In this context, the mutual interdependence between the developed and developing countries cannot be over-emphasized. The developed countries have to display the political will to assist the developing countries in order to usher in a new international economic order. At the same time, the developing countries have also to cooperate among themselves in all fields of endeavour. Mexico has always played an important role in promoting the concept of economic cooperation between developing countries.

Energy has become a central question not only of development but also of survival of many developing countries. Your proposal before the August Assembly of the United Nations regarding the rationalisation of production and consumption of energy in the industrialised and developing world has won admiration for your sagacity and wisdom. In concrete terms, the arrangements made by Mexico to supply oil to the developing countries of Central America and Caribbean give an indication of how enlightened measures can relieve the extremely difficult position of these countries. We are gratified that it has been possible for Mexico and India to cooperate in the field of energy and it is our hope that this Cooperation can expand to our mutual benefit.

VAST SCOPE FOR COOPERATION

Mr. President, both our countries are now engaged in massive endeavours to modernise our industry and agriculture. Even as we make some improvement and gain some experience, we believe that this can be shared with our partners in the developing world. The linkages between Asia and Latin America may not as yet have developed because of various constraints. I am, however, confident that the scope for our cooperation and especially between our two countries is vast. It shall be our effort to enhance this cooperation in all the fields that can be utilised to our mutual benefit.,

Between our countries and peoples it is not only the material relationship that is of importance but it is also the meeting of minds, of intellect and of the spirit. There has been a quickening of cooperation in the areas of culture, academics and

science. It is clear to us that this is a plant which must be nurtured to become a mighty tree which will shower its fruits on both of us. Mr. President, you yourself have a personal interest in the cross fertilisation of cultures and civilizations. I am sure, therefore, that with your benign support this will go forward at an enhanced pace.

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Mr. President, you have shown great sagacity and compassion in your attitude to problems not only of your own nation but those facing the world and regarding human rights in particular. You have been the champion of a more just international economic order and have forcefully pleaded that we should not leave for tomorrow what needs to be done today. It is a great privilege to have you as our honoured guest in India.

I am sorry that your visit to our country is so brief. I wish you could have stayed for a longer time, go around the country and see not only our ancient heritage but also the progress made by us since Independence in all spheres of life. I am, however, thankful to you for coming from such a distance to honour us by being the Chief Guest at our Republic Day celebrations tomorrow.

XICO INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Jan 25, 1981

Volume No

1995

MEXICO

Text of Mexican President's Speech

Replying to the toast, President Lopez Portillo said:

Your Excellency, Mr. Neelam Sanjiva Reddy, President of the Republic of India, Your Excellency Madame Indira Gandhi, Prime Minister of India, Ladies and Gentlemen, I want to thank you and the entire people of India for the cordial reception you have given me and particularly for having shown me the reality of a nation that has brought its own merits to the development of the world civilisation to which we all belong.

India has always offered travellers a vast horizon of confirmations and of surprises. Here, one discovers places and persons that had been envisioned. What is unexpected, however, is the feeling of a physical presence of time, like an aura

surrounding objects and in the eyes of the people.

History has here imbued the landscape with an unknown depth. Rivers, cities and monuments, by their presence raise the veil on their past. Vision must continually seek the support of intuition or memory.

This immense terrain that monsoons sweep into sudden and violent metamorphoses is beyond any attempt at simplification. Nature itself is varied and changing. Seasons do not follow each other slowly, but burst upon the scene, dominating all with the pitiless force of a conqueror.

But the main actors on this stage are not the blinding light of the deserts, nor the fury of the wind, nor the legendary rivers that flow eternally toward the sea. The true actor is man and his works: man, and the long journey he has made through, time to produce this refined and lasting culture.

EVOLUTION OF INDIAN CULTURE

From the space where rise the cities of Delhi and New Delhi - on the threshold between the Himalayas and the plain that is watered by the Indus and the Ganges - it is not difficult to evoke the history of encounters and confrontations that laid the original foundations of Indian culture. First, nameless tribes with unknown faces settled on this land - tribes that vanished together with their gods.

Later, came groups of men with identities more easily defined. some, who were suited only to war and pillage; others who knew the secrets of the heavens and of agriculture. Their blood and destinies were mingled and slowly there evolved the profile of a new civilization.

Aryans brought their language and the Dravidians, abstract thought. Sanskrit, which was used for the composition of Vedic hymns three thousand years before the Christian era, was brought to an extraordinary degree of perfection, becoming the first of our great classic languages.

A culture of great richness and complexity developed around Sanskrit, extending toward the four points of the compass and influencing the main cultures of both Orient and Occident. India's past is part of our own.

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India has preserved the essential features of its national identity throughout every kind of misfortune and historic catastrophe. Its territory has been invaded, its crops burned, its cities destroyed. It has survived long periods of anarchy and foreign domination.

This experience has made it possible to attain, in only three decades of independence, a significant place in the international community. Outstanding for its spiritual and artistic values, it has also proved its excellent powers in the exercise of politics and economy.

INDIAN CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS PEACE

During the brief period between 1950 and the present, India has achieved exceptional economic and social development. It has produced statesmen who have helped to advance the doctrine of active neutralism and the movement of the non-aligned countries, both of which have served so admirably to further decolonization and a reduction in international tension.

Modern India has found two exceptional spirits in Gandhi and Nehru, who have guided the country toward independence and fixed its course as a sovereign state. The pacifism of Gandhi nourished the neutralism of Nehru and strengthened India's absolute refusal to join either of the opposing forces during the Cold War.

The Bandung Conference opened a historic cycle: the organised movement of former colonial peoples toward international life. Despite the fact that this movement has not ceased to grow, it has regrettably proved insufficient to change the world on behalf of its interests.

The efforts made to complete the process of decolonization were not in vain, but actually exceeded some of the most optimistic expectations in several ways. One country after another succeeded in breaking the bonds that tied them to the old powers in assuming the status of independent states.

Today, however, it seems more difficult to achieve peace than it did then, and today the possibility of a war becoming generalized is more alarming than it was at that time. The world situation has become extraordinarily complex, and the inter-relationship among different phenomena makes it virtually impossible to conceive of conflicts and solutions in isolation.

ARMS RACE

During the past quarter century the arms race has accelerated in an unprecedented way - because of the quantity and degree of sophistication of the weapons in use. of those held in reserve, in production and in the experimental stage.

The enormous cost of the arms race is consuming resources that are essential for subsistence and development. Wasteful expenditure on weapons creates new tensions or exacerbates those existing, thus closing the vicious circle that begins with the extreme of inequality and poverty or the stockpiling of arms and the waging of war.

In any event, it is necessary that all peace-loving and law-abiding peoples redouble their efforts to reduce international tensions and resist pressures that seek to involve us in a new cold war.

It is also necessary to increase and articulate actions that tend to replace a hegemonic international economy with a democratic economy. Only in this way will we be able to build a system of international exchanges designed to work in a time of peace.

ECONOMIC COOPERATION

In order to achieve these objectives we must have recourse to political solidarity and economic cooperation between countries which, like India and Mexico, confront reality in a similar manner - countries without imperialistic ambitions or pretensions of domination, which vigorously defend their sovereignty and insist on their right to independent development.

My government believes that limited wars, border skirmishes and even the display of military power threaten - to different degrees - the equilibrium and peace of the world. We are uneasily watching the War that has broken out in the Persian Gulf; we hope that the contenders will soon be able to settle their differences,

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and we condemn any action on the part of third countries that might complicate the conflict.

WEST ASIA

The Middle East crisis is a chronic focal point of disturbance that contains the potential for triggering a new war. A definite solution of the problem cannot be found so long as the Palestinian people are unable to exercise their rights as a nation.

Mexico does not recognise buffer zones or spheres of influence that extend beyond national frontiers. It therefore disapproves of the concentration of naval and military forces in the Indian Ocean, which in 1971 was expressly declared a zone of peace.

We are gravely disturbed by the provocative statements and war preparations that are being made by foreign Governments and groups interested in what is occurring in EL Salvador. Again I must repeat that Mexico severely condemns any attempt to interfere in affairs that are, of the exclusive competence of the Salvadorian people.

Contemporary international society depends on the sovereignty of each member nation. It is based on the essential principles of

self-determination and non-intervention. Failure to observe these principles undermines the basis and the reason for being of international law.

IDENTITY OF VIEWS

Mr. President, India and Mexico have natural points of coincidence. Both seek the roots of their identity and of their historical legitimacy in the civilizations that first flourished in their territories. Both of our nations know, however, that their present culture is the product of remote or recent intermingling of peoples and cultures.

Since the Second World War and due to their geographical size, natural resources and economic development, our two nations have begun to play an increasingly active role in international affairs. The influence of each is beginning to be a responsibility with regard to the problems of our time.

We are quite willing to accept these responsibilities and we believe that one way to do this is to seek multilateral and bilateral agreements with all countries, but particularly with those that share our political philosophy. I am certain that India and Mexico are among these countries and that the Increase in their exchanges will serve to better the social conditions of their peoples and strengthen the cause of world peace. -

I raise my glass in a toast to the proposition that the hospitality being offered me today may mark the beginning of a closer relationship between our countries, to the prosperity of the people of the Republic of India and to the personal well being of its President and Prime Minister.

XICO INDIA USA INDONESIA EL SALVADOR

Date : Jan 25, 1981

Volume No

1995

MEXICO

Programmes of Cooperation Between India and Mexico

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Jan 29, 1981:

Two Programmes of Cooperation, one in Science and Technology and

the other in Food Technology and Agricultural Research between India and Mexico were signed here today.

Mr. Maheshwar Dayal, Adviser, Department of Science and Technology and Mr. Alfredo Ramirez Araiza, Director, National Council of Science and Technology, Mexico signed the Programme of Cooperation on Science and Technology.

Dr.O.P.Gautam, Director General, Indian Council of Agricultural Research and H.E. Mr. Cassio Luiselli Fernandez, Director General, Mexican Food System and Coordinator General, Mexican Agricultural Programme signed the Programme of Cooperation on Food Technology and Agricultural Research.

The areas covered under Science and Technology Programme include forestry, machine tool technology, information science, renewable sources of energy, utilisation of baggase for the manufacture of <pg-26>

newsprint, steel mining and water resources management. The Programme also covers petroleum technology, cultivation of petrocrops like Jojoba, and transfer of technology including setting up of pilot plants by India in Mexico.

The areas covered under Programme of Cooperation in Food Technology and Agricultural Research include food processing, post-harvest grain management and conservation technology, microbiology and sanitation. It also covers fermentation technology, fruit and vegetable technology, infant food, food enrichment, food packaging and storage technology, basic proteins and enzymes research.

XICO INDIA

Date : Jan 29, 1981

Volume No

1995

MEXICO

Indo-Mexican Joint Communique

Following is the text of the Indo-Mexican Joint Communique issued in New Delhi on Jan 29, 1981:

At the invitation of the President of India, His Excellency Shri Neelam Sanjiva Reddy, the President of Mexico, His Excellency Mr.

Jose Lopez Portillo, paid a State visit to India from January 25 to 30 ' 1981 during which he was the guest of honour at the Republic Day celebrations. The President was accompanied by Senator Lie Joaquin Gamboa Pascoe, President of the Permanent Commission of the Honourable Congress of the Union; Lie Deputy Luis M. Farias, President of the Great Commission of the Honourable Chamber of Deputies; Lie Agustin Tellez Cruces, President of the Supreme Court of Justice; Lie Jorge Castaneda, Secretary of External Relations; Lie Jose Ramon Lopez Fortillo Y Romano, Under Secretary for Evaluation, Secretariat of Programming and Budget.

The warm and cordial welcome extended to the President of Mexico and his delegation by the Government and people of India reflected the close ties of friendship that have existed between the two countries and the mutual esteem and affection between the two peoples.

During his stay in New Delhi, the Mexican President held talks with the President, Shri Neelam Sanjiva Reddy and the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi. The Vice President of India called on the President of Mexico.

The President of Mexico witnessed the Republic Day Parade and Beating Retreat Ceremony as the Guest of Honour at the celebrations of the 31st Anniversary of the Republic Day of India.

The President of Mexico received an Honorary Degree of Doctor of Philosophy from the University of Delhi and visited the Bhaba Atomic Research Centre, Mazagaon Docks, the Indian Agricultural Research Institute and places of cultural and artistic interest at Delhi, Bombay, Agra and Aurangabad.

The President of Mexico and the Prime Minister of India discussed the present international situation and exchanged views on bilateral relations. Both leaders agreed that the similarity existing in the levels of economic development of Mexico and India places these two countries in a very favourable position in order to play a new and healthy moderating role in the context of the contemporary turbulent international relations.

They expressed their grave concern at the deterioration in the world situation the breakdown of detente and the growing signs of the re-emergence of the cold war with the intensification of the global rivalry between the great powers. They called for urgent steps to remedy the situation and to resolve peacefully the existing disputes and differences between the great powers with a view to bringing about a de-escalation of the present tensions which constitute a grave threat to world peace and security,

Both leaders deplored foreign interventions directed towards altering by force one government for another as also instigating

any sections within another country to violence. They affirmed their categorical opposition to the instigation of violence from outside with a view to achieving influence or pre-dominance.
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Reviewing the situation in Latin America, the two leaders expressed their concern at the tensions existing in parts of the region in Central America and expressed the hope that the disturbed situation within certain countries would be solved by the peoples of the countries concerned and free from any outside interference.

Regarding West Asia, they reiterated that only an overall settlement of the conflict, with the participation of all affected parties would make possible a just and lasting peace. This settlement should imply the withdrawal of Israel from occupied territories as per relevant UN resolutions, the full recognition of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to a homeland and the right of all the countries of the region to live in peace within secure, recognised and guaranteed borders.

Both leaders re-affirmed that their respective countries while subscribing to the 1971 UN Declaration on the establishment of a Zone of Peace in the Indian Ocean, considered that its implementation would constitute a positive contribution to the elimination of the sources of tension in the area. They deplored the escalation of great power military presence in the Indian Ocean.

With regard to the situation in Afghanistan, they expressed their full support for the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and non-aligned status of that country. They urged the concerned parties to work together towards a political settlement which would ensure the Afghan people's right to determine their destiny free from outside interference and intervention.

The two leaders expressed their conviction that safeguarding security and stability in the Gulf is clearly the responsibility of the States in the area which must be exercised free from all foreign interference. At the same time, they urged that the parties concerned should use extreme caution so as not to provoke an increase in external influences and to seek peaceful solutions through negotiations.

They expressed their deep conviction that the Movement of Non-Aligned countries plays a significant role in the consolidation of international peace and security. In this context, President Lopez Portillo recalled that the Policy of Non-alignment, as conceived by Nehru and other visionary leaders, was designed to Protect the independence of countries from the Great Powers and their military alliances so as to maintain their freedom of judgement and action and to promote the concept of peaceful co-

existence in order to be free to dedicate themselves to their economic and social reconstruction. They welcomed the forthcoming meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the Non-aligned countries to be held in New Delhi and expressed the hope that the meeting would play a constructive role in reducing existing tensions.

The President of Mexico and the Prime Minister of India noted with deep concern the acute crisis facing the world economy. They emphasized the need to adopt urgent measures for facing growing protectionism, which makes it even more difficult for the manufactures of developing countries to have access to the markets of the advanced countries and retards the necessary international restructuring of industrial activities; and also dealing with the alarming recession in world economic activity and the presence of high rates of inflation. They underlined the urgent need to make structural changes in the present international economic system that may guarantee the effective application of the New International Economic Order. They also stressed the need for massive transfer of resources to developing countries, particularly those whose developmental needs and problems are greatest.

While welcoming with satisfaction the new international strategy for the third development decade of the United Nations adopted by the General Assembly, both leaders regretted that global negotiations on international economic cooperation for development could not be initiated as scheduled. They expressed the hope that the present efforts to achieve agreement would be successful and permit the commencement of negotiations whose satisfactory conclusion would contribute to the implementation of the international strategy for development and would make a significant contribution to the establishment of the New International Economic Order.

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India welcomed with satisfaction the initiative, equality sponsored by Austria and Mexico in which a group of developing and developed countries, including India, have joined, for holding an international meeting on cooperation and development, at the level of Heads of States and of Governments, which will contribute to a greater understanding of the interdependence between nations and the inter-relationship of the problems of international economy.

The two leaders felt that the proposed meeting will lead to the mobilization of the necessary political will to put the world economy in order and would lead to an advance in the path of justice, equality, mutual respect and peace.

The President of Mexico and the Prime Minister of India underlined the growing importance that the widening and strengthening of economic and technical cooperation between the developing countries have in the present international economic

situation. Conscious of the joint contribution of Mexico and India in this field, both leaders expressed their confidence that the high level Conference on Economic and Technical Cooperation between developing countries to be held this year will define concrete sections of cooperations in the fields of trade, technology, food, energy, raw materials, finance and industrialization.

Both leaders exchanged views on the present energy problem and agreed on the need for the international community to adopt a world energy plan to rationalise the production, distribution and consumption of energy resources and to place the highest priority on research and development of alternative renewable sources of energy. The Prime Minister expressed her appreciation of the programme of cooperation in the field of energy resources that Mexico and Venezuela have put into practice for Central America and the Caribbean, which constitutes a good example of how oil producing countries can collaborate with non producing developing countries. The two sides agreed on an enhanced programme for cooperation in energy between India and Mexico. In this context the recent agreement on supply of crude from Mexico to India was appreciated by the Prime Minister.

President Lopez Portillo and Prime Minister Gandhi examined the recent evolution of Indo-Mexican economic relations and the current and future prospects. Though progress has been made, several factors such as geographical distance and the lack of knowledge of existing opportunities have so far prevented the optimum utilisation of existing potentials.

They felt that the development of bilateral economic cooperation between Mexico and India is important not only for the mutual benefits that would accrue to the two countries, but would also serve as an example of fruitful cooperation between developing countries. The two leaders expressed the firm political will of their governments for widening, diversifying and strengthening bilateral economic cooperation in the fields of commercial exchanges; industrial and technical cooperation; agricultural development, production, distribution and technology of food products; long-range cooperation in energy; collaboration in science and technology as well as in financial relations.

They believe that in view of the interrelationship in the process of planning and development, it would be useful to take a comprehensive view of the areas of cooperation.

President Lopez Portillo and Prime Minister Gandhi agreed that these objectives should be formalised in an agreement on bilateral economic cooperation to be signed during the current year.

They noted with satisfaction that the negotiations between the authorities on both sides concerned with agriculture and allied

subjects have progressed satisfactorily and that it would be possible for an agreement to be signed within the next 30 days benefiting the Mexican food system as well as Indian agriculture.

They were pleased to note that in the field of culture and educational cooperation, the cultural agreement signed in 1975 is being implemented satisfactorily especially with the exchange of Professors, students and art exhibitions that contribute to better mutual knowledge and understanding.
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The President of Mexico manifested his most sincere gratitude for having been honoured as being the Chief Guest during India's 32nd Republic Day celebrations.

The President of Mexico expressed his deep appreciation at the warmth of his reception and the hospitality extended to him and his delegation during his visit to India.

The President of Mexico extended invitation to the President and the Prime Minister of India to visit Mexico. The invitations were accepted with pleasure and dates of their visits will be decided through diplomatic channels.

XICO INDIA USA OMAN ISRAEL AFGHANISTAN RUSSIA AUSTRIA VENEZUELA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC MALI

Date : Jan 29, 1981

Volume No

1995

MOROCCO

India-Morocco Cultural and Scientific Agreement

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New, Delhi on Jan 16, 1981:

A cultural and scientific cooperation agreement between India and Morocco was signed in Rabat earlier this week by the Minister of Education and Social Welfare, Shri S. B. Chavan, on behalf of the Government of India and Mr. Mohamed Boueetta, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, on behalf of the Government of the Kingdom of Morocco.

The agreement envisages the promotion and development of relations between the two countries in the fields of education,

culture, science, art, the Press, Radio, broad-casting, Television, cinematography, sports, tourism and craftsmanship. This is sought to be achieved through the exchange of visits of experts in the relevant fields, provision of facilities in industrial and professional institutions for higher studies, and exchange of Radio and Television programmes, films, books and traditional arts and crafts through exhibitions. The two Governments also agreed to offer scholarships in related fields of studies and refresher courses.

During the visit, Shri Chavan called on the Prime Minister and Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, Education and Training of Cadres and Cultural Affairs.

ROCCO INDIA USA

Date : Jan 16, 1981

Volume No

1995

NORWAY

Indo-Norwegian Agreement Signed

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New, Delhi on Jan 01, 1981:

A General Indo-Norwegian Agreement for promotion of socio-economic development between the two countries, was signed here today. The Agreement sets forth the terms and conditions in respect of development assistance to be provided by Norway to India for various development projects.

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Under the Agreement, which is in the nature of an umbrella protocol, Norway will provide financial, and technical assistance in the shape of consultants, ancillary equipment and training awards for Indians selected for training in Norway, as also commodity assistance.

The Agreement was signed by the visiting Norwegian Foreign Minister, Mr. K. Freydenlund for Norway, while the Finance Minister, Shri R. Venkataraman, signed on behalf of India. It will be valid till 31st December, 1985.

The Government of Norway has been giving valuable technical assistance in the shape of grants currently amounting to N.Kr.106

million (Rs. 17.59 crores) per annum for a variety of projects in the areas of fisheries, family welfare, technical education, science and technology as well as supply of commodities like fertilizers and paper.

RWAY INDIA USA

Date : Jan 01, 1981

Volume No

1995

POLAND

Five-Year Indo-Polish Trade and Payments Agreement Signed

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Jan 16, 1981:

A new Trade & Payments Agreement has been signed, here today, between India and Poland for a period of Five years from 1981 to 1985. The Agreement was signed by Shri Pranab Mukherjee, Union Minister for Commerce, Steel & Mines on behalf of India and by Dr. Ryszard, Karski, Polish Minister of Foreign Trade and Shipping, on behalf of the People's Republic of Poland.

The new Agreement comes into force immediately and shall remain valid upto December 31, 1985. This Agreement is substantially on the pattern of the existing Agreement which expired on December 31, 1980. Under the new Agreement the mode of payments for all COMMERCIAL and noncommercial transactions between the two countries continues to be in non-convertible Indian rupees. This arrangement has conferred considerable benefits on trade exchanges between the two countries.

Along with the Trade and Payments Agreement, a Trade Protocol for 1981 was also signed by Shri A. K. Mukherjee, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Commerce, and Mr. Jerzy Kapuseinski, Director, Polish Ministry of Foreign Trade ' and Shipping. The Trade Protocol envisages a trade turnover of about 2304 million rupees both ways, indicating an increase of about 16 per cent over the trade plan targets for 1980.

DIVERSIFICATION AND EXPANSION

In a speech delivered after signing the Agreement, the Commerce Minister pointed out that both sides would have to strive hard to ensure better implementation of targets set forth since the

implemenation of targets so far had not been very promising. He said that besides the exchange of commodities, the two sides would now have to explore other avenues for the expansion and diversification of bilateral trade.

In his remarks after signing the Agreement, the Polish Minister of Foreign Trade and Shipping referred to several areas like power plants, ship building, supply of trawlers and coal mining equipment and joint ventures in third countries in which India and Poland could collaborate. He also expressed hope that in near future the trade turnover between India and Poland would reach greater heights.

Poland is the second largest trading partner of India from amongst the East European countries, next to the USSR. The <pg-31>

trade between the two countries has registered spectacular growth since the fifties when the, first Trade and Payments Agreement was signed. The volume of two-way trade has since risen from a meagre level of 4 million rupees in 1953 to nearly 1217 million rupees in 1980. In the earlier stages of Indo-Polish trade relations, trade was confined to the export of traditional agricultural products from India and industrial raw materials from Poland, but with the passage of time and with the strengthening of our industrial base, non-traditional engineering items and manufactured products have also started moving to Poland. Poland on its part has been trying to meet India's requirements of fertilisers (specially urea), sulphur, rolled steel products, power generation equipment and mining machinery.

LAND INDIA UNITED KINGDOM USA RUSSIA

Date : Jan 16, 1981

Volume No

1995

SRI LANKA

Exchange of Radio and TV Programmes Between India and Sri Lanka

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Jan 27, 1981:

India and Sri Lanka have agreed to exchange radio and T.V. programmes on a regular basis.

The Sri Lanka Minister of Information and Tourism, Mr. Anandatissa de Alwis who called on the Minister of Information and Broadcasting, Shri Vasant Sathe, here today, said that while people in Sri Lanka knew in detail what was happening in Europe and America, they had little knowledge of developments in their neighbouring country India. This was due to their dependence on Western news media. He said a regular exchange of news programmes between India and Sri Lanka would promote better understanding and closer relations between the two countries.

Reciprocating the sentiments expressed by the Sri Lanka Minister, Shri Sathe said that Doordarshan and Films Division will supply video tapes of news coverage every week for use by Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation's television network. He also assured the visiting Minister that India would provide all facilities for training of Sri Lanka musicians in India and also send music teachers to Sri Lanka to train young artists.

The Sri Lanka Minister raised the question of increasing the limit of his country's earnings from Indian advertisers who advertised their goods over Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation as also of relaxation of restrictions on the use of languages in SLBC's commercial service and the number of countries to which these broadcasts were beamed. He said that this would further promote the export of Indian goods to Gulf and West Asian countries. Shri Sathe promised to take up, the matter with the Ministries concerned.

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I LANKA INDIA USA

Date : Jan 27, 1981

Volume No

1995

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Indo-Soviet Joint Commission Meets: Shri Narasimha Rao's Speech

Following is the text of the speech by the Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha, Rao at the plenary of the Indo-Soviet Joint Commission in new Delhi on Jan 22, 1981:

I welcome Your Excellency, a tried and trusted friend, to India for the Sixth Session of the Indo-Soviet Joint Commission for Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation. The Sixth Session has a special importance because it follows the visit of H.E.

President Brezhnev to India and because it is taking place in a world torn by conflict and anxiety. As your Excellency is aware, President Brezhnev's visit not only gave us an opportunity of exchanging views on matters of concern to both of us but also represented a qualitative development of our bilateral economic relations.

We have noted with considerable satisfaction that the Agreement on Economic and Technical Cooperation between our two countries signed on December 10, 1980, identifies with great precision both areas and projects of cooperation and the financial parameters. It is a matter of greater satisfaction that these projects concern the core sectors of our economy, NAMELY, power, steel, coal and oil. One of the most important objectives of this meeting of the Joint Commission should, therefore, be to agree on time schedules and modalities of implementation.

Our bilateral economic cooperation has, in a sense, an even wider significance and ought to, serve as a model of what relations between the developed and developing countries ought to be: therefore, both our countries should strive to see that the shape of the future just International Economic Order is reflected in the structure of our bilateral economic relations. As Your Excellency is aware, we shall soon be hosting a importance of Non-aligned Countries in New Delhi- where this subject would be an important matter for discussion.

OIL TECHNOLOGY

Our countries have much to learn from each other. As the Deputy Co-Chairman once told us in an earlier visit India's agricultural experience holds some lessons. On the other hand, Soviet economic planning and industrialisation has been historically concerned with problems that we ourselves are attempting to solve such as the rate of investment, the location of industry, the development of new sources of power and raw materials in order to "transform the very constants of economic geography." In many areas such as on-shore oil technology, we are aware of Soviet capabilities and would like to benefit from them.

As we look back to the last meeting of our Joint Commission, it may be said that in several cases we have fallen short of reaching common goals, but let it also be said that much has likewise been achieved and this achievement has taken place not in the context of unbroken domestic and international quiet but in the context of domestic political changes, international conflicts, world inflation and increasingly difficult energy supply position. This gives us reason for optimism.

STEEL AND COAL SECTORS

For instance, in the steel sector, work on implementing the Basic Techno-Economic Considerations for Bhilai and on simultaneously

introducing technical modifications for expansion of capacity of Bokaro to 4.0 and 4.75 million tonnes has already begun. In the coal sector, Detailed Project Reports on the Jayant Opencast Mine (for increasing its capacity to 10 million tonnes), on the experimental longwall at Chinakuri mine, on the Jhanjra, underground mine and recommendations on pillar mining have already been received by us. I am also happy (and, I am sure, you will share my happiness) that there has been considerable for-
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ward movement in improving the productivity of HEC. Ranchi and I understand that our experts have already explained to you the more rapid implementation of contractual deliveries from this plant now.

For the future, as I have mentioned earlier, we should take the Agreement on Economic and Technical Cooperation of December 10, 1980, as our point of departure. Here I see that the officials and experts of both sides, have put in a lot of hard work not only in formulating issues to be included in the final Protocol of our Joint Commission but also in concretising and agreeing on modalities, of implementation of the projects identified in this Agreement. While a number of Protocols, Working Programmes and Memoranda of Understanding have been signed in different fields of economic cooperation, the Protocol of the Joint Commission itself can serve as a clear and concrete programme of action in the different fields of activity.

I find that in the field of ferrous metallurgy, apart from expansion of the capacities of Bhilai and Bokaro, our two countries will also cooperate in improving the performance of IISCO Burnpur Steel Plant. In the field of coal, time schedules and modalities for the Mukunda opencast complex have been decided. In the field, of oil, some contracts for drilling and seismic prospecting have been signed. In machine building, four concrete areas for bilateral cooperation, namely Hydro-turbine Runner Profiles, Hydro-turbine Laboratory, Large Capacity Electric Machines and spare parts production, besides central repair facilities, have been identified and some progress has already been achieved.

NEW AREAS OF COOPERATION

In the field of communications, work on troposcatter communication link has been slowed down by bad weather in Jammu and Kashmir but we hope that the communication link would be put into operation soon. In irrigation, besides agreeing on some time schedules of implementation for the projects identified by the December 10, 1980, Agreement, a new area of cooperation has been identified, namely, the biological control of submerged aquatic weeds. In the field of pharmaceuticals, progress is satisfactory and, unfortunately, in the fields of pulp and paper and geology non-existent. Here much further work would have to be done to

understand each other's point of view and to find a meeting ground that would serve the objectives both of India and the Soviet Union. An area of cooperation in which we can legitimately take pride and in which there is tremendous scope for the future is science and technology where I am glad that the two sides have shown a real vision of future needs in identifying areas like lasers, semi-conductors, system analysis and earthquake prediction techniques.

In the field of organisation matters, the officials of the two sides have discussed the setting up of Working Groups for Power and Coal. These two areas are certainly of critical importance in any economy and, therefore, the setting up of such Groups is to be welcome since it would streamline cooperation in these important fields. We on our side should delegate enough powers to Working Groups and support the agreements they reach so that the process of implementation remains smooth and efficient.

Your Excellency, I mentioned only a few areas of our cooperation. But I can say about the work which our officials have done that it has been very very satisfactory indeed and it now remains for all of us and I am sure that we shall do it to find the ways and means of implementing the agreements which have been reached.

DIA USA CHINA UNITED KINGDOM LATVIA

Date : Jan 22, 1981

Volume No

1995

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Mr. I. V. Arkhipov's Speech

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi:

Replying to the welcoming remarks of India's External Affairs Minister P. V. Narsimha Rao at the opening of the sixth session of the Indo-Soviet Commission on Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation in New Delhi on January 22, the <pg-34>

Soviet Co-Chairman of the Commission, First Vice-Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, Ivan V. Arkhipov emphasised the favourable atmosphere in which the meeting was being held.

He described Mr. Rao's remarks as one more expression of the

long-standing relations of friendship and cooperation which closely bind the peoples of the two countries. These relations, he said, were raised to a new stage by the signing in 1971 of the Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation., and these have been further developed during the visit to the USSR in 1976 of Mrs. Indira Gandhi, and as a result of the visits to India in 1973 and 1980 of Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, the exchange of visits by many state figures and delegations. These relations have been further reaffirmed in the new achievements of Soviet-Indian cooperation which embraces most diverse spheres of economy, trade, science, technology, culture, public health and many other fields.

Recalling the Long-Term Programme of Economic, Trade, Scientific and Technical Cooperation between the USSR and India signed in March 79, he said it! has enabled Soviet-Indian cooperation to be put on a long-term and planned basis.

He noted that the activities of Soviet and Indian organisations in developing mutually-beneficial economic, scientific, technical cooperation and trade as well as in the implementation of the Long-Term Programme were highly assessed by the leaders of the two countries during the visit of Mr. L. I. Brezlinev of India in December last. These matters were given great priority in the summit level Soviet-Indian talks held then and were reflected in the Joint Soviet-Indian Declaration as well as in the Agreement on Economic and Technical Cooperation and in the Trade Agreement between the USSR and India for 1981-1985, he said.

NEW IMPETUS TO COOPERATION

These agreements, he said, will give a new impetus to the development of still closer economic cooperation and in trade between the two countries. It was but natural, he said, that at the 6th meeting of the Commission major importance was being attached to matters of practical implementation of these agreements and to outline concrete measures for the implementation of the objectives set forth by the Governments of the two countries.

Within the framework of ensuring the implementation of the commitments provided by the Agreement of December 10, 1980 regarding the expansion of the Bhilai and Bokaro steel plants to capacities of 5 and 5.5 million tons respectively, it would be appropriate, he said, to start already during this year further scrutiny of these projects. It is still more important because the expansion work will be done through new technologies and modernisation of equipment, thus achieving increased steel Production in the country with reduced capital investment.

In view of the importance of the development of India's fuel and, power infrastructure, he said, the measure which are worked out now - aimed at the development of coal and oil industries and at the construction of major thermal power stations on the basis of

coal deposits - receive full understanding and support on the part of the Soviet Government.

He noted that the preparation of the prospective techno-economic plan of onshore oil and gas prospecting and extraction work in India is being done for 1981-1990. The organisations of both the countries, he said, are to study and map out necessary steps in furthering cooperation in oil industry on the basis of this plan.

MACHINE-BUILDING

In the field of machine-building new directions of cooperation, dealing with the mastering of new types of production and organisation of the production of equipment - to be supplied to the USSR and third countries - built with the assistance of the USSR, have assumed concrete shape as a result of the two last meetings of the Working Group set up within the Commission's framework and as a result of signing contracts for the delivery of equipment from the Ranchi and Durgapur plants on Soviet orders. Since these matters have already been reflected in the plans, he said, attention

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should be paid to the necessity of the implementation of the agreements arrived at within agreed periods of time and in volumes determined by the organisations of the sides.

Cooperation of Soviet enterprises with the Hardwar Heavy Electrical Equipment Plant, in mastering the production of new types of equipment, in introducing advanced technology and in improving the methods of organising the production, was of no less importance, he said, and added that both Indian and Soviet enterprises could greatly benefit from such cooperation.

In the interest of further development of the Ranchi, Durgapur and Hardwar machine-building plants, he said, it would be worthwhile to see now what their orderbook would be like by the end of the Sixth and in the subsequent Five-Year Plans, taking into account the construction in India of ferrous and non-ferrous metallurgical projects, coal industry and power projects, etc., in order to prepare beforehand for the output of such machinery which will be needed by India.

NEW SPHERES IDENTIFIED

A number of new spheres have been identified in which the cooperation of the two countries could bring in tangible results for the development of the economies of India and the Soviet Union. Among these, he listed the medical, food industries, production of building materials, irrigation, and other spheres. In the field of irrigation, for example, the directional blasting technique and using prefab structures for canal lining in the erection of dams and canals would facilitate a more rational

utilisation of India's hydel resources, and not only for irrigation but also for power production. As regards the production of building materials, new possible directions of cooperation have been identified in the widening of raw-materials base for this industry in India, he said. In, the food industry a real possibility exists to organise in India the production of canned fruits, essential oils and other commodities which are of interest to the economy of the USSR, he added.

Referring to trade relations, he said, trade turnover is the aggregate indicator of economic relations between the two countries. He stressed that the efforts of the two sides to develop trade between the two countries, have brought impressive results. The goals set before the foreign trade organisations of the two countries in the Joint Soviet-Indian Declaration of November 29, 1973, i.e., to increase the volume of Soviet-Indian trade by 1980 by 1.5-2 times can be said to have been achieved, he declared. During the last five years alone trade turnover between the USSR and India has more than doubled and in 1980 totalled about 15 billion rupees. Today, India ranks first in the USSR's trade with developing countries.

The Trade Agreement for 1981-1985 signed on December 10, 1980 stipulates further growth in the trade turnover between the two countries, diversification of the range of commodities with increased imports from India of goods produced by its national industries. According to the assessment of Soviet foreign trade organisations, it can increase during the next five years also by 1.5-2 times.

In conclusion, Mr. Arkhipov expressed confidence that the meeting of the Commission, held in an atmosphere of friendship and full mutual understanding, would constitute an, important contribution to the further development of cooperation and good relations between the two countries and would help in the practical implementation of the documents signed by the leaders of the two countries in December 1980 during the visit to India of Comrade L. I. Brezhnev.

DIA USA LATVIA

Date : Jan 22, 1981

Volume No

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UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Minister of External Affairs P. V. Narasimha Rao's Speech at Dinner in Honour of Soviet First Deputy Prime Minister Arkhipov

Following is the text of the speech by the Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao at the dinner in honour of Mr. I. V. Arkhipov, First Deputy Prime Minister of the USSR, in New Delhi on Jan 22, 1981. Proposing the toast, Shri Rao said:

Your Excellency Mr. First Deputy Prime Minister, Excellencies,
Ladies and
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Gentlemen, it gives me great pleasure to welcome you, Excellency and your distinguished colleagues in our midst this evening. You Mr. First Deputy Prime Minister, have been closely associated and personally involved in the growth and development of the multi-faceted economic cooperation between India and the Soviet Union particularly in your capacity as the Co-Chairman of the Inter-Governmental Indo-Soviet Commission on Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation. In your present high office, you are continuing to make valuable contribution to the cause of friendship and cooperation between our two countries. We are, therefore, particularly happy to welcome you and wish you a pleasant stay in our capital. The session of the Joint Commission has given us a valuable opportunity to examine ways and means of further strengthening the existing cooperation and exploring new avenues.

It was only last year that the Soviet Union and India celebrated the completion of 25 years of economic cooperation. This cooperation which began with the agreement on the construction of the Bhilai Steel Plant in 1955 has since expanded and diversified to cover practically every major sector of India's economic, scientific and technical activity and has made a significant contribution to the economic development of India.

EXEMPLARY COOPERATION

In the twenty-five years that we have been engaged in our common endeavours, our cooperation has indeed set itself up as a glowing example of how the countries with divergent political, economic and social systems could come together and work shoulder to shoulder. Throughout the length and breadth of our country, there are shining monuments to our cooperation, even as new ones are coming up year by year.

Of the several landmarks in the history of our cooperation, I would particularly like to recall the Agreement on Economic and Technical Cooperation which was signed last month during the historic visit to India of H.E. Mr. L. I. Brezhnev, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU, Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR. This visit which provided an opportunity for a wide-ranging exchange of views

between the leaders of our two countries, on bilateral matters as well as international questions, was another important milestone in our friendship and cooperation. It is a matter of gratification to us that we are meeting together again so soon after the visit, to review the development of our bilateral cooperation in various fields, including in many new-directions which have been identified in the economic agreement last month and to prepare the groundwork for new projects envisaged in the Agreement of December 10, 1980.

ECONOMIC TIES

Your Excellency, it is a tribute to the durability and continuing relevance of our economic ties that our cooperation has expanded and intensified while adapting itself to the varying requirements of the times, for the mutual benefit of our countries. The present emphasis, in our cooperation, on expansion of steel production, production of oil, coal and power is welcome, considering the importance of these vital inputs to India's economic development.

Developing countries like India are passing through difficult times owing to the deteriorating international economic situation with spectacular increases in the prices of fuels and other vital inputs and worsening terms of trade and aid. Against such a background, it is our hope that the Soviet Union will continue its enlightened policy of developing and intensifying cooperation with India in mutually agreed sectors, on terms which would help the rapid development of vital areas of India's economy. For our part, it will be our earnest desire to take all measures to ensure speedy and efficacious implementation of the various programmes of cooperation which we have agreed upon.

Your Excellency, our economic ties are an important development in the wide spectrum of relations between our two countries. Our relations have stood the test of time, and under the wise and far-sighted leadership of President Brezhnev and Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi, have emerged as an important factor in international peace and stability. We, in India, attach the greatest importance to the continued deve-

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lopment of our relations and to our cooperation in various fields.

Excellencies, may I now invite you to join me in raising a toast to the health of our distinguished guest, His Excellency First Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers of USSR, Mr. I. V. Arkhipov, to the health of the distinguished members of the Soviet delegation, many of whom have been associated with Indo-Soviet Cooperation for years and last but not the least to the bright prospects of Indo-Soviet friendship and cooperation in the coming years which will serve the cause of our two peoples and

the cause of world peace.

A INDIA

Date : Jan 22, 1981

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UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Press Note on Indo-USSR, Joint Commission Session

Following is a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Jan 23, 1981

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The recently concluded 6th Session of the Indo-Soviet Joint Commission for Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation is an important landmark in the development of the Indo-Soviet Cooperation. The Soviet delegation to the session of the Commission was led by the First Deputy Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, His Excellency Mr. Ivan V. Arkhipov. The minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, led the Indian delegation. During his stay in New Delhi, the distinguished, visitor called on the President, Shri Neelam Sanjiva Reddy, the Vice-President, Shri M. Hidayatullah, and the Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi, with whom he held friendly discussions. The Minister of Planning, Shri N. D. Tiwari called on H.E. Mr. Arkhipov. The session of the Joint Commission, which was held in a spirit of friendship and understanding, reflected the desire of the two countries to develop still further their relationship of cooperation, which has entered into the 26th year.

IMPORTANT MILESTONE

An important milestone in the history of economic cooperation between the two countries has been the Long-Term Programme of Economic, Trade, Scientific and Technical Cooperation between the two countries, which was signed on March 14, 1979. During the visit to India of the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU, Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of USSR, H.E. Mr. L. I. Brezhnev in December 1980, an economic agreement had been signed, with a view to ensuring the implementation of the first stage of the long-term Programme. The Trade Agreement for 1981-85 was also signed during this visit.

The deliberations of the Commission indicated that substantial

progress had been achieved in the implementation of the Working Programmes of cooperation in important fields like ferrous and non-ferrous metallurgy, coal industry, oil, machine-building, power and irrigation. The concrete measures for implementation of programmes of cooperation in vital sectors of the Indian economy, such as ferrous metallurgy, coal, power, oil etc., envisaged by the economic Agreement of December 1980, were also considered during the session of the Commission.

EXPANSION OF STEEL PLANTS

Matters connected with the setting up of the Vishakhapatnam Steel Plant were examined in detail. Also considered were questions relating to the expansion of the Bhilai Steel Plant and the Bokaro Steel Plant, as well as cooperation and the corresponding Soviet organisations. In regard to further cooperation in the setting up of an alumina plant with a capacity of 600 to 800 thousand tonnes of alumina per annum in Andhra Pradesh, both sides have agreed to carry on negotiations on design and construction of the plant, including commercial and financial matters. It was also agreed that the two sides will discuss cooperation in preparing a feasibility study on construction of an aluminium smelter based on the alumina plant.

In the field of coal industry, discussions related to the Jhanjra underground mine with a capacity of 2.8 million tonnes per annum and the Mukanda open cast mine, which is to be developed as

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an integrated complex, with a first stage capacity of 4 million tonnes per annum.

OIL EXPLORATION

In the field of oil exploration and exploitation, a number of programmes for prospecting for oil in selected areas and for increasing oil production from existing wells were considered.

An important project which was considered by the Commission was the construction of an integrated thermal power plant of the capacity of 1000 MW. with possibility of expansion upto 3000 MW, to be set up at the Nigha coal mine in the Singrauli coal deposits. Negotiations relating to the implementation of this project are to be taken up in the first half of 1981.

In the field of irrigation, programmes of cooperation which were considered, included production of prefabricated components for construction of canal structures and canal lining and using the directional blasting techniques for construction of dams,

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

The Commission also took note of a number of programmes of

cooperation in the field of Science and Technology. Considering the importance of cooperation in this field, a Sub-Commission on Science and Technology has been set up by the two sides.

With a view to monitoring the implementation of working programmes of cooperation in the fields of power and coal industries ' the Commission decided to set up inter-Governmental working groups relating to these two fields.

It has also been agreed that a standing working group would be set up to coordinate and supervise the progress of implementation of the Long-Term Programme. The first meeting of this Working Group will be held in the second half of 1981.

The 6th Session of the Commission which reviewed the, ongoing programmes of cooperation as well as new projects, has given a further impetus to the strengthening of economic ties between India and the Soviet Union. A number of meetings of experts are likely to take place during the year to work out concrete measures for the implementation of various programmes.

A INDIA LATVIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC UNITED KINGDOM

Date : Jan 23, 1981

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1995

UNITED KINGDOM

Fourth Meeting of Indo-British Economic Committee: Agreed Minutes Signed

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Jan 22, 1981:

The Agreed Minutes of the Fourth meeting of the Indo-British Economic Committee was signed, here today, by Shri Pranab Mukherjee, Minister for Commerce, Steel and Mines on behalf of India and the Rt. Hon. John Biffen, Secretary of State for Trade, on behalf of U.K. The four-day Committee Meeting concluded today.

It was pointed out during the Meeting that in the context of the widening trade deficit in India's foreign trade, it would be difficult for India to maintain a liberal import regime which had benefited U.K. amongst other developed countries, if India's exports to the developed market did not pick up sufficiently. The Committee noted that the growing imbalance in the Indo-British trade also called for creation of a favour-

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able atmosphere by removal of constraints and adoption of concrete steps for improving access for Indian exports to the U.K. market.

In this connection, a suggestion emerged for deputing a high level trade mission from India to U.K. for identifying areas in which Indian exports could be increased. On the basis of this suggestion the Government of U.K. would be prepared to help through training and other steps, with the development of marketing techniques to enable those Indian enterprises to realise their export potential.

TEXTILE EXPORTS

The Indian side emphasised the need for taking a liberal view in allowing clearance of folk-lore textile items recently held up by the British customs.

The Committee regretted the adverse publicity given to inflammability of Indian light cotton dresses through the British media including the T.V. and the Press. The Indian side felt that any future regulations which single out cotton textiles predominantly exported by India in the absence of any overall policy of regulation of textiles made from various fibres would be discriminatory and hurt Indian exports. The Committee agreed on evolving a mechanism for expeditious settlement of such trade disputes in future.

The Indian side expressed concern over the Fertilizer and Feeding Stuffs (amendment) Regulation 1981 of the British Government proposing ban on importation into Great Britain of groundnut and cotton seed extractions. The British side was confident that appropriate means would be found of enabling imports of groundnut and cotton seed extractions from India to meet necessary animal health requirements and assured that there would be no discrimination in this matter vis-a-vis other animal feed such as soyabean extractions, maize etc.

The Indian side expressed concern on the steep decline in the exports of bovine leather. The reduction by India of export duty on semi-finished leather was also noted by the British side. In the context of the negligible share of Indian shoes in the total U.K. imports in 1980, the Indian side expressed the hope that Indian exports of footwear would not be subjected to any restraint or surveillance of any kind.

IMPORTANCE OF UK MARKET

The Committee noted the importance of U.K. market for India's exports of unmanufactured tobacco and expressed concern at the decline of about 21 per cent tobacco exports to U.K. The need for

increasing the GSP quota and also improving the GSP margins for tobacco was noted particularly in the context of cumulative impact of the erosion of GSP margins, switch over to EUA and the addition of certain tobacco growing countries enjoying duty free access.

In the larger interest of the consumer and to provide fair return to the quality tea growers of India, the Indian side suggested introduction by the U.K. Government of minimum standards of tea for consumer packs as laid down by I.S.O.

The Committee also felt the need for the restoration of the arrangements with CBI, BASATA under which a representative of AIEI was stationed at London for promoting bilateral Indo-British industrial cooperation and for increasing exports of engineering items from India to U.K.

JOINT COLLABORATION

The Committee, recognised the need for an early warning system for alerting the interested Indian and British parties to the opportunities for Indo-British collaboration in executing third country projects.

There was exchange of views on issues concerning Indo-EEC relationship, particularly in regard to the Multi Fibre Arrangements, Agreement on Safeguards Code and Government Procurement. It was hoped that it would be possible to revert to the original Multi Fibre Arrangements with special reference to continuance of handlooms and handicrafts concessions, liberal growth rates and flexible provisions, assurance of adjustment by developed countries and strengthening of the enforcement mechanism.

The Committee noted the recent Indian measures like relaxation in procedures concerning technology transfer, import of

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capital, free trade zone facilities to 100 per cent export - oriented units, single point clearance which ought to provide further impetus to Indo-British collaboration.

Referring to the relatively low volume of engineering exports to U.K., it was agreed that effective steps be taken to rectify the situation. These could include taking recourse to technical collaboration from U.K. for the manufacture of finished goods, components and parts in India with appropriate buy-back arrangements to cater to the British industry, assistance in ensuring quality of the goods to be manufactured, greater interaction between Indian firms in the medium and small sector for greater exposure to the world market, and expansion of contacts between the Indian and British industry Associations.

DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES

The British side expressed interest in participating India's development programmes in the fields of coal, coal mining, machinery, steel industry, railways, machine tool industry, process plants, automotive industry, electronics and communications system.

Indo-British Economic Committee with its two sub-committees - one on economic relations and the other on industrial cooperation - was set up through an exchange of letters in 1976 to fill the vacuum created by the termination of Indo-UK Trade Agreement of 1939 and to give a new impetus to the efforts to promote and diversify trade and economic relations. The first meeting of the IBEC was held in London in 1976.

U.K. is India's one of the major trade partners. The balance of trade between India and U.K. was in India's favour upto 1977-78. It turned adverse in 1978-79 and that trend has been continuing.

The main items of India's exports to U.K. are textile yarn, fabrics and made-ups, apparel and clothing, tea, tobacco, leather and leather manufactures, oil cakes, spices, jute fabrics and non-ferrous metals. India's major imports from U.K. are rough diamonds and precious stones, oil and steel machinery of various types, road vehicles, transport equipments; and scientific and control equipments instruments, non-ferrous metals, textiles, fibres and wastes, chemicals, dyeing, tanning and colouring materials, paper and paper-boards.

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February

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LGARIA KOREA LATVIA FRANCE PAKISTAN ITALY INDIA KENYA NIGER NIGERIA NAMIBIA
SWEDEN YUGOSLAVIA

Date : Feb 01, 1981

Volume No

1995

BULGARIA

Indo-Bulgarian Cultural Exchange Programme Signed

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Feb 21, 1981:

An Indo-Bulgarian Cultural Exchange Programme for 1981-83 was signed here today by the Minister of Education and Social

Welfare, Shri S. B. Chavan and t e Chairman of the Committee of Culture and Member, Politbureau of the Communist Party of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, Madame Lyudmila Zhivkova. Among those present was the Minister of State for Education and Social Welfare, Smt. Shiela Kaul.

The Cultural Exchange Programme envisages strengthening of mutual relations and understanding between the two countries through cooperation in various fields including education and science, art and culture, mass media, public health and sports.

It provides for development of bilateral contacts and exchanges between institutions of higher education as well as educational research organisations in the two countries, exchange of academics, teachers, scholars, curricula, text books and other information material concerning various facets of education. In the field of art and culture, both sides will exchange writers, artists, theatre workers, archaeologists, museum experts, performing troupes, art exhibitions, publications and information material besides participation in book fairs.

RADIO AND T. V.

Besides exchange of radio and T. V. programmes and participation in film festivals, the programme envisages exchange of delegations for renewing the protocol on cooperation in the fields of radio and T.V. In the field of public health, the two sides will exchange specialists as well as information materials. The programme also envisages exchanges and cooperation in the field of sports.

An important provision in the programme relates to the setting up of a Joint Inter-governmental Indo-Bulgarian Committee in the field of education, science and art and culture, etc. for working out time bound programmes of cooperation as well as perspective of future cooperation between the two countries.

LGARIA INDIA USA

Date : Feb 21, 1981

Volume No

1995

DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA

Indo-Korean Protocol on Cooperation in Agricultural Research, Education and Irrigation

Following is the text of a press Release issued in New Delhi on Feb 04, 1981:

A Protocol for the cooperation in the field of atricultural research and education and irrigation, between India and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, was signed here today. The Protocol envisages long-term cooperation in the fields of agri-
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cultural research, education, training and improvement of agricultural production techniques, extension thereof, and also in irrigation and water resources development, between the two countries.

The Protocol was signed by Dr. O. P. Gautam, Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Agricultural Research and Education (and Director General, Indian Council of Agricultural Research) and Shri C. C. Patel, Secretary, Ministry of Irrigation, on behalf of India and Mr. CHOI HI JUN, Vice-Chairman, Academy of Agricultural. Sciences, Democratic People's Republic of Korea for his country.

The parameters of the Protocol are exchange of scientific personnel; exchange of germ-plasm and breeding material, including seed and plant materials; exchange of scientific literature and information, and methodology in the fields of agriculture and irrigation; import and export of scientific equipment as available and required in the programme of common interest and mutually agreed upon; and grant of fellowships to scientific personnel of both countries.

ANNUAL WORK-PLANS

The Protocol would be implemented through the development of annual work plans, to be formulated jointly by the two Governments. Under the agreement, the two Governments would also facilitate the establishment of inter-institutional links between their respective scientific research institutes and centres.

Speaking on the occasion, Rao Birendra Singh, Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation said that the two countries were coming closer. Their policies of non-alignment would further strengthen the friendly ties. The signing of this Protocol was just a beginning, which would pave the way for further extension of cooperation to other fields.

In his reply H.E. Mr. CHOI HI JUN said that India had made a great contribution in the development of non-aligned movement. Our relations with India had been developing very favourably and these would grow further. Referring to his visit to the Nagarajunasagar Dam in Andhra Pradesh, he expressed his great admiration of the Indian engineering skill, which is evident from the construction of this mighty dam with indigenous material and

technology.

REA LATVIA INDIA USA

Date : Feb 04, 1981

Volume No

1995

FRANCE

Indo-French Financial Conventions

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Feb 01, 1981

India signed two financial conventions with the French Banks on Friday, January 30, providing French credit of 400 million francs for the Orissa Aluminium Complex. The credit has been provided by Indo-French Protocol signed recently.

One of these conventions Was signed with the Credit Nationale which will deal with treasury loans portion of the credit while the second convention was with a group of Banks headed by the Banque Nationale De Paris for export credits. The conventions were signed by Shri M. Rasgotra, Indian Ambassador in France on behalf of India.

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ANCE INDIA

Date : Feb 01, 1981

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GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

Indo-GDR Protocol Signed

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Feb 20, 1981:

The Fourth Session of the Indo-GDR Joint Commission on Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation was held in New Delhi from the 12th to 20th February 1981. The Protocol of the Session was signed by the Co-Chairman of the Joint Commission, the Union Minister of State for Industry, Dr. Charanjit Chanana and H.E. Dr. Gerhard Weiss ' Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Government of the German Democratic Republic.

During his stay in New Delhi, Dr. Gerhard Weiss called on the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, the Minister 'of Planning and Labour, Shri N. D. Tiwari, the Minister of Commerce and Steel, Shri Pranab Mukherjee and the Minister of State for Science and Technology and Electronics, Shri C. P. N. Singh.

The Ministers reviewed the progress of implementation of decisions taken at the Third Session held at Berlin in December 1978 and at the meetings of the various Working Groups held in December 1979 and reaffirmed their desire to further intensify economic, industrial scientific and technological cooperation on the basis of the longterm agreement signed in January 1979 when H.E. Mr. Erie Honecker, General Secretary of the Socialist Unity Party of GDR and the Chairman of the Council of State visited India. Both sides agreed to make even greater efforts to increase the exchange of goods under the agreement concluded, on the basis of the principle of mostfavoured nation treatment and mutual advantage.

TECHNICAL COLLABORATION

Discussions were held under Six Working Groups representing Industry, Trade, Agriculture, Science and Technology and Chemicals. It was agreed to explore the possibilities of GDR providing technical collaboration for implementation of projects in Gujarat and Rajasthan for the mining of lignite for both industrial purposes and power generation. The possibilities of obtaining technical collaboration in the fields of machine tools, agricultural machinery, textile machinery and high voltage testing equipment from GDR were identified. Both GDR and limit are to examine proposals for the establishment of a School of Graphic Arts in India.

It was agreed by the two sides to expand and diversify the two way transfer of technology. The objective will be to ensure that the latest and most relevant technology would be interchanged for the mutual benefit of both the countries. It was also recognised that the two sides should jointly apply themselves to the development of technologies for importing mutually beneficial technologies from other sources if necessary.

It was agreed that efforts should be taken for increasing the supply of industrial machinery and engineering goods from India to GDR particularly in the field of textile machinery.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Both sides mutually agreed to expand cooperation in the field of computer systems, accounting machines and production of optical components and instruments. Several new areas of cooperation in the fields of chemicals and drugs have also been identified. Both sides also agreed to examine the means for an effective implementation of future programmes of cooperation between the two countries in the field of science and technology.

With a view to obtaining more effective economic cooperation in terms of the agreement between the Planning Commission of India and the State Planning Commission of GDR signed in 1974 and the Long-term
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Agreement on Economic, Industrial, Scientific and Technological Cooperation signed in January 1979, the two sides agreed to exchange information on their respective planning processes and to set up a group of planning experts within the framework of the Joint Commission.

THIRD COUNTRY PROJECTS

There has already been significant cooperation between the two sides on specific third country projects. A number of such projects are already under implementation and several other projects have been identified in- which Indian firms are negotiating with the counterpart organisations in CDP, in respect of countries such as Angola, Algeria and Iraq. The two sides decided to give an active and positive thrust to the implementation of such projects.

Arrangements were agreed upon for the continuous monitoring of the progress of the decision and proposals set out in the Agreed Minutes of Discussions of the various Working Groups as well as in the Protocol on Long-Term Cooperation that was concluded during the visit of Mr. Eerie Honecker, President of GDR to India in 1979 with a view to ensuring their expeditious fulfilment.

DIA USA UNITED KINGDOM GERMANY ALGERIA ANGOLA IRAQ

Date : Feb 20, 1981

Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Supply of Iron Ore to Pakistan

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Feb 17, 1981:

India concluded an agreement with Pakistan Steel Mills Corporation, Karachi, in May 1980, for supply of 1.93 million tonnes of iron ore to Pakistan spread over a period of 7 years from September 1980 to March 1987. This information was given by Shri Khurshed Alam Khan, Minister of State for Commerce in a written reply to a question by Sarva Shri S. M. Krishna and R. L. Bhatia, in Lok Sabha, here today.

The Minister pointed out that the agreement for supply of iron ore was not part of any bilateral deal and payment for iron ore would be received in US Dollars. He also said that the iron ore was being supplied to Pakistan from Bellary Hospet Sector in Karnataka and the ore was transported by rail from loading stations to the railheads nearest to the port of shipment and thereafter by road to the port.

KISTAN INDIA USA

Date : Feb 17, 1981

Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

External Affairs Minister P. V. Narasimha Rao's Statement on Proposed British Nationality Bill

The Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, made the following statement in the Rajya Sabha on Feb 26, 1981 in reply to the Calling Attention regarding the proposed British Nationality Bill:

In the statement made by me in this I-louse on 16th December 1980 regarding the reported racial discrimination and harassment to the people of Indian origin and Indian immigrants in U.K., I had referred to the new British Nationality Law. Like all other laws, the British Immigration and Nationality Laws are a matter for the British Government and Parliament to determine and decide. However, a few provisions in the Nationality Bill appear to have features of racial discrimination. Our concern regarding these provisions had been

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conveyed by our High Commissioner to the British Home Secretary in an Aide Memoire on 12th November 1980.

We have maintained a continuing dialogue with the British Government in the hope that some changes will be made to accommodate our views and ease the apprehension and concerns of the Indians settled in UK as well as the UK passport holders of Indian Origin living in India. The British Government on 14th January, 1981 replied to our Aide Memoire and gave some clarifications on the points raised by us. We have also been somewhat encouraged recently by the amendments introduced by the British Government which could lessen or mitigate the features of racial discrimination which we had pointed out to them.

POINTS OF INDIA'S CONCERN

The proposed legislation is now at Committee stage in the British Parliament. The points of concern as far as we are concerned are as follows:

1) Entitlement of children born in UK to acquire British citizenship by birth.

As per the proposed Nationality Bill this was to depend on the Immigrant status of parents i.e. parents should be legally settled in UK. We have now received reports that an amendment has been proposed to this clause whereby those children born in the UK who do not become British citizens by birth may now acquire British citizenship by registration after 10 years residence from birth in the UK (provided they have not been out of the UK for more than 90 days in any one year).

2) As per the proposed Nationality Law, citizenship by descent to children born overseas will apply only to those children whose parents were British citizens born in UK. Amendments have also been proposed to this clause whereby children born abroad to a parent who is registered as a British citizen or who are citizens of UK and colonies by descent will at birth become British citizens by descent.

3) According to the proposed Nationality Law acquisition of citizenship by registration would cease within two years of the new Law coming into force. - All those Indian nationals who are staying in UK as on 1st January 1973 have to register themselves as British citizens within two years of the Law coming into force. After the expiry of these two years, such persons seeking British citizenship will have to go through normal process of acquiring citizenship by naturalisation at the discretion of the Home Secretary, and will be subject to certain requirements of language and residence qualification as also of good character. It has been clarified by the British Government that there is,

however, no obligation on citizens of India living in Britain to become British citizens and there is nothing in the Bill which would alter their status under the immigration laws, if they choose not to become British citizens.

4) There are a large number of UK passport holders in India and also in other countries like Kenya and Tanzania who will become British Overseas citizens after the New Nationality Law comes into force. This category of citizens will not have the right of abode in UK. This matter was taken up with the British Government who have assured us that the right of UK Passport Holders living in India and waiting for Special Vouchers for settlement in UK will not be affected with the coming into force of British Nationality Law.

OUR EFFORTS

May I, Mr. Chairman, reiterate that the Government of India will continue to make all possible efforts so that the people of Indian origin who are settled in UK live with honour and dignity and that the Government will continue to take up the cases of racial discrimination of our countrymen with the British for appropriate action. Our High Commissioner in London and his officers continue to remain vigilant in this matter and are in touch with representative Indian Organisations in the UK so that their problems and concerns could be projected effectively to the British authorities. The Government will also continue to keep a careful watch on the situation and monitor further developments.
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A INDIA UNITED KINGDOM KENYA TANZANIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Feb 26, 1981

Volume No

1995

ITALY

External Affairs Minister P. V. Narasimha Rao's Speech at Dinner in Honour of Italian Foreign Minister

Following is the text of the External Affairs Minister, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao's speech at the dinner hosted in honour of Mr. Emilio Colombo, Foreign Minister of Italy, in New Delhi on Feb 26, 1981. Proposing the toast, Shri Rao said:

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen ' I am extremely happy to welcome today the distinguished Foreign Minister of Italy, Mr.

Emilio Colombo and his distinguished delegation. Excellency, we have been keenly looking forward to your visit to India. Your eminent qualities and rich experience as a senior statesman of Italy are well-known. Your visit has provided us with an excellent opportunity for a friendly exchange of views on issues of interest to both our countries and which have a bearing on the future of this increasingly inter-dependent world of ours. I also hope, Mr. Minister, that your stay in our midst will enable you to acquire a better understanding of the hopes and aspirations of our people for socio-economic development and the means which they have chosen to realise these goals.

Our two countries are heirs to two of the most illustrious civilisations that have adorned the history of mankind. Just as olive oil, wine and terra cotta pottery from Italy, some of them even identifiable as being from the city of Areszo, had formed part of the daily delights of the imperial courts of ancient India, the highly priced Indian spices and luxurious fabrics and ornaments had captured the imaginations of the Roman ladies.

Italy's glorious achievements in art and architecture as well as its tremendous contribution as an early fountain-head of the art of Government, of law and administration, were well-known among our scholars and students. Marco Polo's odyssey through India in the thirteenth century and the heroic struggle, of Garfield and Mazzini, for the independence and unification of Italy in the last century stirred the hearts and minds of every school child in our country.

COMMON COMMITMENT TO PEACE

India and Italy may be geographically far apart, diverse in their historical background, cultural traditions and socio-economic conditions but they have much in common too. Both share a deep commitment to peace, detente, international cooperation and justice and orderly progress. Perhaps the closest link between them arises from a common adherence to Parliamentary democracy, the rule of law and respect for individual dignity and liberty. Our two countries need to strengthen their mutual efforts to combat the threat to the peace and security of the world posed by poverty, hunger and illiteracy that stalk large parts of the developing world and to redress the growing imbalance and inequality between the rich and the poor countries.

Today, the international situation has become critical and is marked by several areas of tension and some of actual conflict. The process of detente has come to a halt. The armaments race is acquiring new and menacing dimensions with the growth and development of yet newer weapons of mass destruction. Recent developments in South-West and South-East Asia pose a threat to peace and stability of the countries in the region. Great power military competition in the Indian Ocean is also steadily increasing, thereby frustrating our efforts to make the Ocean

into a Zone of Peace. Though India and Italy may view some of the problems in differing lights and assess their solutions differently, both recognise the imperative need for lessening of tensions and the commencement of the process of dialogue for peaceful resolution of differences.

Happily, no contentious bilateral problems bedevil our friendly relations. Never-

theless, it is our earnest desire that the, two countries should energetically strive to expand the volume and areas of our cooperation. We need to identify new and durable forms of economic cooperation. There is scope for diversification of trade. We must also explore possibilities of joint action in third countries. A conscious effort must be made on both sides to encourage more contact between officials and representatives of business and industry to facilitate greater mutual understanding.

MORE CONTACTS ENVISAGED

There is also need for more contact between our parliamentarians and opinion makers. I am glad that the cultural exchange programme has completed its first year of successful operation and I hope that the Science and Technology Agreement signed in 1979 will also lead to greater contacts in these areas.

May I, in conclusion, wish Your Excellency and the distinguished members of your delegation a pleasant stay in our country.

Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, I invite you to join me in a toast to the health and happiness of the distinguished Foreign Minister of Italy, His Excellency, Mr. Emilio Colombo and to the increasing friendship between the peoples and Governments of Italy and India.

ALY INDIA SRI LANKA USA OMAN

Date : Feb 26, 1981

Volume No

1995

ITALY

India and Italy Sign Technical Cooperation Agreement

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Feb 27, 1981:

India and Italy today signed a technical cooperation agreement here today. The agreement was signed by His Excellency Mr. Emilio Colombo, Foreign Minister of Italy and the Union Finance Minister, Shri R. Venkataraman.

The agreement provides for Italy to make available experts, training facilities and technical equipment to India under mutual agreements to be concluded from time to time.

His Excellency Mr. Colombo also expressed his Government's willingness to provide governmental credit of about \$ 20 millions to, cover Italian exports to India. In addition, Italian export credits, pledged from time to time, could also be used for this purpose.

The two Ministers discussed possibilities of further Indo-Italian cooperation in the field of industry, trade, energy and technology.

Speaking after the signing of the agreement, Shri Venkataraman said that Italy has already assisted India significantly by providing export credits of over \$ 300 millions. Italy has also been supporting India in international forums like the Aid India Consortium and EEC. The Union Finance Minister said that economic relations between the two countries would be further strengthened by today's agreement and open up new vistas for technical cooperation between the two countries.

Shri Venkataraman said India greatly valued and appreciated the positive efforts by Italy to promote international cooperation.

Replying, the Foreign Minister of Italy expressed his satisfaction over the expanding cooperation between the two countries. He said his country was interested in developing further financial and economic relations with India.

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ALY INDIA SRI LANKA USA

Date : Feb 27, 1981

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1995

KENYA

Following is the text of the President of India, Shri N. Sanjiva Reddy's speech at the banquet hosted in honour of the President of Kenya, Mr. Daniel Arap Moi in New Delhi on Feb 23, 1981:

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

We feel doubly privileged to have Your Excellency amongst us tonight as this is the first State visit to our country by a President of Kenya. We, therefore, regard it as an important milestone in the close and friendly relations between the governments and peoples of our two countries.

The ties between India and Kenya are age old. With the Indian Ocean linking our two countries together, we have had a long history of friendship as well as social, cultural and commercial contacts. Indeed, a large number of people of Indian origin have made Kenya their home and I am happy to note that they have been making whatever contribution they can for the socio-economic development of Kenya.

Both India and Kenya have had to fight against colonialism for attaining their independence. Through the struggle that we have had to wage for our independence, we have come to realize and cherish the true value of freedom and racial equality. Both our countries have evolved democratic institutions that are best suited to the needs of our respective peoples. We in India have viewed with admiration Kenya's success in evolving a truly multi-racial and progressive society.

CHALLENGES

Today both India and Kenya face similar economic and social challenges. In India, after the achievement of our independence, our efforts have been directed towards striving for the welfare of the common man. We have been able to make reasonable progress in this direction, thanks to the advances we have made in both the agricultural and industrial spheres. We realise, however, that there is a lot more that needs to be achieved. Mr. President, we have noted with admiration the progress made by independent Kenya under the leadership of the late President Jomo Kenyatta and also under your own dynamic leadership. We are confident that with your able guidance, the people of Kenya will be able to achieve even greater Prosperity in the years to come.

Needless to say, we can best devote our energies to the urgent tasks of nation-building in a climate of peace and stability. It was for this purpose that in the early years of our independence, our first Prime Minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru conceived and

championed the policy of non-alignment as a guiding principle in our international relations. A growing number of countries have come to believe in the validity of this policy. The relevance of non-alignment has not diminished with the years. Instead, the movement has grown both in strength and in stature. Earlier, this month we had a meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the nonaligned countries in this very capital, which addressed itself to the basic political and economic issues that concern our world today.

GLOBAL TENSIONS

It is a matter of concern, however, that lately we have been witnessing signs of increasing global tension and a revival of great power rivalries. Detente and disarmament have been eroded and there is evidence of a phenomenal increase in the defence expenditure of the major powers. In our own proximity-in South East and South West Asia, the exacerbation of tensions has led us to view recent developments with deep anxiety. We sincerely hope that it will soon be possible to work out a peaceful political

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settlement of all these issues, which takes into account the interests of all concerned and restores normalcy to this entire region.

We are also, aware that there are some unsettled problems on your side of the Indian Ocean. We firmly believe that all disputes should be settled through peaceful means with full respect for the sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence of all states..

INDIAN OCEAN

The Indian Ocean itself is far from being a zone of Peace. On the contrary there is an intensification of military presence and rivalry in the area, in utter disregard of the U.N. Declaration on the subject. It is, therefore, necessary that the littoral and hinterland states of the Indian Ocean put up a united front during the Indian Ocean Conference that is to be held in Sri Lanka some time later this year. We must devise concrete plans to secure the implementation of the U. N. Declaration, thereby safeguarding the security interests and peaceful development of the countries in the region.

AFRICA'S LIBERATION

Mr. President, the Indian people have been closely associated with various phases of Africa's liberation. It was on African soil that Mahatma Gandhi, while fighting against racial discrimination, evolved his non-violent principles which were later successfully used to fight colonialism in India. Unfortunately, there are still some vestiges of colonialism and racism which remain on the African Continent. The apartheid

regime of South Africa continues to defy with impunity repeated appeals by the international community to listen to the call of reason. We are convinced that the abhorrent system of apartheid which is an insult to human dignity and a danger to world peace, cannot continue for long in the face of the valiant struggle waged by the African people. We will continue to support fully the people of South Africa in their struggle for attainment of their human and political rights.

We also deeply regret the attempts by South Africa to frustrate the implementation of the U.N. resolutions on Namibia and to give legitimacy to puppet groupings there. Only the people of Namibia have the right to determine their own destiny. We shall continue to give our support to SWAPO, the sole and legitimate representative of the people of Namibia, in their struggle for the freedom and independence of their country.

In the East African region, we are happy to note that a democratically elected Government has come to power in Uganda. Viable forms of regional cooperation amongst developing countries, particularly neighbours, are a worthy objective. The Summit meeting of the Presidents of Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania and Zambia in Kampala last month to review matters of common interest is a very welcome development. It is our hope that this will now pave the way for more harmonious relationship and fruitful cooperation between the countries of your region.

OIL-IMPORTING ECONOMIES

On the economic front, Mr. President, the economies of many of the oil-importing developing countries present a very gloomy picture today. There has been a marked slowdown in their economic growth, increased unemployment, high levels of inflation and an unprecedented balance-of-payments problems. The world economy has become highly interdependent and common economic problems can be solved only by the concerted action of all countries. While the situation needs bold and innovative solutions, the North South dialogue has not provided any concrete results so far. It is, therefore, imperative that countries like India and Kenya, whose economies are adversely affected, come closer together and strive for the restructuring of the present unjust international economic order.

I am happy to note that cooperation between India and Kenya exists in diverse fields. I am sure there is scope for this cooperation to be further strengthened. Since our independence, while tackling the challenges of economic development in our country, we have been able to acquire experience and expertise in various fields. We are willing to share our experiences in this regard with Kenya and other friendly deve-

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loping nations. Mr. President, it will be my Government's

endeavour to identify new areas of mutually beneficial cooperation and strive for the expansion of the already close and friendly relations between our two countries.

NYA INDIA USA PERU SOUTH AFRICA NAMIBIA UGANDA TANZANIA ZAMBIA

Date : Feb 23, 1981

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1995

KENYA

Text of Kenyan President's Speech

Replying to the toast Mr, Daniel Arap Moi said:

Mr. President, let me say at once that I have been deeply moved by the warmth of your welcome, reaching beyond all the courtesies and ceremonies, I and my delegation have felt drawn into an atmosphere of friendship and of trust. And we' have all felt inspired by the excellent arrangements made for this visit, and which will facilitate a proper exchange of views on so many issues which bear upon the cause of human welfare.

Mr. President, I bring to you, to Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, the Government and the people of India warm greetings from the people of Kenya. All Kenyans consider this state visit a major factor in cementing the already strong friendly relations between our two nations.

Mr. President as you know this is the first time that an official visit to your great nation has been undertaken by a Head of State from the Republic of Kenya. Thus, apart from its elements of pleasure and satisfaction, this occasion may be deemed to have historical significance.

In one particular way such a finding is most appropriate. Any visitor to India must instantly be conscious of having entered the Arena of History. This is a land of splendour and vitality, rooted in cultures both ancient and diverse. No other sub-continent has impelled, from artists and writers such anguished and such loyal attempts to capture all its flavours.

INFLUENCE OF GANDHI AND NEHRU

And out of all this there emerged - in our present century - leaders like Mahatma Gandhi and Nehru, the founders of modern

India. Through fashioning some blend of admirable philosophy and political ideals they introduced new guiding principles into the complex of human thinking. Historians of today acknowledge that pursuit or moulding of such principles has had profound impact upon the gathering global attainment of human dignity and self-determination.

Mr. President, perhaps on this occasion I should recall that moving and unforgettable experience when I met the late Prime Minister Nehru in 1962. I was in India to attend, as Kenya's Minister for Education, the first Commonwealth Special Education Meeting. It was a great honour, privilege and a truly valuable experience to meet Mr. Nehru. I am happy to be saying this at a function attended by Prime Minister Indird Gandhi, Mr. Nehru's daughter. I assure Mrs. Gandhi that the people of Kenya wish her well as she carries out her very demanding responsibilities.

FRUITFUL COOPERATION

Mr. President, cooperation between India and Kenya has always been of a special nature and based on solid foundations. During our own struggle for independence, I can recall the unfailing support we received from the Indian National Congress, and later - the influence exerted in World Councils by the Government of India itself. Moreover, every effort was made to give political help and encouragement some practical bias as well. And one result of that practical help was that a number of leaders who became prominent in Kenya after our independence were educated and trained in India. Mr. President, India continues to assist us in this manner and we have many Kenyan students now studying in India. I take this opportunity to thank your people and Government for this generosity.

Mr. President, I now go to another subject which is also related to cooperation between our two countries. As is well

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known, the Republic of Kenya has demonstrated the futility of those claiming to believe that no country could prosper on a multi-racial basis. We have welcomed and absorbed many different talents and characters, at first associated with separate faces and tribes, but now all welded together within the stable structure of our nationhood.

INDIAN COMMUNITY

We have now in Kenya, for example, many groups and communities of Indian origin. They have made, in aggregate, a tremendous contribution to our national development, not least in such fields as the transfer of technology and the development of commerce and industry.

Supplementing this internal effort, our economic advancement has

been promoted by the strong and growing economic cooperation we have with India. This cooperation is in many fields. Trade between our two nations continues to flourish. There is also the growing and productive Indian participation, alongside that of the Kenya Government, in various industrial enterprises. Moreover, we have drawn benefit from technical assistance in such fields as medicine, engineering and aviation. Once again, I take this opportunity to thank the Government and people of India for their generous support.

HUMAN LIBERTY AND DIGNITY

But having said all that, I should now make it clear that our mutual relationship has not been confined to the mechanics or techniques of business and development. Something else, non-material in form but of profound importance, has emerged. In particular and as applied to the broadest conduct of human affairs. We have found ourselves constantly advancing or supporting the same set of moralities and principles.

Mr. President, it is comforting indeed to be able to identify so many shared convictions. We both believe in human liberty and dignity. And so together we condemn all remaining instances of colonial or racial oppression. We both believe in peace, globally and in each region, and in this connection we are especially concerned that the Indian ocean should remain a zone of peace.

NON-ALIGNMENT

Both India and Kenya have pronounced respect for the territorial integrity of all nations. Whether separately or in concert. (our voice in world affairs has given the principle of Non-alignment credibility and vivid purpose. We have both worked and will go on working for new and equitable inter, national trade practices, for more equitable distribution of opportunities, and for the respect of social justice.

Our two republics have long been in close accord during discussion on these and other issues at United Nations and other international forums, and we have been equally concerned that the commonwealth should reflect a true picture of this modern age. So that it becomes another and powerful force or pressure-group for peace and world wide human progress.

Such a catalogue of shared endeavour permits emphasis to be placed on one very critical point. The human race today is beset by frustrations springing from appalling divergence between affluence and poverty, between blind greed and sheer lack of any means. At the same time, human destiny is threatened by the adventurings of power blocs determined to sustain - or to enforce - their divergent ideologies.

In this situation, I believe that nothing is more important than

solidarity within the Third World. We must rejoice whenever cooperation between us all is natural and genuine. In other cases, we must seek to sweep aside any petty disputes or difference, so that Third World expressions and convictions are at last seen to be universal. Only that way will our voice for world wide development and justice achieve a force that cannot be ignored.

INDIA'S TECHNICAL EXPERTISE SOUGHT

Mr. President, now let me come to some conclusion; the formal objective of my visit to India is to discuss with you a number of bilateral issues and international problems. Some of which I have touched upon in this speech. I also look forward to explaining to you the aspirations of my country and the strategies we are using to achieve those aspirations. I also look forward
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to learning as much as possible from the outcomes of your longer experience. And here, Mr. President, we must congratulate the Government and the people of India for their achievements in the field of technology, high level manpower development, and food production among others. There is indeed a lot which other developing countries, Kenya included, can learn from you and your extensive experience.

It is with that kind of consideration in mind that during this visit my delegation will be meeting with Members of your Government to discuss cultural and trade agreements and deal with other technical matters. But we do not look at these discussions as a once and for all exercise. Indeed I hope that over the subsequent period, we will strive to stimulate a more regular and extensive series of dialogues and consultations. I look forward to the time when there are constant exchange visits, involving our respective Members of Parliament, groups of farmers or businessmen, research workers and technologists, athletes and artists.

Mr. President, just one final point. In the state of accord that is now reached between India and Kenya, lies the only seed of hope for salvation and betterment of the mass populations on this planet. It must be realised that the ills and constraints which now afflict humanity can only be overcome through the force of unity, mutual trust and social justice. There must be pooling in this cause, of resources, of dedication and of burning faith in what is right. The Republic of India and the Republic of Kenya have taken some steps along this road. Let us together go on, with the conviction that more and more others will join us in this honourable struggle and meeting its challenge.

And now Ladies and Gentlemen, I ask you all to be upstanding and join me in a toast to the health and happiness of his Excellency President Reddy, the Government and People of the Republic of

India, continued cooperation between India and Kenya and all the friends present here tonight.

NYA USA INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Feb 23, 1981

Volume No

1995

KENYA

India Kenya Sign Agreements

Following is the text of a Press Note issued in New Delhi on Feb 24, 1981:

The Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Republic of Kenya signed three Agreements, covering the fields of Education, Culture, Technical and Economic Cooperation and Trade, today. The three Agreements were signed in the presence of Kenyan President, His Excellency Mr. Daniel T. Arap Moi, and the Prime Minister of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi.

The Cultural Agreement was signed by Honourable J. J. Kamotho, M.P., Minister for Higher Education, and his Indian Counterpart, Shri S. B. Chavan, Minister of Education and Social Welfare. This wide ranging agreement aims at developing closer cultural relations between India and Kenya through cooperation in the areas of art, appreciation of cultural heritage, education, research and training in the field of education and science and technology, sports, public health and mass media. The agreement envisages setting up of a Joint Committee by the two Governments, which will be responsible for reviewing the implementation of the agreement.

The Kenyan Minister of State, Mr. N. Biwott, M.P., signed the Economic and Technical Cooperation Agreement with Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, Foreign Minister of the Republic of India. This Agreement envisages cooperation in all economic and technical sectors, with special emphasis on exchange of personnel in the fields of engineering, medicine, education and agriculture. India has also agreed to provide training places for Kenyan nationals in the fields of medicine, engineering and agriculture in Indian Institutions of higher education.

TRADE

The Trade Agreement was signed on behalf of India by Shri Pranab Mukherjee,
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Minister of Commerce, and on the Kenyan side by Honourable Dr. M. Waiyaki, M.P., Minister for Industry. The Trade Agreement provides for the two countries a mostfavoured nation treatment in matters of trade. India and Kenya will make endeavours to encourage direct trade, to increase the volume. of trade between the two countries and to promote cooperation and increased trade between their State Trading Organisations. Under the Agreement, a Joint Committee will be set up to review the implementation of the Agreement and will suggest proposals for further expansion and diversification of trade between India and Kenya. India and Kenya have also agreed to enlarge the scope of cooperation in the area of industrial development and technical assistance. Specific programmes and projects For economic and industrial cooperation have been identified, in the sphere of machine tools, pesticides, sugar, cement plants, PVC resins, oxygen plants, drugs and pharmaceuticals, animal feed plants and rubber reclamation plants. Setting up of Kenya-India joint ventures will also be explored in the field of steel tubes, cold rolled steel plants and basic drugs. Kenya and India agreed to identify the specific areas of cooperation in providing training and manufacturing facilities in the field of electronics, agricultural machinery, industrial designs, small power looms, leather an" leather goods. India has agreed that a project would be formulated for establishing industrial training facilities in Kenya and an exchange of programme in identified areas of specialisation would be arranged in the field of research and development and standardisation. Kenya has agreed to provide more soda ash to India. It has also agreed to supply acid grade fluorspar.

These Agreements are expected to further expand and consolidate friendly relations between the two countries and to expand economic, cultural and trade ties.

NYA INDIA UNITED KINGDOM USA RUSSIA

Date : Feb 24, 1981

Volume No

1995

KENYA

India-Kenya Joint Communique

Following is the text of India-Kenya Joint Communiqué issued in New Delhi on Feb 27, 1981:

At the invitation of the President of India, Shri Neelam Sanjiva Reddy, the President of the Republic of Kenya, His Excellency Daniel Arap Mbi paid a State Visit to India from February 22 to 27, 1981. The visit took place in a warm and friendly atmosphere, which has always characterised the relations between India and Kenya.

The President of the Republic of Kenya held extensive talks on international issues with the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi. They also reviewed bilateral relations and ways to further develop them. These talks were held in an atmosphere of mutual cordiality, trust and understanding.

In these talks, the Kenyan President was assisted by Hon. Mr. C. Njonjo, MP, Minister of Home and Constitutional Affairs; Hon. Mr. R. J. Ouko, MP, Minister for Foreign Affairs; Hon. Mr. N. Diwott, MP, Minister of State, Office of the President; Hon. Mr. M. Waiyaki, MP, Minister of Industry; Hon. Mr. J. J. Kamotho, MP, Minister of Higher Education; Hon. Mr. John Keen, MP, Assistant Minister, Minister of Economic, Planning and Development; Hon. Mr. I. K. A. Salat, MP, Assistant Minister, Office of the President; Mr. S. Nyache, Permanent Secretary, Office of the President; Mr. J. K. Muchemi, Permanent Secretary, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Mr. Y. F. O. Masakhalia, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Economic Planning and Development; and Mr. P. G. Gitonga, Kenya High Commissioner to India.

The Indian Prime Minister was assisted by Shri Pranab, Mukherjee, Minister of Commerce; Shri S. B. Chavan, Minister of Education and Culture; Dr. Charanjit Chanana, Minister of State for Industry; Shri C. R. Krishnaswamy Rao Sahib, Secretary to the Prime Minister; Shri K. S. Rajan, Secretary (Heavy Industry), Ministry of Industry; Shri Romesh Bhandari,
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Secretary Ministry of External Affairs; Shri P. K. Kaul, Secretary, Ministry of Commerce; Shri R. N. Malhotra, Secretary (Economic Affairs), Ministry of Finance; Shri T. N. Chaturvedi, Secretary, Ministry of Education & Culture; Shri J. R. Biromath, Additional Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs; Shri V. K. Grover, High Commissioner of India in Kenya; and Shri K. N. Bakshi, Joint Secretary (PMO).

The President of Kenya during his stay visited some industrial as well as technological and agricultural research institutes in Delhi, Jaipur, Pune and Bombay.

The President of Kenya and the Prime Minister of India recalled the genesis and the circumstances of the Kenyan struggle against colonialism and for independence. They recalled the support and

solidarity which existed between the two countries during the time of struggle. The Prime Minister of India expressed admiration for the continuing efforts of the Kenyan leadership in moulding a multi-racial society. The President of Kenya also expressed admiration for India's success in maintaining unity in diversity and for the progress India has made in various fields.

The President of Kenya and the Prime Minister of India agreed that tension and confrontation in southern Africa could not be abolished and peace established until the liberation of Namibia from the illegal occupation by South Africa and the dismantling of the structure of apartheid in South Africa are achieved. They reaffirm their total support for the Namibian people's inalienable right to freedom, and also their solidarity with the struggle led by the South West African People's Organisation (SWAPO), the sole legitimate and genuine representative of the Namibian people. Both the leaders condemned all attempts by South Africa to subvert the U.N. Plan for a peaceful settlement in Namibia, as contained in the Security Council Resolution 435 (1979) and deplored the actions of certain states which encouraged the apartheid regime of South Africa to persist in its intransigence and arrogant defiance of world opinion. Both the President of Kenya and the Prime Minister of India expressed India's strong condemnation of the acts of unprovoked armed aggression carried out by the South African regime against the frontline States. President Moi expressed his appreciation of India's unwavering support for the cause of liberation in Southern Africa.

The Prime Minister of India noted with satisfaction the renewed efforts being made by the leaders of the countries in East Africa to have greater cooperation. Both the leaders felt that the recent summit meeting in Uganda was a welcome development and would contribute to greater peace, stability and economic progress in the region.

The President of Kenya and the Prime Minister of India expressed deep concern over the escalation of great power military presence and rivalry in the Indian Ocean. Despite the expressed wishes of the littoral and hinterland States, the great powers were intensifying their military competition with serious consequences for peace and stability in the region. They noted with regret the suspension of the bilateral talks on naval arms limitation in the Indian Ocean between the Soviet Union and the United States. They urged all great powers as well as other maritime users of the Indian Ocean to cooperate with the littoral and hinterland States in preparing for the U.N. Conference on the Indian Ocean in Sri Lanka, in 1981, with a view to implementing the 1971 U.N. Declaration on the Indian Ocean as a 'Zone of Peace'.

The President of Kenya and the Prime Minister of India reviewed the situation in the Middle East and called upon Israel to comply with the repeated resolutions of the United Nations, the

implementation of which is essential to ensure peace and security in the Middle East in particular, and in the world in general. Both sides reaffirmed the need to strive for a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East and that this could not be established without the withdrawal of Israel from all occupied Arab Territories, including Jerusalem. Both sides reiterated the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people for self-determination and to a free, independent and sovereign nation state of their own.

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The two sides noted with deep concern the developments in South-West Asia. They viewed them as a natural consequence of the aggravated tensions and great power confrontation in this region which posed a threat to the entire Third World. Both sides reaffirmed their belief in the cardinal principles of non-intervention and non-interference in the internal affairs of States. They called for a political settlement on the basis of the withdrawal of foreign troops and strict respect for the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and nonaligned status of Afghanistan.

The President of Kenya and the Prime Minister of India expressed their regret over the armed conflict between Iraq and Iran. They considered it to be detrimental to the interests of the peoples of the two countries, as well as the cause of regional and international welfare, peace and security. They urged a speedy settlement of the conflict by peaceful means. Both sides supported the efforts of the United Nations and the Non-aligned Movement to achieve this objective on the basis of the principles of the U.N. and the Non-aligned Movement.

The present situation in South East Asia was also reviewed. Both sides expressed their support for the stand taken, on this subject by the Ministerial Conference of Non-aligned Countries in New Delhi (9th to 13th February, 1981). They noted with concern the dangerous situation prevailing in South East Asia and called for a political solution which could ensure full respect for the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of all states in the region.

The two sides declared and reaffirmed their commitment to the goal of making the world free from nuclear weapons. They were of the opinion that attempts to single out particular regions, or sub-regions, for the creation and imposition of nuclear weapons free zone would divert attention from the attainment of the fundamental goal of universal nuclear disarmament.

The President of Kenya and the Prime Minister of India reaffirmed their faith in the policy of non-alignment and noted that the Non-aligned Movement, which now represents the hopes and aspirations of the majority of mankind, had become an independent and positive force for world peace. They expressed the hope that

through strict adherence to the principles of non-alignment and by stressing the common bonds which united non-aligned countries, the Movement would be able to forge a common strategy and consensus which would represent the real essence of non-alignment. The two sides noted the success of the Conference of the Foreign Ministers of the Non-aligned countries held recently in New Delhi.

The President of Kenya and the Prime Minister of India agreed that the world economic situation had deteriorated for the developing countries. They called for effective and urgent steps for improving the international economic climate and for the establishment of a New International Economic Order. ,

The President of Kenya and the Prime Minister of India expressed satisfaction that bilateral relations had been progressing smoothly. Both sides felt there was scope for further strengthening mutually beneficial cooperation in various fields. The President of Kenya expressed satisfaction at the assurance by the Prime Minister of India to provide assistance for the developmental programmes of Kenya, particularly in the field of small scale industries in rural areas, and for increased technical training and educational facilities, in India for Kenyan students. In response to a request from the Kenyan side, it was agreed that India would make available a government-to-government credit to Kenya for the import of Indian machinery and equipment and a further IBBI credit for similar imports. Details regarding these credits would be worked out through diplomatic channels.

Both sides expressed mutual satisfaction that the following Agreements had been signed during the visit of the President of the Republic of Kenya:

- i) Cultural Agreement.
- ii) Economic and Technical Cooperation Agreement.
- iii) Trade Agreement.

They felt that such cooperation reflected the principles contained in the Economic
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Declaration of the Sixth Non-aligned Summit that economic cooperation for development, among the non-aligned and other developing countries, was an important part of the struggle for the establishment of a New International Economic Order. In the spirit of this cooperation, discussions were held between the two sides on the need for early conclusion of an Agreement for the Avoidance of Double Taxation. It was hoped that an agreement on the subject would be signed between the two countries in the near future.

The President of Kenya thanked the President of India, the

Government and the people of India and expressed his deep appreciation for the warm hospitality extended to him and his delegation during his visit to India.

The President of Kenya extended invitations to the President and the Prime Minister of India to visit Kenya. The invitations were accepted with pleasure.

NYA INDIA USA UNITED KINGDOM TONGA ITALY NAMIBIA SOUTH AFRICA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC UGANDA ISRAEL AFGHANISTAN IRAN IRAQ PERU

Date : Feb 27, 1981

Volume No

1995

NETHERLANDS

Agreed Minutes of Indo-Dutch Economic Cooperation Signed

Following is the text of a Press Release issued M New Delhi on Feb 27, 1981:

India and the Netherlands have decided to commence negotiations for the conclusion of an agreement on economic and 'technical cooperation. They have also discussed the possibilities of cooperation in the fields of trade and industry, agriculture, shipping, science and technology, culture and joint ventures and other development projects in the third countries.

The talks were held here between Indian and Dutch delegations from February 23 to 27, 1981. The Indian delegation was led by Shri Pranab Mukherjee, Minister of Commerce and Steel & Mines and Dutch delegation by His Royal Highness Prince Claus. The two leaders signed the summary of discussions and conclusions reached during the talks, here today.

During the meetings intentions were formulated for improving the relations between India and The Netherlands. It was decided that on the basis of these conclusions further negotiations would take place and, as far as appropriate, agreements would be formulated.

INDUSTRIALISED COLLABORATION

Both sides agreed that there were greater possibilities for cooperation in industrial collaboration in India. Though India had developed expertise in many industrial spheres and had a fairly well-developed industrial infra-structure, collaboration

with Dutch private companies in the fields involving sophisticated technology would be welcome. Some of the specific fields where such collaboration might be promoted were machinery for leather processing, electronic weighing machine, machine tools industry, L.T. and H.T. circuit breakers, slurry type industrial explosives, process control equipments, fibre glass industry, construction of pipe-lines - onshore and off shore, and telecommunication.

During the talks, both sides recognised the need for strengthening the existing economic and commercial relations and broaden the areas of contact to various spheres of economic activities. The Indian side took note of the progressive and liberal approach

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of the Dutch Government in promoting exports from the developing countries and it was hoped that the Dutch Government would use its influence in the various international fora including EEC' for a liberal world trading system.

The Indian sides noted with satisfaction the assistance which was being rendered by C.B.I. in The Netherlands for promoting exports from the developing countries. In this context the ongoing discussions between CBI and Trade Development Authority of India for financing an integrated Commercial Development Programme was referred to. TDA had also proposed follow up action on the Rotterdam Fair held in May 1980.

SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT

The Indian delegation expressed interest in obtaining Dutch collaboration in several fields of shipping and transport. These areas were consultancy services for container handling facilities at Bombay and Madras ports, consultancy services for micro level planning and guiding containerisation in the country, collaboration in the field of dredger building industry and dry docks.

In order to promote closer contacts between the industries in both countries, the two delegations felt that the representatives of private enterprises could be associated with the meetings of Indo-Netherlands Joint Committee. In addition, the possibilities of establishing a Joint Business Council between the National Chambers of Commerce and Industry of the two countries could also be explored.

INVESTMENT IN INDIA

The question of promoting Dutch investment in India was discussed in the meeting. The Indian side pointed out the nondiscriminatory nature of the Indian investment policies and practices and explained the constitutional and legal positions safeguarding

investments permitted in India. Dutch investments in specific economic spheres in India, particularly in high biology areas and export oriented ventures, were not only welcome but were also well protected under the existing constitutional and legal provisions. It was recognised that in appropriate industrial collaboration, use of public as well as private funds from India and The Netherlands including development cooperation funds, could be envisaged. Such arrangements for financing could be worked out on a project to project basis.

The two sides agreed that there was scope for collaboration in joint ventures and other development projects in third countries. There were also possibilities of joint international bindings,. Engineering Export Promotion Council in India and an appropriate organisation in the Netherlands could act as focal points for promoting joint ventures in the third countries.

Possibilities of tripartite cooperation in executing development activities particularly in the field of agriculture and agro-industries in other developing countries were also discussed. The two side felt that it would be possible to arrive at tripartite cooperation arrangements on a project by project basis between Government of India, The Netherlands and the third country where such projects were being executed.

AGRICULTURE

The two - sides expressed desire of strengthening cooperation in the fields of agriculture and allied sectors. The objectives of such cooperation would be benefit mutually from advanced technology in areas of interest to be identified, to establish inter-institutional links between scientific research centres and institutes in 'the two countries, jointly undertake agriculture, post-harvest technology and animal husbandry development programmes in India and third countries, jointly assist third country projects by way of supply of equipment, trained manpower and training facilities from India and the Netherlands and jointly organise programmes of education and training for the benefit of personnel from third countries requiring such assistance.

It was decided that the projection of such cooperation would be through exchange of scientists, technologists, farmers and students, exchange of germ plasm and breeding material, including seed and plant material, exchange of scientific literature, information and-transfer of technology in
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the fields identified above, import and export of scientific and engineering equipment as available and required in programmes of common interest as may be mutually agreed upon, and grant of fellowships to scientists, technologists, extension personnel and students.

The two delegations identified several areas for such collaboration. These were improvement in animal and poultry breeds, production of veterinary vaccines, development of processing equipment for animal products, improvement in the production of agricultural and horticultural (vegetables mushrooms, flower and fruit) products and seeds, cooperation in area development, technology in the management of post harvest operations, establishment of agro-industries and research in the field of crop sciences, soil sciences and animal sciences and cooperation in the field of agri-education and training.

Particular emphasis was laid on the need to establish a pilot project for export production of fruits, vegetables, flowers and seeds.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

The two sides expressed their desire to strengthen cooperation in the fields of science and technology.

Some of the areas for such cooperation which were identified during the meeting included hydraulic engineering, wind energy, and other renewable sources of energy, low temperature physics and technology, video engineering, petroleum technology and electronics. The two sides expressed willingness to enter into negotiations for concluding a cultural agreement. This would cover cooperation amongst institutions of higher education and technology in the fields of arts, culture, humanities, social sciences, sciences etc. and promote cooperation between the two sides in the field of mass media.

The Netherlands delegation expressed interest in facilitating mobilisation of funds provided by or from Dutch private banks for India's development effort, in addition to the existing concessional aid-flows. It was indicated that these would be available on commercial terms, for periods of 8 to 10 years, and could be lent either to financial institutions in India or direct to the project implementing agency for specific projects. While it would be appropriate to use such funds primarily for bankable projects, the delegation added that development cooperation funds could be used for non-commercial components of such projects, thus fulfilling the policy objectives of the use of development cooperation funds.

Expressing appreciation of the view of The ' Netherlands Government, the Indian side pointed out that in view of the paucity of aid funds on soft terms, the Government of India had started tapping the Eurodollar market for specific high priority projects selected on the basis of their foreign exchange requirements and their ability to generate foreign exchange resources, either through export or import-savings, so as to meet the debt service obligation. The Indian side also mentioned that

the Dutch banks' funds could become available through participation by the Dutch banks in such Euro-dollar borrowings, on comparative terms.

The Indian side confirmed that Dutch private banks were welcome to channel their funds into India, through a Dutch party, in projects involving transfer of high technology or in 100 per cent export-oriented projects, in accordance with relevant foreign investment regulations in India.

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DIA THE NETHERLANDS USA UNITED KINGDOM

Date : Feb 27, 1981

Volume No

1995

NIGERIA

Indian Help to Nigeria in Water Resources Development

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Feb 02, 1981:

India has expressed her readiness to help Nigeria in the development of her water resources and irrigation. The offer was made by Shri Z. R. Ansari, Union Minister of State for Irrigation when a ten-member delegation led by Alhaji Bala Tafidan Yauri, Commissioner of Trade and Industry, Nigeria, called on him here this morning.

The two sides discussed matters of mutual interest and the areas in which India could help Nigeria. Shri Ansari was assisted in the discussions by Shri C. C. Patel, Secretary, Ministry of Irrigation and Shri O. P. Chadha, Chairman and Managing Director, Water and Power Development Consultancy Services (India) Ltd. (WAPCOS), a public undertaking under the Ministry of Irrigation.

Shri Ansari said that the problems of the developing countries, especially of the Afro-Asian region, were almost similar and it was in their mutual interest to cooperate with each other for their economic development. He said that India was ready to offer whatever expertise she has developed in the field of water resources, irrigation, flood control and training of manpower to a friendly country like Nigeria.

In furtherance of this offer, the delegation will hold detailed

discussions with the Central Water Commission and WAPCOS. It will also be visiting certain projects in the field.

The Nigerian delegation is currently in the country to explore possibilities of cooperation in various fields.

GER NIGERIA INDIA LATVIA USA CHAD

Date : Feb 02, 1981

Volume No

1995

NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's Inaugural Address at Non-aligned Foreign Ministers' Conference

Following is the text of the Inaugural Address by the Prime Minister, sent. Indira Gandhi at the Conference of Foreign Ministers of Non-aligned countries in New Delhi on Feb 09, 1981 :

Today we could well echo 'Mahatma Gandhi's words when he said, 'India wants to be independent of everybody who wants to own this country. We do not want a change of masters. We want to be masters on our own soil.' These words characterise the political foundation of non-alignment. All of us, coming from various continents, Asia, Africa, Europe and the Americas want to be masters of our soil and our future. It is to this pursuit of freedom and the peace so essential for freedom and I welcome you, the delegates, distinguished Ministers and Representatives of nonaligned countries. Here are assembled nearly a hundred nations. Each has its distinct personality, its own travails and triumphs I welcome you to this Conference and to India. Delhi has been witness to history dating back to our epics.

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It has been the citadel of empires and it has seen the fall. of empires. To us, it symbolises the, will to freedom of resurgent India.

With prescience of our common problems and the later need to stand together, my father Jawaharlal Nehru convened an Asian Relations Conference in Delhi in March 1947, even before we, and the many others who attended with such enthusiasm, were free.

PEACE, FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY

Oil the historic and magic day when India's independence was proclaimed, my father declared that India looked at the world with clear and friendly eyes and would cooperate with all nations and peoples of the world in furthering peace, freedom and democracy. Since then we have worked consistently to democratise international relations, we have supported liberation struggles, we have fought against all foreign domination and racism, and have pleaded the cause of co-existence and the peaceful resolution of conflicts. Peace is not that which teeters on the brink. That is the absence of war, yet it threatens war. Nor can peace be based on outmoded concepts of imperialism, military alliances, spheres of influence or balance of power and competition in nuclear and conventional terror.

Mr. Chairman, many changes have occurred since the Non-aligned Summit was held in your brave and beautiful country eighteen months ago. We hear of a crisis of character, a crisis of civilization. What else can we expect when, having so recently seen the horror and heartbreak of war, countries still prepare for a new military confrontation? There is disquiet in Europe, gathering danger in Asia, and new pressures on Latin America and the Caribbeans. Non-aligned countries are being asked to stand tip and be counted for or against one side or the, other. We see the familiar efforts to turn one non-aligned country against another, to weaken our solidarity and the cohesion of our movement. These are backed by economic threats and blandishments on the one hand and military might and bases on the other.

RELEVANCE OF NON-ALIGNMENT

The realities of the world situation the possibility of a nuclear armageddon by a single lapse or rash act - reinforce the relevance of non-alignment and demand a rededication to peace. From this Conference should issue a call to the big powers to de-escalate belligerent rhetoric, to reduce presences in the Indian Ocean and in the various parts of Asia and Africa, and to resume the earnest search for understanding and peace.

We are all deeply distressed at events in Afghanistan. The unhappy conflict in West Asia between two of our own brothers has had adverse consequences for the peoples of these two countries as well as other non-aligned nations. These developments have given encouragement to forces which work against our movement and have increased the risk of intervention. Let us hope that big powers will not be tempted to take 'advantage to enlarge local disputes into wider confrontations. In the name of peace and the future of mankind, we pleaded with the combatants, and appeal to those who are waiting in the wings, to call their youngmen back to their homes.

COLONIALISM AND RACISM

At this Conference we must again raise our voices against the

last bastions of colonialism and racism. We salute the victorious people of Zimbabwe and the brave freedom fighters, of Namibia, South Africa and Palestine. We deplore the failure of the recent talks in Geneva and the manner in which the U.N. Plan for the independence of Namibia is being frustrated by South Africa's obstructiveness.

Experience has shown that political subjugation and economic exploitation go hand in hand. So, through political freedom, we hoped to achieve economic advance. The economic dimension of the policy of non-alignment is no less important than the political. In Algiers, Colombo and Havana, the Conference articulated the economic content of non-alignment. Yet for most of us economic prospects have been worsening with each passing month. I strongly urge that global negotiations be

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undertaken without further delay to pave the way for a new international economic order.

At the same time we have our own responsibility, highlighted by the impasse in North-South negotiations, to reduce our vulnerability to the actions of developed countries. The Havana spirit urged collective self-reliance. The main sanction of developing countries is in our solidarity. This solidarity must be built by a process of reconciliation and harmonisation of our mutual interests.

HELPING OURSELVES

If protectionism - the classic weapon of the strong against the weak - is used against us, should we not expand trade amongst ourselves? If advanced technology and aid (and even food) are used as instruments of pressure, should we not devise and adopt comprehensive measures for mutually beneficial financial, technological and agricultural cooperation' among our countries? Today our capabilities are diverse enough to permit meaningful transfer of technology, skills and financial resources among ourselves.

Some affluent countries do recognise the interdependence of nations and the need for cooperation. Hence our negotiating positions should be formulated in a dynamic context and our energies concentrated on mapping out our own strategy.

UNITED WE CAN PREVAIL

At every meeting of the non-aligned, big powers seem to redouble their diplomatic and publicity campaign to sow suspicion and division within us. As free peoples we must stand together. Working in unison on the basis of our original principles and purposes will fortify us to withstand pressures. Divided we are vulnerable, united we can and shall prevail. Let this simple

truth guide your deliberations in the next few days. Let us not fall prey to suggestive propaganda. We are here not to juggle with words but to find a way to reinforce the authority and effectiveness of the Non-aligned movement.

Today is regarded as an auspicious day in India. Vasant Panchami, the first day of spring, and dedicated to learning and the arts. It is a good day for a Conference, devoted to peace and harmony.

On behalf of the Government and people of India, I greet you once again. Millions of eyes are focussed on this Conference and millions of hearts wish you well.

DIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC AFGHANISTAN NAMIBIA ZIMBABWE SOUTH AFRICA
SWITZERLAND ALGERIA CUBA SRI LANKA

Date : Feb 09, 1981

Volume No

1995

NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's Keynote Address at Commemorative Session of 20th Anniversary of Non-aligned Countries

Following is the text of the Keynote Address by the Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi, at the commemorative meeting in New Delhi on Feb 11, 1981 to mark the 20th anniversary of the first Conference of Non-aligned Nations which was held in Belgrade:

I feel privileged to speak on behalf of the 660 million people of India at this meeting to mark the 20th anniversary of the first Conference of Non-aligned Nations, which was held in Belgrade. Even before that Conference, nation after newly free nation had proclaimed its allegiance to and adoption of non-alignment. Close bonds of fellow feeling and common purpose had already been established among them. Belgrade represented a formal demonstration of a community of interest.

Many more nations have joined our family. What is the spirit that moves us? The spirit of national freedom. What is the common objective for which we work? Peace - which can be achieved and preserved on the basis of political and economic equality among nations, the elimination of military domination and a determination to bring about disarmament.

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This ennobling goal was bequeathed to us by the liberators and founding fathers of our various nations. They are indeed great emancipators. The list of their names is long, and each is illustrious. But to me some stand out as examples worthy of special mention - Jawaharlal Nehru, Ahmed Soekarno, Gamal Abdel Nasser, Kwame Nkrumah and Josip Broz Tito. These are the few whose farsighted vision nursed the concept and nurtured the unity of the non-aligned.

NON-ALIGNMENT AND ANTI-COLONIALISM

There is an integral, intrinsic and indissoluble link between non-alignment and anti-colonialism. The man who led the very first anti-colonial battle stated in his farewell message: "It is our true policy to steer clear of permanent alliances in any portion of the foreign world".

It has also been said "whose freedom is by sufferance and at will of a superior, he is never free." Having struggled so hard against domination, could we again accept the shelter of the umbrellas and shields of others? Could we acquiesce in outside advice as to where our interests lie, and who our friends should be? Was it for this that vast numbers of brave men and women suffered and died?

FRIENDSHIP WITH ALL

We want to be friends with all. India's policy is to consolidate friendship where it exists; where there is indifference, to create understanding and interest; and where there is hostility, to make every effort to minimise it. It is also our endeavour to find common areas, however small, between us and other nations, and to enlarge them.

The past few years saw a welcome trend. Countries bound in military alliances sought to reach out to, and build bridges with, peoples in other camps. Those who had earlier spared no occasion to declare non-alignment irrelevant have now changed their stance and announced it to be obsolete. Surely a concept does not become obsolete just when its validity is accepted by its former opponents?

COLD WAR

Little did we imagine that the Cold War could so soon reassert itself. The thaw was short-lived. Military alliances are now being refurbished. The danger of armed conflict increases. Clear enough, reason for us to remain alert, speaking and working for peace.

Over the centuries, Europe has been the arena of bitter feuds and wars. Yet even in the 18th century, its wars were extended to

Asia and America. In the 19th century also, European empires fought one another in Asia, Africa and elsewhere. And in our century Europe and America are conveniently and subtly transferring their problems to Asian soil. The Atlantic has polluted not only itself, but also the Pacific and Indian Oceans.

The present situation is somewhat similar, though far more perilous, to that which faced the 1961 Belgrade Conference. That Summit declared that the consequences of nuclear war would affect the entire world, and all nations and peoples therefore had an abiding concern and interest in the avoidance of this calamity. The Conference then directly appealed to the leaders of the USA and USSR to avert nuclear war.

The non-aligned movement originally developed in the context of a bipolar world. In course of time other centres of power came up and used their military and economic capacities to bend the policies of newly-free or small countries to fit in with their strategies. Today even this multipolarity is less in evidence.

NUCLEAR RACE

Peace is vital for the evolution of mankind to the fulness of its promise and Potential. But the prospects for peace have receded. The nuclear race carries with it the probability of nuclear war just as rainclouds bring rain. Saving the world from nuclear war - and other wars must be one of our foremost concerns.

What was said in Belgrade is still true and bears repetition -
"The Non-aligned group of nations do not consider that dif-
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ferences in social systems constitute an insurmountable obstacle for the stabilisation of peace, provided that attempts at domination and interference in the internal affairs of peoples and nations, and the use of ideologies for waging war, exercising pressure or imposing one's will are ruled out."

The renewal of assertive animosity between great powers, the competition of military presences in various parts of the globe, particularly in the West, South and South-East Asia, the vertical increase in the stockpiles of nuclear-weapon powers, the neglect of economic development and unfair practices in international trade - all these project new problems to challenge and justify our own endeavours. Our obligation is to exercise our independent judgement, to individually build self-reliance and collectively resist moves to divide us.

ECONOMIC CRISIS

Of great concern to all of us are the wide inequalities and disequilibriums in the economic and social structures of the world, the glaring imbalances between demographic pressures and

access to material and technological resources. What should be invested in construction is being channelled into destruction. There is a global waste of talent and resources.

The solutions of today's critical international economic problems need the total involvement of all nations. Global well-being will be illusory unless the aspirations of developing countries are reflected in the management of the international economy and in the decisions of international negotiations. No less urgent is the ending of inequalities within our own societies.

At the root of several problems which confront the non-aligned are differences which are imported from outside and fostered by external forces. Members of our group have been subjected progressively to a variety of political and economic pressures.

Let us unite to overcome them. Let us reassert the basic proposition of safeguarding freedom and defending justice and peace. For ourselves also we must establish guidelines to promote greater cohesion within our movement. Above all, let us resolve to settle disputes among our own member-States, reconciling our differences through mutual understanding and restraint, resisting external interference.

Non-alignment is neither neutrality nor indifference. It involves active and free exercise of judgement on certain principles. Peace is not passive. As a remarkable woman of my country, the poet Sarojini Naidu said, true peace is not the peace of negation, not the peace of surrender, not the peace of the coward, not the peace of the dying, not the peace of the dead but the peace militant, dynamic, creative, of the human spirit which exalts. Today let us concern ourselves with the future, mobilising all our resources, material and moral, in our cooperative quest for such a peace.

GOSLAVIA INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC OMAN

Date : Feb 11, 1981

Volume No

1995

NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT

Minister of External Affairs P. V. Narasimha Rao's Speech at Non-aligned Foreign Ministers' Conference

Following is the text of the speech by the Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, on being elected Chairman of

the Coenference of Foreign Ministers of Non-aligned Countries in New Delhi on Feb 09, 1981:

Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen, I thank you most sincerely for electing me unanimously to the office of the Chairman of this Conference of Foreign Ministers of Non-Aligned countries. I am in particular very grateful to the distinguished Foreign Minister of Bangladesh for proposing my name and for the generous references he has made to me personally. My thanks are also due to the distinguished Foreign Minister of Tanzania for his kind words about me while seconding the proposal.

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We deem it an honour that New Delhi should be chosen as the venue of this important Conference and India elected to preside over its deliberations. In all humility, I accept the heavy responsibilities that go with the Chairmanship of this Conference. It shall be my constant endeavour to come up to expectations and prove worthy of the confidence that you have reposed in me. I trust that I will have in ample measure your understanding and cooperation at all stages of our work in order that this Conference should be as successful as we would like it to be.

FREEDOM AND INDEPENDENCE

The very fact that Delegations from nearly all the non-aligned countries have come, to the Conference from all parts of the world, including far-off areas of Africa and Latin America, is ample evidence of our determination not to allow distance nor inconvenience to come in the way of strengthening our Movement and to consolidate our unity and solidarity. More than any other grouping and indeed unlike many other groupings, ours is essentially a Movement of the spirit of Man in his eternal quest for the fullest blossoming of his Freedom and Independence. This goal is still far away and we have a long and arduous pilgrimage ahead of us. We in the movement have to keep the need for our unity constantly before us when we consider the various agenda items in the next four days. We should discuss our problems freely and frankly, in an atmosphere of mutual trust and confidence, as is the tradition of the Conference of Non-aligned countries.

The fundamental concern of our Movement has always been with, global questions of decolonisation and consolidation of freedom, war and peace, the menace posed by the nuclear arms race and the development of our economies through mutual cooperation among ourselves as well as through a more equitable and just New International Economic Order. All these are interconnected and go to make the package of peace and prosperity for mankind. The package can endure only in its entirety; it is indivisible. I am confident, indeed I know it for a fact, that every single country

represented in this Conference shares this basic objective. Let us, therefore, work together to achieve it in the days ahead, in a spirit of friendship and cooperation.

I welcome you all to New Delhi. We appreciate the trouble that you have taken to come here to attend this Conference. I trust that your stay amongst us would be comfortable. I hope you will have some time to see something of, Delhi and the country during your stay.

I thank you once again for the honour you have done me and my country by electing me Chairman of this Conference.

Thank you.

DIA USA BANGLADESH TANZANIA

Date : Feb 09, 1981

Volume No

1995

NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT

Minister of External Affairs P. V. Narasimha Rao's concluding statement at the Ministerial Conference of Non-aligned Countries

Following is the text of the concluding statement by the Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, as Chairman of the Ministerial Conference of Non-aligned Countries in New Delhi on Feb 13, 1981:

As this Conference draws to a close, I wish to express my very sincere gratitude to you all for the spirit of co-operation and mutual understanding you have displayed. This has made my task easier and ensured the success of this Conference.

I would be failing in my duty if I did not also express, on behalf of all of us, our gratitude to all the functionaries of the Conference Secretariat - to the distinguished Secretary-General for his competent and painstaking efforts in the smooth conduct of the Conference, to the Secretarial staff, the interpreters, and all others who have worked behind the scenes tirelessly and round-the-clock to make this Conference a success. I would also like to add a special word of thanks to the Press for their co-operation.

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During the past four days we have discussed issues of profound significance for mankind as a whole. We demonstrated our collective desire to rise above particular concerns in the pursuit of global objectives. That is, I think, as it should be.

VALIDITY OF NON-ALIGNMENT

As has been pointed out by many distinguished delegates, the New Delhi Conference was preceded by more than usual speculation in interested quarters questioning the validity of our Movement, while some media highlighted the differences amongst us, and forecast that the unity of the Movement would be fractured and its strength and vitality eroded. It is against this gloomy setting that we have successfully concluded our labours and adopted the New Delhi Declaration which covers all the burning issues of the day.

This Declaration will represent an important contribution to the strengthening of the role of the Movement, of the policy of Non-alignment, of the independence and sovereignty of all States, of the consolidation of international peace and security and of universal detente and genuine disarmament. It also reinforces our struggle against colonialism, racism and all forms of foreign aggression and intervention and interference. Our solidarity with our brethren who are still struggling for their liberation under the leadership of PLO, SWAPO and other liberation movements has been reaffirmed.

I am happy to say that on some issues where there have been differing points of view, we have succeeded through patient negotiations to arrive at a consensus. This, frankly, must have dismayed many a critic of Non-alignment. We have demonstrated the essential vitality and cohesion of the Movement flowing from the fact that the Movement is a magnificent example of unity in diversity.

We have all been deeply distressed by the conflict between two members of our Movement and the Appeal we have made embodies both our concern as well as our fervent hope. In the light of the present international crisis, I consider this to be a significant achievement.

COOPERATION

Distinguished Delegates, we, have made a comprehensive assessment of the world economic situation, taken stock of the present stage of negotiations for the establishment of the New International Economic Order and agreed that in the months ahead economic cooperation among developing countries should result in the adoption of action-oriented and concrete modalities, projects, arrangements and programmes in several areas within a time-bound framework.

We have stated our understanding of genuine inter-dependence. We have once again emphasised the need for the Global Negotiations to begin as soon as possible. We should now strive tirelessly for agreement on the early commencement of the Global Negotiations.

I need hardly emphasise the need to devise appropriate responses at the National level in regard to economic and technical co-operation among ourselves. I would, at this point, wish to inform you briefly that my Government had declared a year and a half ago its willingness to negotiate and enact a 50 per cent cut in tariffs on products of interest to other developing countries. We have also just decided to institute a new scheme which would permit duty free entry of handicrafts products from other developing countries on a reciprocal basis and, in case of the least developed countries, even on a non-reciprocal basis, subject to a certain annual ceiling. In addition to steps taken by us for a more liberal trading environment for other developing countries, we are following the same approach to technology and capital flows as well. A few months ago, we adopted a new policy providing preferential treatment to the capital flows from oil exporting developing countries; we would be prepared to extend it to other developing countries as well.

INDIA'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Similarly, I believe that the Indian experience of planned economic development is of considerable relevance and utility to other developing countries. We are widen-

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ing the coverage of our technical and economic cooperation programme. We would be happy to share our experience in agricultural production, renewable sources of energy, small scale industries etc. with other Non-aligned and developing countries.

I would also like to recall here a Basic Grants Agreement which we entered into with the Economic Commission for Africa, in connection With our participation in developmental programmes in Africa, as well as our recent membership of the African Development Fund. We are also examining how best we could extend our cooperation 'to our African brothers in the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action. We would also seek in every way to further strengthen our economic cooperation with frontline States in Southern Africa. Lastly, we have consistently supported efforts of Indian enterprises to set up, joint ventures in other developing countries. All this is being done in, the spirit of the agreements which we have reached here.

During the New Delhi Ministerial Conference we had the privilege of commemorating the Twentieth Anniversary of the First Summit Conference held in Belgrade in 1961. For this commemorative session, we were honoured to have amidst us the distinguished Secretary General of the United Nations who graciously accepted

our invitation. We are grateful to him. On this historic occasion we heard an inspiring keynote address by the Prime Minister of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, which greatly contributed to the success of this Conference. The enthusiasm with which the resolution and the New Delhi Appeal were adopted will no doubt be remembered for long and will find an echo in the hearts and minds of the peoples of the world.

FORGING AHEAD

Distinguished Delegates, it is time that we ignore destructive criticism and forge ahead as a mature and tested movement. We refuse to be on perpetual trial. For 20 years this Movement has functioned, without any sanction of force, without an institutional structure and, believe it or not, even without a set of rules of business. Yet it has taken root and gaining in vigour and validity, has come to stay through vicissitudes which would have made short of any other movement lacking in vitality, relevance and resilience. The simple truth today is that humanity needs this Movement because it fulfils our needs as no other arrangement could ever be expected to do.

Outside the Movement, there are many inducements, beckoning, blandishing and promising security. But would anyone wish to have a canopy of thick black clouds over one's head in order to protect oneself from rain? Yet this is the illogic of the modern nuclear balance of terror. This is the illogic of alignment.

Let no one suppose that Non-alignment lead to weakness. Only the strong and self-confident can remain non-aligned. Indeed it is alignment that leads to indifference and supineness through continued dependence on others.

Distinguished Colleagues, it is my sincere conviction that our unity has been maintained and amply demonstrated thanks to your cooperation and the common awareness of our aspirations.

You have honoured us with your presence here; we hope you have enjoyed your stay in New Delhi in spite of the arduous deliberations and sleepless nights. We have come to the sad moment of farewell but we shall all look forward to meeting again. I wish you all, peace and prosperity for your countries and peoples. Long live the Nonaligned Movement.

I now declare this Ministerial Conference closed.

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DIA USA YUGOSLAVIA

Date : Feb 13, 1981

Volume No

1995

NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT

India's Contribution to Non-aligned Special Fund for Namibia

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Feb 12, 1981:

In solidarity with the oppressed people of Namibia, India has decided to make an annual contribution of \$ 10,000 (Rs. 80,000) to the Non-aligned Special Fund for Namibia. The decision to establish the special fund for Namibia (Para 73 of Havana Declaration) was taken at the Sixth Summit Conference of Heads of State/Government of Non-aligned countries held in Havana in September 1979. It urged all the non-aligned countries to contribute generously to this fund so that it could effectively serve the liberation of Namibia.

India has been an ardent supporter of the cause of Namibian liberation and has voiced her support at the UN and other fora. It has condemned South African oppression of the Namibian people and denounced its disregard of the world public opinion. It has extended moral and material support to SWAPO, the sole and authentic liberation movement of the People of Namibia. India has been contributing to the various UN Funds for Namibia and the Non-aligned Fund for the liberation of Southern Africa.

It is felt that in view of the failure of the Geneva talks on the Namibia, the Nonaligned countries need to increase their, support for Namibia.

DIA NAMIBIA CUBA USA SOUTH AFRICA SWITZERLAND

Date : Feb 12, 1981

Volume No

1995

SWEDEN

Indo-Swedish Agreement

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New, Delhi on Feb 21, 1981:

India and Sweden today signed a two year project agreement for Swedish support to forestry development in India. Sweden is to provide about Rs. 2.5 million in its currency for the project. The project will lay particular emphasis on social forestry, training in logging and soil conservation.

The agreement was signed on behalf of India by the Inspector General of Forest, Shri M. K. Dalvi and by Mr. S. O. Doos, Head, Development Cooperation, Sweden Embassy on behalf of his country.

During the review of the Indo-Swedish Development Cooperation Programme in December 1978 the possibilities of expanded activities in forestry-notably social forestry' were discussed. It was envisaged that disbursements for forestry projects would increase from the present level of skr 3-4 million to skr 20-30 million per year in the foreseeable future. This expansion would take place partly through ongoing projects but mainly through new ones, to be prepared and initiated.

In its Annual request in January 1979 the Government of India confirmed its interest in using additional Swedish funds in support of new projects and programmes in the social forestry sector. This expansion would entail increased capacity for project preparation, initiation and coordination which could be met by assigning a Forestry Programme Coordinator.

For this purpose a Project Document was signed on December 22, 1979 for a period of one year. Based on discussions in April 1980, the Government of India have decided for an extension of the Forestry Programme Coordinator for another two years.
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EDEN INDIA USA

Date : Feb 21, 1981

Volume No

1995

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Indo-Soviet Textbook Protocol Signed

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Feb 09, 1981:

A protocol to strengthen the Indo-Soviet Textbook Programme was signed here today. Shri T. N. Chaturvedi, Secretary, Ministry of Education signed it on behalf of the Government of India and Prof. N. S. Egorov, Deputy Minister of Higher and Specialised Secondary Education on behalf of the Soviet Government.

This follows the 12th meeting of the Joint Indo-Soviet Textbook Board which concluded here today.

The protocol agrees to widen the scope of publication under this programme so as to include books at the vocational level in the field of para-medicine, training for craftsmanship, continuing education, pedagogy and physical education. It was so, far covering University and research level in the fields of basic sciences, technical education, agriculture, medicine and humanities.

The Indo-Soviet Textbook Programme was started in 1965 to make available to Indian students selected educational books of Soviet origin in low cost editions. The Board has so far brought out 368 titles. It has decided to identify at least 50 more titles for publication by June 1982.

In order to make low price edition of standard university books and reference material of foreign origin available to university students, the Ministry of Education has been operating such programmes in collaboration with the U.K., U.S.A. and U.S.S.R. The price of such books comes to about one-third to one-fifth of the standard editions.

So far about 710 British, 1618 American and 368 Soviet titles have been published under these programmes.

DIA UNITED KINGDOM USA

Date : Feb 09, 1981

Volume No

1995

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Indo-Soviet Trade Protocol for 1981 Signed

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Feb 27, 1981:

India and USSR have concluded the annual trade protocol for 1981 envisaging a trade turnover of about Rs. 2,200 crores. The protocol was signed, here today by Shri P. K. Kaul, Commerce Secretary, on behalf of India and Mr. I. T. Grishin, Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade, on behalf of USSR. (One crore=10 million)

The trade turnover for 1980 is expected to have reached Rs. 1,900 crores as compared to the turnover of Rs. 1,200 crores in 1979. This is partly due to increased turnover of physical imports and exports and partly due to rise in prices.

The protocol for 1981 provides for increased off take from India of a number of commodities. Special mention may be made of cardamom, fruit juices, tobacco, mica, medicines and pharmaceuticals, cosmetics, dyestuffs, shoe uppers, woolen knitwear, ready-made. garments, hand tools, dry batteries, wood veneers, structural frames, handicrafts, steam boilers, and sports goods. New items like marine products, c ' ut flowers, textile machineries, steel castings and forgings, have been introduced in the protocol.

The Soviet Union has agreed to consider the possibilities of taking more items from India, especially in the, engineering sector.

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So far as imports from the Soviet Union are concerned, the protocol provides for continued supplies of machinery items, crude oil, petroleum products, fertilizers, non-ferrous metals, newsprint etc.

Both sides will work towards increase in the volume of trade between the two countries by 1.5 to 2 times in accordance with the Long-term Programme of Economic, Trade, Scientific and Technical Co-operation signed on 14th March, 1979.

The talks were held in the traditional atmosphere of warmth and friendship.

DIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Feb 27, 1981

Volume No

1995

YUGOSLAVIA

Prime Minister's Message for Yugoslav Newspaper "Borba" on Non-alignment

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Feb 03, 1981:

The non-aligned community consists mostly of countries which liberated themselves from colonialism and foreign domination. They stand for equality, they work for peace, and they believe in a world order based on co-operation.

Two notable international gatherings, the Asian Relations Conference, held in New Delhi in March 1947 at the initiative of Jawaharlal Nehru and the Conference of Afro-Asian Nations in Bandung in 1955 proclaimed the determination of Asian and African countries to consolidate their independence and to pursue their own political, economic and social development.

At their first triennial conference in Belgrade in 1961 under the presidency, of President Tito, the non-aligned countries reiterated their resolve to stay clear of military alliances and rededicated themselves to the goals of world peace.

The membership of the non-aligned movement has increased nearly four-fold. Since then, virtually every nation which attained independence during the past two decades has decided to follow the policy of non-alignment. This in itself is testimony to the validity and vitality of the policy of non-alignment.

Our movement has consistently worked for the eradication of colonialism, racism and imperialist domination. We have supported liberation struggles all over the world and await the final victory of African peoples against apartheid and the success of the struggle of the Palestinian people.

PEACEFUL CO-EXISTENCE

Peaceful co-existence is one of the first articles of the credo of non-alignment. The elimination of nuclear weapons and of war is imperative if the people of the world can grow to their fullest stature. But the international situation is again deteriorating. Detente has had a setback in Europe, and there is open talk of resumption of a nuclear race. Big power presences have increased in various parts of the world. Armed conflicts have increased. These developments give special urgency to efforts to find peaceful resolution of tensions. Nonalignment thus assumes added relevance.

The growing disparity between rich and poor countries is another major source of conflict. The non-aligned movement has always encouraged greater economic cooperation. In this field too there is much work to do.

It is India's privilege to host a meeting of the Foreign
Ministers of Non-Aligned
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Countries in New Delhi next month (February). I hope that every
country will exert itself to the utmost to strengthen the unity
and purpose of the non-aligned community. At this moment we
should recall and be inspired by the wisdom and vision of the
great pioneers of our movement.
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GOSLAVIA INDIA INDONESIA USA

Date : Feb 03, 1981

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STRIA USA BAHRAIN GERMANY GUINEA INDIA PAKISTAN JAPAN TANZANIA NAMIBIA

Date : Mar 01, 1981

Volume No

1995

AUSTRIA

Minister of External Affairs P. V. Narasimha Rao's Speech at Banquet in Honour of Foreign Minister of Austria

Following is the text of the speech by the Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, at a banquet in honour of Dr. Willibald Pahr, Foreign Minister of Austria at New Delhi on Mar 23, 1981

. Proposing the toast, Shri Rao said:

Your Excellency Mr. Foreign Minister, distinguished members of the Austrian delegation, Friends, it is a matter of particular pleasure for me to welcome you and the distinguished members of your entourage to India, soon after my own return from your beautiful country. Although this is your first visit to India we are certainly no strangers to each other. I have already had occasion to be in your charming capital on two occasions in the recent past to participate in the preparatory meetings in the context of the proposed mini-Summit meeting on international economic cooperation. We also maintained friendly and fruitful contacts in New York during the various sessions of the U.N. General Assembly. Our two countries have a tradition of close and meaningful bilateral cooperation. I am particularly happy that you have now given us an opportunity to welcome you in our midst.

COMMITMENT TO WORLD PEACE

Mr. Minister, your country evokes in all of us a sense of respect and admiration. Austria had occupied a place of great importance in the history of Europe over several centuries - politically, economically and culturally. Its importance in your part of the world, as indeed in international affairs, is as valid in the context of the present international situation as it has always been. Geography and the course of international events since the Second World War are responsible for the strategic position that Austria occupies in Europe. Your policy of permanent neutrality is as much valid and meaningful in the context of your situation and perception as our own policy of non-alignment from our standpoint. Both stem from an unflinching commitment to world peace and the inalienable right of mankind to a life free in quality and rich in content. In the context of the current international tensions, the breakdown of the process of detente, the frightening build-up of armaments and threatening postures of confrontation, a great responsibility, therefore rests upon those of us who do not subscribe to concepts like military deterrence, armed alliances and show of strength. Let us go hand in hand towards our common goals.

NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE

We are aware of the leading role being played by Austria in the context of the North-South Dialogue under the leadership of your distinguished Chancellor His Excellency Dr. Bruno Kreisky. It is our belief, Mr. Minister, that peace and prosperity are indivisible. The future of man cannot be perceived in isolation with reference to particular countries or pockets of affluence. There is a fundamental interdependence among the economies of the world. The much talked about dialogue between the North and the South has so far produced little more than rhetoric on the part of our more fortunate brothers in the developed world. The will to demonstrate, in concrete terms, a spirit of accommodation -

and indeed a sense of foresight - is sadly missing. It is our hope that the efforts that are currently being undertaken jointly under the auspices of Austria and Mexico to bring to bear attention, at high
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political level, to international economic issues, will bear fruit in the not too distant future. I would also venture to suggest, Mr. Minister, that the fact of economic inter-dependence is not merely a matter formally accepted by Governments but should percolate down to the people at large. It is time that this process, which is itself time-consuming, is started consciously in the developed countries.

BILATERAL RELATIONS

Excellency, I need hardly touch upon the strength and closeness of our bilateral relations. These relations are of long standing and multifaceted. It is a matter of gratification for us that, included in your delegation are distinguished representatives of Austrian industry and commerce. There are, in India, several living monuments to Indo-Austrian economic cooperation; this cooperation now extends to projects in third countries as well. I am confident that your presence here will afford us an opportunity to deepen and diversify further our close economic and commercial links.

Mr. Foreign Minister, Austria has earned renown as a country of great culture and learning. I have, personally had the privilege of experiencing your music, art and architecture, all of which have left an indelible impression on my mind. I have found an atmosphere of placidity, altogether ennobling, in the life-style of your people which no doubt signifies a high level of culture and refinement. As you know, Excellency, ours is an ancient civilisation and we, in India, have great appreciation for other cultures. Your visit to Agra yesterday would have afforded you an opportunity to see some of the facets of our own heritage of which we are very proud.

Excellency, your stay with us will be brief but I hope that you will find it enjoyable and will carry back pleasant memories of it. I would also like to make a special reference to the very fruitful and constructive discussions which we would be concluding tomorrow.

Friends, may I now request you all to join me in a toast to the health and happiness of His Excellency Mr. Bruno Kreisky, Chancellor of Austria; to the health and happiness of the distinguished Minister of Austria and the members of his delegation; and to ever increasing friendship and cooperation between our two countries.

Date : Mar 23, 1981

Volume No

1995

AUSTRIA

Text of Austrian Foreign Minister's Speech

Replying to the toast Dr. Willibald Pahr said:

My visit to India is yet another proof of Austria's strong interest in close bilateral contacts and relations that go as far back as 1949 when an Austrian Legation - one of the first after World War II - was established in New Delhi; recent high-level meetings of political representatives show the fully developed status of our relations; apart from our meetings already mentioned, Federal Chancellor, Dr. Kreisky visited New Delhi early last year and had extensive talks with Prime Minister, Mrs. Gandhi, the Chief of Staff of the Indian Armed Forces and Foreign Secretary Mr. Sathepaid visit to Austria in recent months. My present visit is meant to serve the further intensification of an exchange of views held by our countries both of which are advocating the ideals of democratic pluralism, observance of human rights, maintenance of peace and territorial sovereignty.

India, being a very prominent founding member of the Non-aligned Movement, and Austria, a permanently neutral country, have - despite enormous discrepancies in size and different development - much in common as could be seen during the successful Indo-Austrian Seminar on Non-alignment and Permanent Neutrality held in New Delhi in November of last year. Austria will always be appreciative of the personal efforts undertaken by the late
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Prime Minister Pandit Nehru in 1953 with a view to reach an agreement on Austria's State Treaty and to restore full independence. May I take this opportunity to address greetings and our thanks to retired Ambassador Menon who was actively involved in that initiative

India's wide-ranging influence of European culture and civilization has a long and lasting tradition. Until these days, indeed, India still exerts spiritual fascination on many Austrian people who like - in steadily increasing numbers - to visit the beautiful sights of your country and receive a permanent impression of its millenia-old culture.

DEFUSING TENSION

Your Excellency, our two countries - both of which are in a similar geopolitical situation, Austria on the borderlines of two-military alliances with different political ideologies, India in an immediate vicinity of areas of very serious conflicts--our two countries work actively for world peace and stability in the international arena. The importance of this can hardly be overestimated since, the present situation in many parts of the world is a matter of deepest concern to all of us. Austria, at present actively participating in the Madrid Conference on European Security and Cooperation, fully believes in the necessity of continuing detente and strongly maintains that detente cannot be divided or restricted to one region only. The situation in the Middle East and in South East Asia, for example, the events in Afghanistan, the armed conflict between Iraq and Iran are only a few topics that cause very serious problems not only in the regions concerned but to the entire international community, Austria has repeatedly stressed the need to withdraw foreign troops from both Afghanistan and Kampuchea and occupied Arab territories to ease tensions in these areas.

INDIA'S CONTRIBUTION LAUDED

For many years India and Austria have enjoyed excellent cooperation in various international organizations, in particular the United Nations. Within this body Austria has supported the move to declare the Indian Ocean a zone of peace. Austria, being a guest at high-level meetings of non-aligned countries, was impressed by the excellent preparation and your wise and efficient chairmanship of the latest Foreign Ministers Conference of Non-aligned Countries held in New Delhi. India has markedly contributed to strengthening the Movement and has given yet another example of her prominent role in it. The same applies to your contribution to the preparatory process for the envisaged North-South Summit Conference. Austria shares with many other countries the hope that an essential political impact will emerge from that conference to solve pending problems of the North-South Dialogue. Austria is ready to participate in the, creation of a new international economic order that grants a just share of benefits to poor nations. Other problems that require urgent solutions are to secure energy resources at justifiable prices for both developing and industrialized countries and to promote research and exploitation of new and renewable forms of energies.

Your Excellency, I would not like to end my remarks without having congratulated you on the tremendous economic and scientific progress your great country has achieved. India has become a world-wide sought-for partner in implementing technical and industrial projects, particularly in Third World countries. Economic relations have expanded considerably over the past years. In 1980, the volume of trade could be increased by

approximately 30%; the field of exports and imports could be further diversified. Please, consider my visit a renewed confirmation of our preparedness to share our experience with you and to offer our cooperation in continued economic development.

May I ask you now to join me in thanking for the invitation and your hospitality and in raising my glass for a toast to the good health of His Excellency President Reddy, to Her Excellency Prime Minister Mrs. Gandhi, to the rising prosperity of the esteemed Indian people, and especially to you, Mr. Minister, for your further success and personal well-being.

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STRIA USA INDIA SPAIN AFGHANISTAN IRAN IRAQ

Date : Mar 23, 1981

Volume No

1995

BAHMAIN

Indo-Bahrain Protocol on Mass Media Signed

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Mar 27, 1981:

India and Bahrain today signed a protocol on cooperation in the field of mass media.

The protocol was signed on behalf of Bahrain by Mr. Tariq Abdul Rehman Al Moayyed, Minister of Information, Government of the State of Bahrain and on behalf of India by Shri Vasant Sathe, Minister of Information & Broadcasting,

According to the Protocol, both the countries will endeavour to promote and develop close relations and cooperation between the Press, Radio, Television and Film agencies of the two countries.

The protocol provides for exchange of visits by journalists and TV personnel to keep each other better informed and to gain insight into each other's TV setups and programme production and techniques. The two countries have also agreed to exchange newsreel documentaries and to cooperate in the organisation by India of Film Weeks in Bahrain.

HRRAIN INDIA

Date : Mar 27, 1981

Volume No

1995

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

President N. Sanjiva Reddy's Speech at Banquet in Honour of FRG President

Following is the text of the speech by the President of India, Shri N. Sanjiva, Reddy, at the banquet hosted in honour of the President of the Federal Republic of Germany, Mr. Karl Carstens at New Delhi on Mar 04, 1981. Proposing the toast the President said:

I have great pleasure in extending once again a warm welcome to you, Mr. President, Mme. Carstens and the distinguished members of your delegation. We greet you as representatives of a friendly country we hold in high regard. I am most happy that you were able to respond to my invitation to you to visit us. We shall do our utmost to ensure that you get as full a view of India as is possible in the brief period that you are going to be with us.

Mr. President, your visit to India provides us with valuable opportunity for an exchange of views on current international issues as well as our bilateral relations. I have no doubt that it will serve to advance the cause of peace and also contribute to further expanding and deepening our bilateral relations and cooperation.

COMMON INTERESTS

As you know, Mr. President, our two countries have a history of mutual interests. German scholars made phenomenal contribution in the study of Indology, Indian philosophy and Indian languages. I specially have in mind the contribution of your great savant Max Mueller in opening to the Western world the treasure house of Indian thought. It is gratifying that in this same tradition, the Azad Memorial lecture was delivered in New Delhi by one of your distinguished scholars, Prof. Schulz, on the

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work of one of our great modern writers, Prem Chand, whose centenary was celebrated recently.

These links have recently diversified into other fields also,, namely, in trade and commerce, investment and industrial collaboration, in the transfer of technology and know-how, not to

mention the cultural contacts brought about by the increasing tourist traffic between our two countries. I am sure, you will share with me the sentiment that such interaction should grow further under its own dynamism as well as by the active efforts of our Governments to widen and diversify it.

Your Excellency, the Federal Republic of Germany has the unique distinction of achieving a record of unparalleled economic growth through hard work and determination of your people in overcoming great odds. I may state that we too, as a developing country freed from colonial domination, started with enormous problems and set about to overcome these by conscious planned efforts. We have, achieved significant results. We have achieved self-sufficiency in our food requirements and laid the foundation of a modern society in which the benefits of economic development will become accessible to weaker sections of our population.

INDIA'S PLANNED PROGRESS

Through a policy of planned growth and infrastructure construction we now have an economy poised for greater strides through our current Sixth Plan. The sectors producing steel, coal, power and transportation facilities have expanded in the last quarter century and we have attained a middle level of industrialisation which is enabling us now to operate turn-key projects in terms of helping other countries and also to undertake third country collaborations with some advanced industrial nations. We are now in a position to send our educated and trained personnel to assist other countries and also to export industrial goods and sophisticated technology.

Your own great country has been a significant helper and partner in our industrial and agricultural development. In the last ten years Indo-FRG trade has multiplied five times over though its volume in absolute terms is still small. Over 500 collaborative projects involving more than 300 German and Indian enterprises, both public and private, are currently in operation.

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Mr. President, in today's inter-dependent world, there is increasing recognition of a mutuality of interests in promoting economic development through agreed, meaningful and effective measures of international cooperation. However, recently, the prevailing recession and temporary balance of payment deficits portend a reversion to protectionism in the industrial world greater restrictions and constraints on the flow of trade and technology and a slackening in transfer of resources for development. Our own more liberal import policies stand in jeopardy when the products of such imports, embodied in our exports, cannot find suitable markets. We look forward to the Federal Republic of Germany playing a constructive role, as in the past, as a leading member of the European Economic Community.

The new International Economic Order cannot be realised without our collective efforts. We will continue to expect from you a positive attitude and a strong advocacy of the right causes so that the current impasse in the North-South dialogue can be broken.

The current international situation has become critical and is marked by several areas of tension and some of actual conflict. The process of detente has suffered a serious setback. The armaments race is acquiring ever more menacing dimensions with the accretion and further sophistication of weapons of mass destruction. Recent developments in South West and South East Asia pose a threat to peace and stability of the countries in the region. Great power military competition in the Indian Ocean is also steadily increasing, thereby frustrating our efforts to make the Ocean a Zone of Peace. Though our two countries view some of the problems in differing lights and assess their solutions differently,

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we, nevertheless, are agreed on the imperative need for lessening of tensions and the commencement of the process of dialogue for peaceful resolution of differences. Stable world peace cannot be achieved otherwise.

RMANY INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC USA

Date : Mar 04, 1981

Volume No

1995

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

Text of FRG President's Speech

Replying to the toast, President Karl Carstens said:

Mr. President, Madam, Excellencies, Ladies. and gentlemen, I should like to thank you sincerely for the friendly reception you have given to my wife and myself, the Deputy Federal Chancellor and Minister for Foreign Affairs, Horr Genscher, and to the members of my delegation here at the Rashtrapati Bhawan, and for the kind words of welcome you have just addressed to me. We are very pleased to be your guests.

Two of my predecessors also enjoyed that privilege. The first President of the Federal Republic of Germany, Theodor Heuss,

visited New Delhi after his retirement in November 1960 at the invitation of Vice-President Radhakrishnan with whom he had established a close friendship. And two years later President Heinrich Lübke paid a State visit to India.

AFFINITY FOR INDIA

After returning from India, Theodor Heuss wrote to President Radhakrishnan: "For me my visit to your country was a journey in condensed form through thousands of years of history - through India's ancient monuments of art, its multifaceted life, and its bold advance into a new industrial era. Yet for the inquisitive mind there are still some unsolved mysteries - but what would life be without secrets."

I feel that in these two sentences Theodor Heuss described why over the centuries we Germans have developed such a special affinity for India, a country whose age-old culture is still a living entity.

Like no other great culture of mankind, Indian literature and art, especially Indian philosophy and religions, have fascinated Germans since the end of the 18th century. From Herder to Hesse, from the Schlegel brothers to Schopenhauer, from Goethe to Thomas Mann, nobody wanted to - as Heinrich Heine once put it - deny himself the benefits of India's intellectual wealth.

TRIBUTE TO INDIA'S CULTURE

I believe that in no other country in the world have the teachings of the Upanisads, the verses of the Rigveda and Bhagavadgita, or the thoughts of Buddha been disseminated so widely as in Germany. The fact that a German radio station, the Deutsche Welle in Cologne, transmitting on the short wave, has for many years now broadcast programmes in Sanskrit, shows the high esteem in which ancient culture is held in Germany.

In my own youth, I was impressed by Rabindranath Tagore, just as I was by Mahatma Gandhi, for whose selfless, bold and upright conduct I have great admiration and at whose shrine my humble respects this afternoon. A nation that produces such a spiritual leader is indeed fortunate.

In my opinion, the intellectual exchange with your country was a happy beginning for German-Indian friendship. The resultant respect in Germany for India and its culture and the sympathy for the Indian liberation movement provided, I feel, a sound basis for our relations, which have now evolved into a close-knit network of political, economic, scientific, technical and cultural co-operation.

IDENTICAL POLITICAL CONVICTIONS

This development, however, has not only historical causes. It was only possible because basic political convictions of our two countries are identical.

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The constitutions of India and the Federal Republic of Germany are democratic. Our two countries both advocate the maintenance and safeguarding of peace, the renunciation of force, and equal rights for all nations. We both acknowledge human rights as the basis for any human society, for peace and justice throughout the world, and seek to achieve a society in which there is no hatred or discrimination on account of colour, race or creed.

In a world with an increasing number of trouble-spots, at a time when countries are still being invaded and occupied in violation of the principles of renunciation of force and non-interference, at a time when the dialogue between countries with different social systems is becoming more difficult, countries with common basic convictions should continue to intensify their dialogue and thus set an example. For that reason I gladly accepted your invitation, Mr. President, to visit your country.

We all feel that our age must overcome new, great and previously unknown intellectual and political challenges if we are to secure the survival of mankind.

INTELLECTUAL INTERCHANGE

I have in mind the fundamental question of whether Man will succeed in controlling technical progress without being enslaved by technology which might then destroy him. I am also thinking of the great political and economic questions that occupy all of us in the East, West, North and South. These two sets of questions can only be solved by mankind as a whole, and not by individual societies or States.

In my country a debate has been started on the first question with the aim of no longer leaving technology to itself but of seeking moral criteria for its development. I must admit that we are still only at the beginning. It is not a question of condemning technology. We all know that without it the enormous problems of a rapidly expanding population on a planet with limited resources cannot be solved. Rather, we must learn to control progress. This is where a new domain of intellectual interchange comes into existence to which the best brains of our cultures should contribute.

I feel that India with its philosophical and religious traditions can make a great contribution to the solution of these problems. As I prepared myself for my visit to your country I ran into a sentence in the Upanisads which reads as follows:

"Whoever honours ignorance enters into blind darkness. Into even

greater darkness goes he who contents himself with knowledge."

This seems to me exactly the spirit with which we must face the immense stream of technological and scientific information which pours down on us every day, month and year.

But we would also like to intensify the discussion initiated a long time ago with you on the political and economic problems that appear to be overshadowing our future. In particular, I have in mind questions of security, the reduction of tension in the world, the narrowing of the economic and social gap between industrial and developing countries, energy supplies, and the future of the world economy.

Permit me to expound in this connection on some of the basic elements of the policy pursued by the Federal Republic of Germany.

We are a member of the United Nations and therefore subscribe to the principles embodied in the United Nations Charter. We want to play an active part in this international organisation because we are convinced that, despite some setbacks, it is the most important for the development of worldwide relations.

We belong to the European Community, group of sovereign States whose grievous history has taught them not to remain isolated, indifferent, or even opposed to each other, but to aspire to a political and economic union. All Community members have derived so many advantages from their cooperation that, during recent years, other States have requested membership.

We also belong to the North Atlantic defence alliance because we are convinced that, in view of our position in Europe, this

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is the only way of safeguarding our peace and freedom.

We have moreover subscribed to a policy of accommodation with our Eastern European neighbours. Through mutual declarations on the renunciation of force in treaty form we have sought to reduce tensions in Europe. We wish to continue this policy, whilst firmly adhering to the aim of working for a state of peace in Europe in which our people, the German nation will regain its unity through free self-determination.

ECONOMIC COOPERATION

Furthermore, we feel attached to the States of Asia, Africa and Latin America. We wish to help secure for all people in these continents a life free from bondage, hunger and want. We realize that there is a long way to go and that it will not be possible without sacrifices. We for our part are willing to make sacrifices.

The policy of economic co-operation on equal terms with countries of the Third World has become an indispensable part of our foreign policy. In our view, a healthy economic structure is vital to a country's independence. You can therefore rely on the Federal Republic of Germany to contribute to the North-South dialogue.

Like you, we desire international arms control and disarmament. We are seeking military equilibrium at the lowest possible level. We would be glad if, as a result of disarmament measures, more funds became available for use in the field of economic co-operation.

MODERN INDIA

Mr. President, let me now say a few words on our view of modern India. We regard your country with respect and admiration. During the 34 years since its Independence India has made considerable progress thanks to the diligence and great talent of its people. It is now self-sufficient in agricultural products. In particular, however, India has become an industrial power now ranking among the world's ten leading industrial nations.

We are proud to have been able to make a contribution to your country's industrialisation. I should like to assure you that we shall continue to do everything within our power to assist India in the further development of its economy.

We regard modern India as an important centre of natural science, of physics, including nuclear physics, of chemistry and space research. We know of the leading role your country plays in teaching and applying homeopathy, an important branch of medicine, which originated from Germany and which is now taught at numerous Indian universities. We regard modern India as one of the leading members of the Non-aligned Movement.

NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT

Your esteemed father, Mrs. Prime Minister, was one of the founders of the Movement 20 years ago, which has become a forum earning ever greater recognition in East and West alike. In fact, we regard the Non-aligned Movement as an important stabilising factor in world affairs.

It has become clear that the principles already proclaimed when the Movement was founded have now acquired greater significance than ever before. These principles comprising mutual respect for territorial integrity and sovereignty, renunciation of force, non-interference and peaceful relations among States on equal terms should remain the guiding principles underlying international politics which, if violated, should provoke reactions by the entire international community until the

violations have come to an end.

Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen, there is still much to be done. What is most important in the present world situation full of unsolved problems is, in my view, that we should retain our faith in the power of freedom and our awareness of the unity of the human family.

With this in mind I propose a toast to the well-being of the President of the Republic of India and of Mrs. Reddy and to a prosperous and peaceful future for the Indian people.
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RMANY CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC USA INDIA

Date : Mar 04, 1981

Volume No

1995

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

Indo-German Technical Cooperation Agreements Signed

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Mar 05, 1981:

India and the Federal Republic of Germany today signed here two agreements relating to technical cooperation in the fields of oceanographic research and toolroom training.

Shri R. Venkataraman, Finance Minister of India and Mr. Hans-Dietrich Genscher, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of the Federal Republic of Germany signed the agreements.

Under the first agreement concerning oceanographic research, the Government of FRG have agreed to provide, as grant, specialised scientific , equipment for the oceanographic research vessel being procured by the Government of India from West Germany against a Government credit of DM 50 million. They have also agreed to train Indian scientists and engineers belonging to various Indian user agencies to enable them to man the ship on its commissioning.

The ship, when procured, would be used for multi-disciplinary and inter-agency research, particularly with a view to locating commercially exploitable non-living resources, studying meteorological phenomenon (in particular the monsoon and

cyclones) and exploiting marine biology.

The approximate cost of the technical assistance being made available under the agreement signed today is about Rs. 67.20 million.

TOOLROOM TRAINING

The second agreement relates to the Institute of Toolroom. Training at Lucknow. The Institute, being set up with FRG assistance, is aimed at increasing the efficiency of small enterprises in U.P., of metal-working plastics and rubber-processing industries by providing assistance in the construction and production of tools and fittings. The Institute would assist the small scale industry in U.P. by providing technical consultancy services to enable them to improve the quality of their production and competitiveness. It would provide basic and further training for personnel from small enterprises in the tool-making and other light industries and related enterprises.

The Government of FRG has already provided assistance for a similar Toolroom in Ludhiana. The approximate cost of technical assistance being made available under the agreement signed today is about Rs. 50.4 million.

RMANY INDIA USA

Date : Mar 05, 1981

Volume No

1995

GUINEA

President N. Sanjiva Reddy's Speech at Banquet in Honour of President of Guinea

Following is the text of the President of India, Shri N. Sanjiva Reddy's speech at the banquet hosted in honour of the President of Guinea, Mr. Ahmed Sekou Toure, on Mar 17, 1981:

It gives me great pleasure to welcome the President of Guinea to India. In you, Mr. President, we honour a great son of Africa and a pioneer in the struggle against colonialism. We have watched with admiration your successful overthrow of the colonial yoke and your country's endeavours to chart a courageous and non-aligned path in international affairs.

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When India achieved independence in 1947, we were faced with a world situation wherein competing power blocs were emerging. In those circumstances, we came to the conclusion that non-alignment was the only policy that would advance the cause of our economic and political independence. Non-alignment was firmly rooted in the mores and the values which had inspired our leaders in their fight against injustice and colonialism. We recall with pride that the father of our nation, Mahatma Gandhi, who led our country to independence, had started his fight against injustice in South Africa. With his guidance, and later under the dynamic leadership of the late Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, a close affinity developed between India and the African nationalist movements, which has continued till today. India has been extending full moral, material and diplomatic support to the African National Congress in its fight against South Africa's abhorrent policies of racial discrimination which pose a threat to international peace. We have similarly endorsed the freedom struggle of the people of Namibia and extended our full support to the South West African Peoples Organisation. We have all along condemned South African intransigence and its disregard of world opinion in implementing the various United Nations resolutions for the independence of Namibia. I would like to reiterate my Government's continued support to the valiant sons of Africa who are fighting for their independence, human and political rights.

GUINEA'S POSITIVE ROLE

We have watched with admiration the positive role played by Guinea, under your inspiring leadership, in the Organisation of African Unity. Your efforts in forging closer economic links with the States of West Africa are steps in the right direction to achieve the ideal of a united Africa. You have our best wishes and support in bringing this to reality. Your efforts in defusing tensions in Africa and other parts of the world are commendable.

Mr. President, the world around us is facing increasing turmoil and turbulence. There is perceptible increase - in tensions and a dangerous revival of cold war attitudes. In the Indian Ocean too, there is an intensification of great power rivalry and competitive military presence in utter disregard of the U.N. Declaration on this subject. Detente and disarmament have been eroded and there is evidence of a massive increase in the defence expenditure of the major powers. In South East and South West Asia, the increase in tensions has led us to view recent developments with deep anxiety. We sincerely hope that it will soon be possible to work out peaceful political solutions for all these issues, which take, into account the interests of all concerned and restore normalcy to this entire region.

COMPOSITE INDIAN CULTURE

Mr. President, you occupy a position of prestige and influence in the Islamic world. Your view that all religions aim at the

service and welfare of humanity, finds an understanding and responsive chord in Indian hearts. For us, it is a matter of great satisfaction and pride that Indian culture is a composite one, woven of many strands and colours which in the process of assimilation, has allowed each component to retain its own distinctive flavour and character. The metaphor used by some writers to describe this is that India is not a melting pot, but a mosaic. We have always recognised Islam as one of our own religions and Islam will continue to grow and flourish in India. India has the second largest Muslim population in the world.

Mr. President, there is no doubt that without peace and security, economic progress is not possible. Nor could economic cooperation between developing countries be feasible without a stable and peaceful world. In India, we have made considerable priorities in the field of agriculture and industry. The challenges faced by the people of India and the people of Guinea in the task of national development are similar. There is, therefore, great scope for us to exchange our experiences in these fields for mutual benefit. MY Government will be willing and ready to cooperate with your Government in this task..

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INEA INDIA USA SOUTH AFRICA NAMIBIA

Date : Mar 17, 1981

Volume No

1995

GUINEA

India-Guinea Joint Communiqué

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Mar 20, 1981:

At the invitation of the President of India, Shri Neelam Sanjiva Reddy and Mrs. Reddy, the President of the Peoples Revolutionary Republic of Guinea, His Excellency Mr. Ahmed Sekou Toure and Madam Hadja Andres Toure paid a friendly State visit to India from March 17 to 20, 1981.

The visit took place in a warm and friendly atmosphere, which has always characterised the relations between India and the Peoples Revolutionary Republic of Guinea.

The President of the Peoples Revolutionary Republic of Guinea

held extensive, talks on international issues with the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi. They also reviewed bilateral relations and ways to further develop them. These talks were held in an atmosphere of mutual cordiality, trust and understanding.

In these talks, the President of the Peoples Revolutionary Republic of Guinea was assisted by the following:

1. Dr. Abdoulaye Toure, Minister of Foreign Affairs.
2. Mr. Nfamara Keita, Minister of Energy.
3. Mr. Mouctar Diallo, Minister of Education.
4. Mrs. Jeanne Martin Cisse, Minister of Social Affairs.
5. Mr. Ibrahima Fofana, Minister of Fishery and Animal Husbandry.
6. Air. Soriba Toure, Minister of External Commerce.
7. Mr. Marcel Cross, Minister of International Cooperation.
8. Mr. Mamadi Lamine Conde, Ambassador, Chief of Protocol, State House.
9. Mr. Mandiou Toure, Ambassador of the Peoples Revolutionary Republic of Guinea to India.
10. Ambassador Daonda Kourouma, Ambassador in Brussels.
11. Commandant Fode Doombouya, A.D.C.
12. Miss Henriette Zoumanigui, Member of Legislative Assembly.
13. Mrs. Sow Kesso, Director of the Central Bank.

The Indian Prime Minister was assisted by the following:

1. Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, Minister of External Affairs.
2. Shri R. Venkataraman, Minister of Finance.
3. Shri Pranab Mukherjee, Minister of Commerce.
4. Shri Shivraj Patil, Minister of State for Defence.
5. Shri R. Bhandari, Secretary (ER), Ministry of External Affairs.
6. Shri J. R. Hiremath, Additional Secretary (PP), Ministry of External Affairs.
7. Shri V. P. Singh, Ambassador of India in Conakry.

The President of the Peoples Revolutionary Republic of Guinea, during his stay, visited some industrial and agricultural research institutes in Delhi Hissar and Chandigarh, as well as cultural monuments in Agra.

The Prime Minister of India recalled the difficult circumstances under which the people of Guinea struggled against colonialism and for independence. The Guinean people's courage and fortitude in the face of adversity was recalled with admiration.

The President of the Peoples Revolutionary Republic of Guinea expressed his admiration, for the efforts made by the Government of India for the socio-economic development of the country. He noted with
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satisfaction the secular policies practised by the Government of India which had enabled all the constituent elements of Indian society to contribute their best to the nation's progress.

The President of the Peoples Revolutionary Republic of Guinea and the Prime Minister of India agreed that tension and confrontation in Southern Africa could not be abolished and peace established until the liberation of Namibia from the illegal occupation by South Africa and dismantling of the structure of apartheid in South Africa are achieved. They reaffirmed their total support for the Namibian people's inalienable right to freedom and also their solidarity with the struggle led by the South West African People's Organisation (SWAPO), the sole and legitimate representative of the Namibian people. Both the leaders condemned all attempts by South Africa to subvert the U.N. Plan for a peaceful settlement in Namibia, as contained in the Security Council Resolution 485 (1979). They deplored the actions of certain states which encouraged the apartheid regime of South Africa to persist in its intransigence and arrogant defiance of world opinion.

Both the President of the Peoples Revolutionary Republic of Guinea and the Prime Minister of India expressed their strong condemnation of the acts of armed aggression and provocation carried out by the South African regime against the frontline States. The President of the Peoples Revolutionary Republic of Guinea expressed his appreciation of India's unwavering support for the cause of liberation in Southern Africa.

The Prime Minister of India noted with satisfaction the efforts being made by the Peoples Revolutionary Republic of Guinea for closer economic cooperation within the West African community in particular and Africa in general. Both the leaders felt that the Lagos Action Plan was a welcome development and would contribute to economic progress and political stability in the region.

The President of the Peoples Revolutionary Republic of Guinea and the Prime Minister of India expressed deep concern over the escalation of great power military presence and rivalry in the Indian Ocean, including, in particular, the strengthening of the Diego Garcia base. Despite the expressed wishes of the littoral and hinterland states, the Great Powers were intensifying their military competition with serious consequences for peace and stability in the region. They noted with regret the suspension of the bilateral talks on naval arms limitation in the Indian Ocean between the Soviet Union and the United States and expressed a hope that they would be resumed soon.

The President of the Peoples Revolutionary Republic of Guinea and the Prime Minister of India reviewed the situation in the Middle East. They condemned the continued and stubborn violations by Israel of the pertinent Resolutions of the United Nations, the implementation of which is essential to ensure peace and security in the Middle East, in particular, and in the world, in general. Both sides reaffirmed that a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East could not be established without the withdrawal of Israel from all the occupied Palestinian and other Arab territories, including Jerusalem and without the achievement of a just solution to the problem of Palestine on the basis of attainment of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, with the P.L.O. as a sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people in all negotiations. The rights of the Palestinian people to their homeland and to a nation-state of their own must be fully restored.

The two sides noted with deep concern the developments in South West Asia. They viewed them as a natural consequence of the aggravated tensions and great power confrontation in this region which posed a threat to the entire third world. Both sides reaffirmed their belief in the cardinal principles of non-intervention and noninterference in the internal affairs of States. They called for a political settlement and strict respect for the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and non-aligned status of Afghanistan.

The President of the Peoples Revolutionary Republic of Guinea and the Prime
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Minister of India expressed their regret over the armed conflict between Iraq and Iran. They considered it to be detrimental to the interests of the peoples of the two countries, as well as the cause of regional and international welfare, peace and security. They urged a speedy, just and honourable settlement of the conflict by peaceful means. Both sides supported all the efforts that are being currently made to achieve this objective.

The present situation in South East Asia was also reviewed. Both sides expressed the hope that the path of restraint and dialogue

would prevail and create necessary conditions in which the sovereignty and independent personality of all countries could be fully safeguarded.

The President of the Peoples Revolutionary Republic of Guinea and the Prime Minister of India reaffirmed their faith in the policy of Non-alignment and noted that the Non-aligned Movement, which now represents the hopes and aspirations of the majority of mankind, and, therefore, has become an independent and positive force for world peace. They expressed the hope that through strict adherence to the principles of non-alignment and by stressing the common bonds which united non-aligned countries, the Movement would be able to forge a common strategy and consensus which would represent the real essence of non-alignment. The two sides noted the success of the Conference of the Foreign Ministers of the Non-aligned countries held recently in New Delhi.

The President of the Peoples Revolutionary Republic of Guinea and the Prime Minister of India agreed that the world economic situation had deteriorated for the developing countries. In this regard, they called for effective and urgent steps for improving the international economic climate and for the establishment of a New International Economic Order.

The President of the Peoples Revolutionary Republic of Guinea and the Prime Minister of India expressed satisfaction that bilateral relations had been progressing smoothly. Both sides felt that there was scope for further strengthening mutually beneficial cooperation in various fields. Some of the areas identified for such cooperation included agriculture, handicrafts, small scale industries, transportation and development of renewable resources of energy. It was agreed that further discussions would be held at the official level to work out details of such cooperation.

The President of the Peoples Revolutionary Republic of Guinea thanked the President of India, the Government and the people of India and expressed deep appreciation for the warm and friendly hospitality extended to him and Madam Hadja Andree Toure and his delegation during his visit to India.

The President of the Peoples Revolutionary Republic of Guinea extended invitations to the President and the Prime Minister of India to visit Guinea. The invitations were accepted with pleasure. The date of visit will be decided through diplomatic channels.

INEA INDIA USA BELGIUM UNITED KINGDOM NAMIBIA SOUTH AFRICA CENTRAL AFRICAN
REPUBLIC ISRAEL AFGHANISTAN IRAN IRAQ PERU

Date : Mar 20, 1981

Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Minister of External Affairs P. V. Narasimha Rao's Statement in Lok Sabha on Supply of Arms to Pakistan by U.S.A.

Following is the text of the statement by Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, Minister, of External Affairs, in Lok Sabha on Mar 25, 1981 in response to Calling Attention regarding "Reported fresh supply of sophisticated arms to Pakistan by U.S.A. on a massive scale and the reaction of the Government of India with regard thereto".

Mr. Speaker Sir, Government have been aware that the new United States Adminis-
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tration has been seeking to strengthen its military position in the Indian Ocean region and the Gulf area. Secretary of State Haig stated in evidence to Congress on March 19, 1981 that the US was striving for a strategic consensus among countries ranging from Pakistan to Egypt. A programme of US economic and military assistance to a number of countries in this region other than Pakistan has been announced. Government have also noted that the US Administration has proposed legislative amendments in order to remove the barriers which at present obstruct military supplies to Pakistan because of her nuclear activities. The stated purpose of these actions is said to be to deter "Soviet adventurism" and to protect "vital" Western interests in the Gulf region. In pursuance of this policy, we understand that discussions are currently under way between the Governments of Pakistan and U.S.A. on the grant of fresh military and economic assistance. According to various reports, this assistance could cover a variety of sophisticated arms including aircraft, tanks, anti-tank missiles and air defence systems. Government have also seen reports about moves to upgrade the 1959 US-Pakistan Executive Agreement to the status of a Security pact with Congressional endorsement. As far as Government is aware, these discussions have not yet reached final conclusions.

INDIAN OCEAN AND THE GULF

Sir, as the House is aware, at the recent Non-aligned Conference there was a closer consensus that initiatives should be taken aimed at curbing the growing competition between Great Powers with special reference to the need to implement the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace. As the House is aware the

Nonaligned movement comprises a majority of nations in the world and almost all the littoral states of the Indian Ocean. It may also be noted that the meeting of Heads of States of the Islamic Conference had recently affirmed at Taif that the peace and stability in the Gulf and the security of sea lanes was the exclusive responsibility of the Gulf States without any outside interference. More recently the Foreign Ministers of six Gulf countries, namely, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, UAE, Kuwait and Bahrain, have expressed opposition to the presence of outside forces in the Gulf region as such presence is likely to provoke the very intervention it seeks to prevent. In our discussions with many other countries, including all our neighbours, in the sub-continent, they have also subscribed to the need to eliminate great Power presence from the Indian Ocean.

Our concern regarding the escalation of great power military presence has been stated repeatedly in this House and elsewhere. Such escalation from one side immediately invites a response from the other side, and consequent dangers of confrontation. There is also the danger that littoral states might find themselves drawn into this competition with the likelihood of exacerbating tensions wherever they already exist in the region. It has long been evident that military forces by itself is not the way to preserve peace and stability. I do not need to cite from examples in the recent past. We would reiterate the need to establish an area of peace and cooperation in our region free from great power presences. We are confident that the countries of the region can resolve their problems more effectively by dialogue among themselves.

ARMS To AFGHAN INSURGENTS

Spokesmen of the U.S. Administration have referred to the possibility of supplying arms to insurgent groups in Afghanistan. A Pakistan Government spokesman has however denied that they would permit their country to be used as a conduit for this purpose. While noting this statement, we would like to make it clear that action to the contrary as well as any active participation in building up a "security consensus" in terms of great power rivalries would be inconsistent with the professions that Pakistan had made when they joined the Non-aligned Movement in Havana.

I would like to inform the House that I have personally conveyed to the U.S. Government our grave concern at their reported moves to further militarise the Gulf region and to induct large quantities of
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arms into Pakistan. Experience over the last three decades has shown that such supplies have usually resulted in setbacks to the process of normalisation within the subcontinent. We have made it known to Pakistan that we are not insensitive to their security

concerns and have also assured them that India poses no threat whatsoever to them, We have welcomed their assurances that they intend to move forward within the framework of the Simla Agreement. We ourselves remain committed to this and I am sure that the House will agree that every effort should be made to intensify our dialogue with Pakistan with a view to exploring all possible avenues of preventing our region from becoming a theatre of conflict.

Government is in consultation with a number of countries over this matter and is keeping itself fully abreast of the latest developments. Finally, I would like to assure the House that Government shall ensure that the security of the country is in no way compromised.

KISTAN USA INDIA EGYPT KUWAIT OMAN QATAR SAUDI ARABIA UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
BAHRAIN AFGHANISTAN CUBA MALI

Date : Mar 25, 1981

Volume No

1995

JAPAN

Japanese Assistance to India,

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Mar 18, 1981:

Japan today agreed to extend assistance equivalent to Rs. 250.4 million to India under two Notes exchanged between Shri R. N. Malhotra, Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, and His Excellency Mr. Masao Kanazawa, Ambassador of Japan, in New Delhi. The assistance comprises (1) a loan of Yen 4 billion or Rs. 150.7 million for the implementation of the Western Yamuna Canal Hydro-electric Project of Haryana State Electricity Board; and (2) a grant of Yen 2.464 billion or Rs. 90.7 million as a debt relief measure.

The loan of Rs. 150.7 million will be repayable over a period of 30 years including a grace period of 10 years carrying an interest rate of 2.75 per cent per annum. It is a part of the total amount of Yen 27.6 billion pledged by the Government of Japan at the Aid India Consortium Meeting in June 1979.

The grant of Rs. 90.7 million is being extended by the Government of Japan in compliance with Resolution No. 165 on Debt Relief

Measures of the Trade and Development Board of UNCTAD. The grant which is untied will be used to cover import of goods and services as may be mutually agreed upon.

PAN INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC USA

Date : Mar 18, 1981

Volume No

1995

TANZANIA

President N. Sanjiva Reddy's Speech at Banquet in Honour of President of Tanzania

Following is the text of the President Shri N. Sanjiva Reddy's speech at the banquet in honour of Mr. Mwalimu Julius Nyerere, President of the United Republic of Tanzania in New Delhi on Mar 30, 1981. Proposing the toast, Shri Reddy said:

It is a great privilege for me to extend to Your Excellency, to Mama Nyerere and
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to the distinguished members of your delegation a warm and cordial welcome to our country.

Mr. President, it is now five years since we had the pleasure of having you in our midst. On that occasion your outstanding record as an African and world statesman was duly recognised by the Government of India who conferred on you the Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding. The citation relating to the presentation of the award recalled Your Excellency's particular commitment to the eradication of all forms of colonialism, racial discrimination and economic exploitation from the African continent and your steadfast championship of African liberation movements.

LIBERATION STRUGGLE

We in India are deeply appreciative of the unique role played by Tanzania, as Chairman of the Front-Line States, in promoting the high ideals of freedom and human dignity in Southern Africa. We are fully conscious that the accession of Zimbabwe to independence last year was due in no small measure to the personal skill with which Your Excellency guided the liberation struggle, as well as the negotiations leading to a peaceful settlement in that country.

There are still, however, formidable difficulties and frustrations to overcome before a satisfactory solution can be found for the achievement of Namibian independence. It is a matter of the most serious concern that South Africa is being encouraged by the attitude of some countries to become even more intransigent in its determination to defy the will of the international community. South Africa's behaviour, characterised by frequent and blatant acts of aggression against the Front-Line States, deserves the most severe condemnation. In the existing circumstances, while we must redouble our efforts to secure the speedy implementation of the United Nations plan for Namibian independence, there is no alternative but to move independently for the imposition of comprehensive and mandatory sanctions against South Africa with a view to compelling the vacation of its illegal occupation of Namibia. We must, at the same time, intensify our moral and material support to SWAPO in its struggle for national liberation.

Inside South Africa itself, the heinous system of apartheid constitutes a serious threat to international peace and security. The heroic struggle of the oppressed people of South Africa for the eradication of apartheid and for the exercise of their inalienable rights, deserves the fullest support of the international community.

In the East African region, we are gratified by the emergence of a democratically elected Government in Uganda, which has significantly improved the regional security environment. The constructive efforts of the countries of the region to intensify mutually beneficial cooperation among themselves enjoys our fullest support.

INTERNATIONAL TENSIONS

Mr. President, your current visit to India, provides us with a timely opportunity to review the rapid deterioration of the world security environment. There has been in recent months a perceptible aggravation of international tensions and an ominous revival of cold war attitudes. Detente has experienced a serious setback and the collective behaviour of nation states has created conditions of increasing insecurity and instability. In our own proximity in South East and South West Asia the escalation of tension has caused us deep concern. It is our earnest hope that political settlements can be worked out which take fully into account the interests of all the parties concerned.

The Indian Ocean has become an area of increasing great power confrontation. The unanimous aspiration of the littoral and hinterland states to secure the elimination of these military presences and the establishment of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace is sought to be ignored and frustrated. It will, nevertheless, remain our endeavour to redouble our efforts to

attain our objectives at the conference on the Indian Ocean to be convened in Sri Lanka later this year.
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NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT

In the overall crisis atmosphere that prevails today, the Non-aligned Movement has assumed a special importance as a vital force for the preservation and consolidation of international peace and security. It is indeed gratifying that in this context, the recent Non-aligned Ministerial Conference demonstrated the inherent capacity of the movement to reassert its unity, coherence and particular relevance.

Mr. President, Tanzania's noble efforts to consolidate its political and economic independence through the pursuit of policies of socialism and self-reliance have understandably attracted world attention. We salute you as an outstanding spokesman of the cause of the developing countries in the deteriorating situation in the global economy and the persistent inequity in international economic relations. Tanzania and India have consistently believed that the restructuring of these relations and the establishment of a New International Economic Order can be advanced significantly through the promotion of economic and technical cooperation among the developing countries themselves. Our experience of bilateral cooperation has, with ample justification, been viewed as a model for such cooperation. We are confident that the visit of Your Excellency to our country will furnish a timely opportunity to identify fresh areas of mutually beneficial bilateral economic cooperation.

NZANIA USA INDIA ZIMBABWE NAMIBIA SOUTH AFRICA UGANDA SRI LANKA

Date : Mar 30, 1981

Volume No

1995

TANZANIA

Text of Tanzanian President's Speech

Replying to the toast, President Nyerere said:

Mr. President, Madame Prime Minister, Your Excellencies and friends, it is a great pleasure to me to be in India again, and I thank you, Mr. President, for your kind words of welcome. I am very happy to have the opportunity to spend a few days in this

country, to meet old friends again, and to make new ones. For although it is true that the friendship between our two countries is now too deep to depend upon the personalities of our respective leaders, it is also true that friendly relations between the leaders of our two peoples can help to keep the relationship moving smoothly and in a forward direction.

INDIAN OCEAN

When I was here in 1976, Mr. President, I pointed out that India and Tanzania are neighbours: "geographically divided only by water", and paid tribute to the consistent good neighbourliness of India in relation to Tanzania. But that water is there, separating our two countries. Therefore both of our nations have a continuing and active interests in the Indian Ocean being a world recognised "Zone of Peace". India and Tanzania, along with other states bordering on that Ocean, have campaigned to achieve that end; we now even have some international resolution in support of the concept.

Any progress we have made with words, however, has been more than overtaken by setbacks in action. What we regard as a mass of water linking friends, is being converted into an arena for possible Big Power conflict. Foreign bases are being established or surveyed and readied; navies of NATO and the Warsaw Pact patrol from North to South, East to West.

Mr. President: The recent deterioration in relations between the Power blocs of the world must be a matter of concern to us all. The world needs more effort at mutual understanding and mutual respect between states, regardless of ideology, not more armaments to add to these already capable of killing the entire world's population many times over.

PROBLEMS OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

For the real problems facing the world, and particularly those of us living in the Third World is - to put it starkly - hunger, disease, and miserable living con-
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ditions among masses of our people. India and Tanzania are among the majority of Third World nations which are committed to working against those evils. But most Third World Countries are handicapped by the two things: first that very lack of development from which we suffer, so that we have neither the skills, nor the infrastructure, nor the capital, needed. Even India which has the skills and infrastructure still lacks sufficient capital. The second basic handicap to all of us is an international system of finance and exchange which was created in their own interests - by the developed nations in 1945. Ironically, the near-breakdown of that systems, which is bringing recession, unemployment and in flation to the industrialised

nations, makes our own situation worse rather than better. And in too many cases, the reaction of the developed world to their domestic problems has been to try to go backwards, and to reinforce internal and international exchange systems based on the idea of men being sacrificed to money rather than money being used to serve mankind.

NEW ECONOMICAL ORDER

This is unacceptable to the poor of the world. The present disarray in the world economy has to be met by the creation of new and more just systems of international finance and exchange. The New International Economic Order, which the Group of 77 and the Non-Aligned Movement have been demanding for many years, is now a matter of great urgency for developing and developed nations alike. Certainly the auguries are not bright; the failure of the last United Nations attempt to get North-South dialogue re-started is very discouraging. But setbacks and disappointments are irrelevant to the needs for action. Third World nations, whose need is greatest and whose demand for international economic justice and order is therefore the most urgent, must intensify their efforts.

We could begin without waiting for the developed world to agree to the opening of realistic discussions with the Third World. We could help ourselves by doing more trade among ourselves, cooperating in more joint projects, and learning more from each other.

MUTUAL COOPERATION

India and Tanzania recognised that many years ago. And the hope I expressed in 1976 - that trade between our two countries would increase - has in fact been fulfilled, although it is not yet balanced trade. We have also agreed on a number of projects for mutual cooperation, some of which are already in operation. But unfortunately, our Joint Commission has not met since December 1978, so that the snags and difficulties which are inevitable in any joint enterprise or cooperation agreement have not been ironed out quickly when they occur. I hope that my visit will help to revitalise that Commission, so that we resume the forward march of our cooperative and mutually beneficial endeavours.

NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT

Mr. President, implicit in what I have already said has been the importance of the Non-Aligned Movement to both of our countries, and indeed to the hopes of world peace. Yet I cannot speak in the national capital of the late Jawaharlal Nehru without being very specific about Tanzania's continued commitment to that Movement, and reiterating our conviction that its unity is much greater, and its divisions less important, than its enemies would like to pretend.

The Non-Aligned Movement is not a Power Bloc and has never aimed at becoming one. It is not even a Mutual Defence Alliance. It is simply a jointly-stated commitment not to allow our nations to be the satellites or puppets of either of the Big Power Blocs, nor to become members of either NATO or the Warsaw Pact. From that simple commitment comes our need to consult together periodically, and our recognition that economically as well as politically we can work together for our common benefit. The 20th Anniversary of the Non-Aligned Movement will mark two decades of contributions to the cause of World Peace and Justice.

Certainly one basic objective of the Non-Aligned Movement has, come very near to achievement in the last twenty years.
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For the Non-Aligned Movement was always anti-imperialist indeed anti-imperialism and anti-racism is inherent in its very existence. And now in 1981, colonialism, the traditional form of imperialism, is giving its dying kicks - although I hasten to add that these can still be very dangerous to us. In Asia, traditional colonialism is a thing of the past. In Africa, only Namibia remains to be freed from the clutches of South Africa before our continent also will be clear of colonialism - although the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic has become a victim of new colonialism by a member of the O.A.U.: I do not think it is necessary for me to assure the Government and People of India that Tanzania, despite all its current difficulties, remains committed to the principles of self-determination, independence, and racial equality wherever these principles are violated. I am confident that India's long record of support for the struggle against racism and alien domination will be maintained until the whole of Africa is, free and racism is defeated.

Mr. President, I now ask everyone present to join me in a toast to President Reddy, the Government and the People of India; to Ever-increasing friendship and cooperation between our two peoples and two nations; to Unity and further progress for the Non-Aligned Movement; and to The movement for peace and justice throughout the world.

NZANIA INDIA POLAND USA NAMIBIA SOUTH AFRICA

Date : Mar 30, 1981

Volume No

1995

Permanent Representative of India Shri Brijesh Misra's Speech at U.N. General Assembly on the Question of Namibia

Following is the text of the speech by the Permanent Representative of India, Shri Brijesh Misra, at the United Nations General Assembly on Mar 04, 1981 on the question of Namibia:

Mr. President, the weeks preceding the resumption of the 35th Session of the General Assembly to consider the question of Namibia witnessed an unprecedented international effort aimed at a peaceful transition to independence in Namibia. Despite her dismal record of deceitfulness and intransigence, a concerted effort was made by the countries around globe to persuade South Africa and to permit the holding of free and fair elections in Namibia, never, before had the international community shown such unity and determination to secure Namibia's independence. In keeping with the direct responsibility that it had assumed for Namibia, the United Nations provided the leadership to the effort which explored every avenue to early implementation of the relevant United Nations Resolutions. There was world wide expectation, indeed hope against hope, that an Independent Namibia would be born before the end of the current year. But we are now back in the General Assembly with accumulated frustration and indignation what has not been lost is our determination to meet the challenge. This question poses to the conscience of humanity. Indeed, that determination is the greater in the wake of recent failures.

SOUTH AFRICA'S POLICY OF CONFRONTATION

To many of us the collapse of the preimplementation meeting in Geneva was a foregone conclusion because the issues sought to be tackled were either beyond its competence or were not relevant to the
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pre-implementation stage. If South Africa was genuinely interested in the implementation of the UN plan, it hardly needed any proof of the ability of the United Nations to carry out its responsibilities with regard to the territory. The preparedness of Untag for immediate deployment was beyond question. If the attempt was to secure Constitutional guarantees for certain sections of the people within Namibia, it was pointless to do so in a pre-implementation meeting because such guarantees could be given only by an elected assembly. Much was said or alleged about the role of United Nations. But if impartiality of the United Nations was to be established, it was to come after the implementation had commenced, for, the United Nations, committed as it is to decolonisation, could not have treated and can never

treat a colonial oppressor and a people struggling to liberate themselves on an equal footing. There was no reason to doubt that the United Nations would be anything but impartial with respect to the different contestants in the elections once the colonial occupation was ended and all parties enjoyed equal freedom to seek the verdict of the people. Therefore, the holding of the pro-implementation meeting was in itself a concession to South Africa, an opportunity offered to it to make the final choice between confrontation and peace. South Africa had one last opportunity to end a tragic conflict peacefully and to facilitate the solution of a problem affecting not only Namibia but also the region as a whole and the rest of the world. SWAPO's stated readiness to sign a cease-fire agreement and to agree to a target date for the deployment of Untag without any pre-conditions and with the sole objective of bringing peace to the embattled country, offered a unique opportunity to South Africa. But in its characteristic manner, South Africa allowed that opportunity to be missed, thereby making a deliberate choice to continue confrontation, hatred, violence and bloodshed.

NEW RESPONSE REQUIRED

The new situation is characterised by a new challenge and it ought to find a new response from the international community. The deliberations in the international meetings held in Arusha, Lusaka, New Delhi and Addis Ababa were devoted to a search for this response. Opinion was unanimous in those meetings that the days for negotiations with South Africa had ended and that the time had come for the international community to help prepare for the final struggle to liberate Namibia. The world community came to the inevitable conclusion that the strengthening of SWAPO's struggle by all available means would alone result in success and that the threat to international peace and security caused by South Africa's intransigence made it imperative for the United Nations to fully isolate South Africa politically and economically.

Mr. President, we do hope that a rapid reappraisal of policies is taking place in certain capitals which had indirectly encouraged South Africa in its defiance of world opinion. The behaviour of South Africa at the pre-implementation meeting should have come as a shocking revelation to the friends of South Africa who were under an illusion that patient negotiations would persuade her to restore the rights of the people of Namibia. If their protestations about their faith in human rights and liberty are genuine and not a mere facade behind which they hide ambitions of economic benefit through collusion with the racist regime they owe it to themselves to be clear and forthright in their declarations and actions. If they fail to do so now, they too will be missing an opportunity to counter racist terrorism. To prevent bloodshed in Africa, to promote world peace and security.

SWAPO's ROLE

The South West African People's Organisation, the sole and authentic representative of the people of Namibia, has always had a reputation for courage, fortitude and patriotism. In recent months, even its worst critics have conceded that it also possesses statesmanship and wisdom. SWAPO resorted to armed struggle because it was the only option available for it to realise the rights of the people of Namibia and this struggle deserves to, be strengthen-

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ed and encouraged by the freedom loving people everywhere. The first priority today is the strengthening of the hands of SWAPO in its efforts not only to liberate Namibia but also to build-up a cadre of Namibians who can take over the reigns of their nation when it becomes independent. India's total political and moral support is at SWAPO's disposal and we shall continue to extend our material support to it whenever we are called upon to do so. We have recently reiterated our willingness to receive a resident representative of SWAPO in New Delhi as a symbol of our renewed commitment to the people of Namibia.

SOLIDARITY OF FRONTLINE STATES

The principled support extended to the people of Namibia by the frontline states has cost them dearly in terms of economic hardships and the constant threat of aggressive reprisals they face from across the border. South Africa's armed aggression against Mozambique, Angola and Zambia were designed to destroy their persistent determination to liberate Namibia and to render them unable to assist SWAPO. We express our solidarity with the frontline states and reiterate our faith and conviction that whatever the sacrifices it will not deter them from continuing to adhere to the principled stand that they have taken in support of Namibian liberation. The official communique issued after a meeting of the heads of the frontline states held in Lusaka on 17th February 1981 is testimony to their determination to continue "to assist SWAPO in all fields, including political, economic, diplomatic and military assistance".

U.N. SUPPORT

Mr. President, the report of the United Nations Council for Namibia on this session is an exemplary record of its untiring efforts to fulfil the mandate given to it in terms of resolution 224 of 19th May, 1967. Though its primary objective of ensuring the withdrawal of South Africa from Namibia has remained unattained, the Council has continued to function effectively as the only legal administering authority for Namibia and has mobilised international support to the cause of Namibia. The unique responsibility entrusted to the Council has placed on it unprecedented rights and obligations which have not been fully appreciated by some member states of the United Nations. The

Council has been handicapped by inadequate appreciation of its responsibilities, deliberately ambivalent attitudes and, at times, even total hostility. It is imperative for the Council as a whole to adopt positions in the best interest of the people of Namibia regardless of the individual predilections and policies of its own member states. Suggestions in the Council that it should condone South African actions or should remain patient to allow South Africa to choose its own time and method to grant freedom to Namibia are impermissible. We are, therefore, gratified that the Council has adopted for itself a set of guidelines that will remind the members of their obligations and the role and mandate of the Council. We wish to place on record our sincere appreciation of the manner in which the Council has been guided by its President, H.E. Mr. Paul Lusaka, permanent Representative of Zambia to the United Nations.

The major achievement of the Council for Namibia during the last one year has been the success it has registered in making the voice of Namibia heard round the world through its visiting missions, its delegations to international Conferences, its extraordinary plenary meetings in Algiers which adopted historic declarations and programmes of action and the uranium hearings held at the United Nations last year. The report of the panel which conducted the uranium hearings forms a part of the Council's report to this assembly. The report provides a wealth of information on the illegal exploitation of Namibian uranium and focusses attention on the motivations of certain governments who have encouraged their multinational corporations to freely operate in Namibia. Indeed the report provides a deep insight into the policies of certain Western nations with regard to Namibia. The report shows that certain countries are fully exploiting the situation in Namibia to amass profits for themselves and to acquire control over the uranium reserves of Namibia. If those Governments have no qualms about depriving the people of Namibia of their natural

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heritage, if they are in a hurry to make hay while the sun shines, can they be expected to expedite any process that will eventually result in the denial of their present privileged position? Will they ever willingly become instruments to facilitate freedom for Namibia only to surrender the business empires they have built up so carefully over the years in collusion with the colonial regime? Such are the questions raised by the panel after collating information on the exploitation of uranium in Namibia. The report of panel will also serve to enable the independent government of Namibia to claim damages from those who have plundered the natural resources of Namibia and caused hazards to the local population by neglecting to observe even the most fundamental safety precautions in the mining of uranium.

ECONOMIC EXPLOITATION

The conclusions arrived at by the panel and the recommendations made by it deserve utmost attention by the world community. The panel has established beyond any doubt that the activities of foreign economic interests in Namibia are in violation of the decisions of the General Assembly, the Security Council and the International Court of Justice. Even without the abundant evidence submitted before the panel, it is clear that since the occupation of Namibia by South Africa is illegal, any activity undertaken there as part of an arrangement with the South African regime is also illegal. Now that the corporations involved stand totally exposed, the United Nations is in a better position to demand of its member states that they should take effective action to prevent their corporations from engaging in mining in Namibia. Equally important is the recommendation made by the panel that the concerned countries should be asked to cease every kind of nuclear cooperation with South Africa so that it does not advance its nuclear capability, further endangering peace and security in the world. The Chairman of the panel, H.E. Mr. Neel Sinclair, Permanent Representative of Guyana, deserves to be congratulated on the excellent work the council has done in this field.

SANCTIONS AGAINST S. AFRICA

Taking into account all the pertinent facts, we solemnly call upon the Security Council to convene urgently to impose comprehensive mandatory sanctions against South Africa as provided for under chapter VII of the charter of the United Nations in order to ensure her immediate compliance with the resolutions and decisions of the UN relating to Namibia. As decided last month by the Ministerial Conference of Non-aligned countries held in New Delhi, in the event of the inability of the Security Council to adopt concrete measures to compel South Africa to end its illegal occupation of Namibia, the General Assembly should urgently consider necessary action in accordance with the charter of the United Nations and in keeping with the direct responsibility of the United Nations for promoting self-determination, freedom and national independence to Namibia.

Mr. President, the Prime Minister of India said on the occasion of the presentation of the awards of the Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding to Nelson Mandela, the heroic freedom fighter of South Africa: "A struggle for freedom can be suppressed, its soldiers killed, imprisoned, humiliated, but the idea of freedom cannot be stamped out, some spark will persist to burst into flames somewhere to light the way anti illumine the hearts and ultimately lead to success. Neither colour nor caste nor sex makes one person superior or inferior. No matter what laws South Africa devises for itself, history cannot be denied nor will the inexorable march of the future be halted."

Thank you, Mr. President.

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DIA NAMIBIA USA SOUTH AFRICA SWITZERLAND CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC ETHIOPIA
ZAMBIA ANGOLA MOZAMBIQUE ALGERIA GUYANA

Date : Mar 04, 1981

Volume No

1995

VIENNA

Foreign Secretary R. D. Sathe Holds Talk in Vienna

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on
Mar 02, 1981:

Foreign Secretary R. D. Sathe held bilateral talks in Vienna on
Friday 27th February, 81 with Doctor Karl Fischer, Acting
Secretary General in Austrian Foreign Office. Topics included
preparations for the forthcoming Foreign Ministers conference on
North-South dialogue, visit of Austrian Foreign Minister Doctor
Willibald Pahr to India from 23-25 March, Indo-Austrian Economic
Relations and Review of International situation. Foreign
Secretary also called on Doctor Pahr, accompanied by Ambassador
K. L. Dalal and Shri Hardev Bhalla, Joint Secretary (EW).

During his stay in Vienna Foreign Secretary also met Doctor
Sigvard Eklund, Director General, International Atomic Energy
Agency, Doctor Abo-El Rahman Khane, Executive Director, United
Nations Industrial Development Organisation, Doctor Rene Ortiz,
Secretary General, Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries
and Doctor F. I. Shihata, Director General O.P.E.C. Fund for
International Development.
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STRIA INDIA USA

Date : Mar 02, 1981

April

Volume No

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KINGDOM USA

Date : Apr 01, 1981

Volume No

1995

BAHRAIN

President N. Sanjiva Reddy's Speech at Banquet for Amir of Bahrain

Following is the text of the speech by the President of India,
Shri N. Sanjiva Reddy at the banquet he hosted in honour of H. H.

Shaikh Isa Bin Sulman Al Khalifa, Amir of the State of Bahrain,
i-on New Delhi on Apr 27, 1981:

On behalf of the Government and people of India and on my own behalf, I have the pleasure and honour of extending to you and to the distinguished members of your delegation a very warm and cordial welcome to our country. We know that, in honouring you, we are honouring a respected and trusted friend of India. We are particularly happy to welcome the leader of the country with which we have enjoyed close historical ties for centuries. We in India attach great importance to the close links existing between our two countries.

Your Highness, we feel privileged to have you and our other distinguished friends' from Bahrain as our guests here tonight. Your visit to our country brings forth memories of the past, of the long voyages in pursuit of commercial exchanges between our two countries. The technological advance has brought us much closer and today we are almost next door neighbours. The commercial and cultural contacts of the past have developed into a multi-faceted relationship today encompassing a variety of spheres. The continuous contacts between our two peoples have fostered a sense of identity and a sharing of values and ideals. We both strive for peace and justice in the world. Our common convictions are a significant factor in cementing our mutually beneficial relationship.

WEST ASIA

Some recent developments in our region have been a matter of deep concern to us and I believe to you as well. The conflict between two of our neighbouring countries in West Asia, both of whom are members of the Non-Aligned Movement, has been a source of grave anxiety and anguish. It is our fervent hope and endeavour that hostilities will cease soon and peace restored in the region. We believe that continuation of this conflict will not only weaken two important countries in the region but will also have an impact on other countries in the area. As part of the Non-Aligned Group of Nations we are making all possible efforts to bring this conflict to an end.

Your Highness, you are aware of the principled support always extended by India to the Arab cause in general and the Palestinian people in particular. It is our conviction that full participation of the Palestine Liberation Organisation as an equal partner is absolutely necessary for a resolution of the Middle East problem and for just and lasting peace in the region. We also firmly believe that any settlement of the Middle East issue would have to be based on complete withdrawal of Israel from all occupied Palestinian and Arab territories, including Jerusalem, return of the Palestinian people to their homeland and the establishment of an independent State of Palestine.

GREAT POWER RIVALRY

Our region today is facing serious political challenges brought about by the great rivalry. We are deeply perturbed over the increasing great power presence in the Indian Ocean area despite the express wishes of the littoral and hinterland States to make the Indian Ocean a zone of peace. In our view, only a speedy implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a

zone of peace can bring about peace and tranquillity so vital for the economic development of the region.

NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT

The developing countries which are faced with the uphill task of raising the living standard of their people can advance towards their goal only in an atmosphere of peace and security. It is our belief that the policy of non-alignment is the right course to achieve the objective of international peace and security. 'Both our countries firmly believe in the policies and principles of non-alignment and we are happy that we are cooperating with each other to strengthen the unity and role of the non-aligned movement as a vital force in international relations. The recent Ministerial level Conference of Non-Aligned countries held in New Delhi reaffirmed the significance of non-aligned movement as an important stabilizing factor in world peace.

Your Highness, under your enlightened leadership Bahrain has made very rapid strides on the road to economic development and prosperity. We are happy to see Bahrain emerge as an important focal point in the Gulf for industry and a financial centre in West Asia. We are also happy to know that the Indian community in Bahrain, the largest expatriate community in your country, has been making its contribution to the development efforts of your nation. Let me assure you that we in India stand ready to share with you our technology, expertise and manpower to help in the further development of the State of Bahrain.

Your Highness, we look forward to fruitful exchanges with you on matters relating to our bilateral relations and on international issues of mutual interest. I am confident that your visit will provide an excellent opportunity of further consolidation of the warm and friendly relations between our two peoples and countries.

HRAIN INDIA USA ISRAEL

Date : Apr 27, 1981

Volume No

BAHRAIN

Text of Shaikh Isa, Bin Sulman Al-Khalifa's Speech

Replying to the toast, H. H. Shaikh Isa Bin Sulman Al-Khalifa said:

Your Excellency, Shri Neelam Sanjiva Reddy, President of India, Your Excellency, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, Prime Minister of India and distinguished friends, I am most grateful to Your Excellency for your kind words of welcome and for the generous remarks you have made about the strong and friendly relations which exist between our two countries.

May I say at once how delighted I am to be with you in India, a country I have long admired not only for its rich and varied history but also for the very important role it plays in world affairs. I would like to express my deep thanks and appreciation both to the Government and to the people of India for the generous hospitality shown to us since our arrival.

CLOSE FRIENDLY RELATIONS

The present friendly relations enjoyed between Bahrain and India are not merely a product of our time; for centuries there have been constant exchanges between our two countries and peoples in commercial, cultural and other fields. Indeed the relations between India and Bahrain can be traced back to our very early history when the Mesopotamian, Dilman and Indus Valley civilisations flourished. Bahrain, known as Dilman by the ancient Mesopotamians during the III Millennium B.C., was then, as it is more than ever now, a cross-roads and important trading centre between India and Mesopotamia.

I am ' therefore, very happy indeed to have this opportunity to consolidate Bahrain's already close contacts with India and to bring to Your Excellency and the people of India the greetings and good wishes of The Government and people of Bahrain with our admiration for the advances India has made and for its firm and determined commitment to the principles of self-determination and freedom and dignity for all mankind.

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It is interesting to note that it was Bahrain's position as a focal point for trade and commerce that attracted the first Indian community settling in the Arabian Gulf to come to Bahrain. I am pleased to be able to say that members of the Indian community have and still do contribute greatly to the many diverse aspects of commercial, industrial and professional life

in our country today.

Looking back at recent years we can derive satisfaction, at the marked growth in all forms of contact between Bahrain and India, Our ties in trade and cultural relations have multiplied and I am sure that there are still many avenues for greater cooperation between us.

SIMILARITY OF POLICIES

I am happy to note that the respective views of our two Governments on major international problems and other matters of mutual interest are close to one another. We are both developing countries and members of the Non-Aligned Movement. We are both devoted to the aims of the United Nations, especially non-intervention by one state in the internal affairs of another and we believe in respecting sovereignty, territorial integrity, and the settlement of conflicts and disputes by peaceful means.

We are meeting here, Your Excellency, at a very crucial time in international relations. The situation in the Middle East poses a most dangerous threat to international peace and security, having, as it does, direct repercussions on the economic and political stability of the, world. We are thankful to the Indian Government for the just stand it has made over the whole Middle East problem and for the firm support given to the Palestinian people is represented by the Palestinian Liberation Organisation in their heroic struggle to establish their inalienable rights. Through such policies we hope that a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East may soon be achieved.

We in Bahrain attach great importance to the development of bilateral contacts between our two countries and we earnestly look forward to the opportunity now at hand for having cordial and sincere fruitful talks with the leaders of your country.

We are confident that this visit will strengthen the friendship between India and Bahrain and further advance the co-operation between us in all fields.

HRAIN INDIA USA

Date : Apr 27, 1981

Volume No

1995

BAHRAIN

India-Bahrain Economic and Technical Cooperation Agreement

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Apr 28, 1981:

India and Bahrain today signed an agreement of economic and technical cooperation. The agreement was signed by Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, Minister of External Affairs on behalf of the Government of India and H.E. Mr. Ibrahim Abdul Karim, Minister of Finance and National economy for the Government of the State of Bahrain.

The agreement envisages joint undertaking of projects of a technical and economic nature, with direct or indirect profitability, through cooperation between concerned organisations, institutions or enterprises of the two countries on the basis of special arrangements.

It also provides for collaboration between concerned organisations, institutions and enterprises of the two countries for jointly carrying out pre-investment surveys in engineering, medical, health, agricultural, tourist, industrial, energy, petrochemicals, chemicals, fertilisers, pharmaceuticals, transport and communications fields or any other branches of activity where such cooperation would be beneficial to both parties.

There will be organisation of training programmes for administrative, technical and professional personnel.

The agreement also provides for deputation of experts and consultants for short
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and long-term assignments and exchange of documentation and information.

In order to ensure the implementation of the present Agreement the two countries will have periodic meetings and exchanges at different levels for the following purposes:

- to coordinate the several aspects of economic and technical cooperation between the parties.
- to consider new programmes of action of economic and technical character, the duration of which would be agreed upon by mutual agreement.
- to propose measures designed to strengthen economic relations between the parties.
- to review the problems which arise in the course of

implementation of the Agreement and find possible solution to them.

The Agreements will remain in force for five years.

HRAIN INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC USA

Date : Apr 28, 1981

Volume No

1995

BAHRAIN

India-Bahrain Cultural Exchange Programme

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Apr 28, 1981:

In pursuance of the Cultural Agreement signed between India and Bahrain on January 8, 1975, the first Cultural Exchange Programme between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the State of Bahrain was signed here today.

The Exchange Programme includes specific programmes of exchanges for the years 1981 and 1982. It envisages cooperation between the two countries in the fields of education, culture, sports, radio, T.V. and tourism.

Some of the major cultural activities envisaged are: study of educational systems in both countries; participation in scientific conferences; exchange of publications relating to education, culture, science, sports, children's literature; establishing equivalence of academic degrees, diplomas and certificates; offer of scholarships for postgraduate studies I researches; exchange of dance and music ensembles and exhibitions of handicrafts; exchange of persons specialised in mass media; exchange of sports teams and trainers; and encouragement of tourism and technical assistance for specific projects in the development of tourism infra-structure.

HRAIN INDIA USA

Date : Apr 28, 1981

Volume No

1995

BAHRAIN

Indo-Bahrain Joint Statement

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Apr 30, 1981:

At the invitation of the President of India Shri Neelam Sanjiva Reddy, the Amir of the State of Bahrain, His Highness Shaikh Isa Bin Sulman Al-Khalifa, paid a State visit to India from April 27 to 30, 1981. The visit took place in a warm cordial and friendly atmosphere which has always characterised the relations between the two countries.

The Prime Minister of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, and His Highness the Amir of Bahrain had detailed discussions on matters of mutual interest and concern in the bilateral, regional and international sphere. They also discussed ways and means of further developing and consolidating relations between the two countries. These talks were held in an atmosphere of great warmth, friendship and mutual understanding reflecting the age-old relations between the two countries.

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His Highness the Amir of Bahrain was accompanied by H.E. Shaikh Mohamed Bin Mubarak Al-Khalifa, Minister of Foreign Affairs, H.E. Mr. Mahmood Al Alawi, Financial Adviser to H.E. the Prime Minister, H.E. Mr. Ibrahim Abdul Karim, Minister of Finance and National Economy, H.E. Mr. Habib Ahmed Qasim, Minister of Commerce and Agriculture, and H.E. Mr. Yousuf Rahmah Al Dosari, Head of the Amiri Court.

The Ministers accompanying this Highness the Amir had separate discussions with their respective counterparts.

The two sides felt that there was considerable scope for extending cooperation in diverse fields. There were existing complementarities between the economies of Bahrain and India. These could be utilised for promoting mutual benefit and for increasing the pace of developmental activities. With this objective in view, an Agreement on Economic and Technical Cooperation between the two countries was signed on April 28, 1981.

His Highness the Amir of Bahrain and the Prime Minister noted with grave concern the situation in the Middle East and agreed

that it is a source of grave danger for peace and stability of the region. They called for the immediate withdrawal by Israel from all Arab territories occupied by it since June 1967, including Jerusalem. They both agreed that no solution to this problem could be found without full participation of the Palestine Liberation Organisation as an equal partner in any negotiations. They expressed their conviction that any solution of the problem to be equitable and lasting should take into account the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people and should enable the Palestinian people to return to their homeland and to establish an independent state in Palestine.

The two leaders also noted with grave concern the situation in Afghanistan. The Prime Minister of India and His Highness the Amir of Bahrain called for an urgent comprehensive political settlement of the question on the basis of the withdrawal of foreign troops, return of the refugees to their homes in safety and honour, strict observance of the principle of non-intervention and non-interference and full respect for the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and non-aligned status of Afghanistan.

His Highness the Amir of Bahrain and the Prime Minister of India expressed their deep concern and distress at the Iran-Iraq war and affirmed that a continuation of the present conflict would have grave implications for both regional and global peace and security. They expressed the hope that Iran and Iraq would resolve their differences in accordance with the principles of the Non-Aligned Movement. The two sides also reiterated their support for the guidelines contained in the New Delhi Declaration of the Non-Aligned Foreign Ministers' Conference of February 1981, for bringing about an early end to this conflict. His Highness the Amir expressed his solidarity and support to the efforts being made by the Non-Aligned Group to restore peace to the region in pursuance of the New Delhi Declaration of the Non-Aligned Foreign Ministers' Conference.

His Highness the Amir of Bahrain and the Prime Minister of India expressed their grave concern over the increasing escalation of Great Power military presence in the Indian Ocean area notwithstanding the express wishes of the littoral and hinterland, states of the Indian Ocean. They noted with serious concern the manifestations of intensified military presence in the Indian Ocean by the Great Powers and called on these powers to progressively reduce and eventually eliminate their military presence from the Indian Ocean. The two leaders reaffirmed the need to redouble efforts for the speedy implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace, as contained in the 1971 United Nations

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General Assembly resolution on this subject. In this context, the Indian and Bahraini leaders reiterated their determination to

work for the success of the conference on the Indian Ocean, which is scheduled to be held in Sri Lanka later in 1981.

His Highness the Amir of Bahrain and the Prime Minister of India agreed that tension and confrontation in Southern Africa could not be eradicated nor peace established until the liberation of Namibia from the illegal occupation by South Africa and the dismantling of the structure of apartheid in South Africa are achieved. The two leaders called for total support to the decisions taken by the Non-Aligned Foreign Ministers' meeting recently held in Algiers.

His Highness the Amir of Bahrain and the Prime Minister of the Republic of India reaffirmed their faith in the policy of nonalignment and noted that the Non-Aligned Movement represents the hopes and aspirations of the majority of mankind and has become an independent and positive force for world peace. They expressed the hope that through strict adherence to the principles of non-alignment and by stressing the common bonds which united the nonaligned countries, the Movement would continue to subscribe to a common strategy and consensus which would reflect the real essence of non-alignment. In this connection, the two sides noted with satisfaction the success of the Conference of Foreign Ministers of the Non-aligned countries held recently in New Delhi, which also commemorated the 20th Anniversary of the first Summit Conference.

His Highness the Amir of Bahrain expressed his deep appreciation of the progress achieved by India in the industrial, agricultural, technological and scientific fields and the wide-ranging capabilities and infrastructure which have been established. His Highness the Amir conveyed his conviction to the Prime Minister that Indian expertise, technology and experience could be used extensively in the development programme of Bahrain and the Arab world.

His Highness the Amir of Bahrain expressed satisfaction at the contribution made by the Indian community in the economic development of the State of Bahrain. The Prime Minister assured His Highness the Amir that India would be happy to provide professional manpower required by the State of Bahrain in future.

His Highness the Amir of the State of Bahrain thanked the President, the Government and people of India for the warm and cordial welcome accorded to him and for the generous hospitality extended to him and to the members of his party during their visit to India.

His Highness the Amir extended to the President of the Republic of India, Shri Neelam Sanjiva Reddy, and to the Prime Minister of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, an invitation to visit the State of Bahrain. These invitations were gladly accepted.

HRAIN INDIA USA ISRAEL AFGHANISTAN IRAN IRAQ SRI LANKA NAMIBIA SOUTH AFRICA
ALGERIA

Date : Apr 30, 1981

Volume No

1995

CANADA

Development Loan Agreement with Canada

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on
Apr 03, 1981:

India and Canada have signed here a Development Loan Assistance Agreement for CS 20 million (approximately Rs. 130 million) for equipment and services required for the mining sector. This loan is free from interest, commitment and service charges and is repayable over 50 years with a grace period of 10 years.
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The Agreement was signed by the Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Shri R. N, Malhotra and the Canadian High Commissioner, Mr. J. G. Hadwen on Thursday, April 2.

With the conclusion of this Agreement, Canadian assistance to India over the last financial year would total to CS 127 million. This would include their assistance given for the Agricultural Refinance and Development Corporation (ARDC), the Idukki Hydro Electric Project Stage II, Oil and Gas line of credit and assistance worth CS 3 million as rapeseed oil grant to the National Dairy Development Board (NDDDB).

NADA INDIA USA UNITED KINGDOM

Date : Apr 03, 1981

Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Following is the text of the Lok Sabha Proceedings for March 31, 1981 released in New Delhi on Apr 03, 1981:

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, 27 I-Ion. Members have taken part in this Debate and I am grateful to them for the very high level of debate that they were pleased to maintain at the end of which I am highly encouraged to note that a consensus has emerged in this house that the foreign policy of India, as before, continues to be based on a national consensus. Such a consensus is particularly useful because today we are at the cross-roads. We have to take decisions and go ahead. We just cannot rest content with old cliches. We have to take bold decisions because changing situations need bold decisions and if there is no consensus, it will not be possible to run the foreign policy of a country. Therefore, this consensus that has emerged in the House is the first achievement, the first springboard, which will give the Government of India renewed encouragement to go ahead with its policy in all its ramifications and pursue it confidently in future.

Sir, consensus naturally does not mean unanimity. There have been a few discordant notes. Even in music we have what are called They are a part of music. So I do not really consider this as anything detracting from consensus. In fact, in spite of them, the consensus has continued, not today alone, it has continued for the last three decades and more. There has been the political ancestry of Mr. Ram Jethamalani throughout. There is nothing new in this phenomenon. There, have been certain individuals in this country, perhaps even, certain parties, who thought that this country ought to have taken a different course in foreign policy. They did not make any dent on the overall policies. But their existence such as it was, cannot be denied and I do not propose to, deny it. As I said, in spite of these discordant notes, the consensus has continued and I shall not comment any further on this aspect of the matter.

The debate itself, as I see it, has disposed of almost all the points that were to be dealt with, points being raised and points being answered, more or less leaving very little scope to me to reply to the debate.. The replies were contained in the debate itself. I am particularly grateful to the Hon. Members who have with great insight, dealt with these points and, irrespective of the side of the House they sit in, have come out with a very realistic analysis of policies and issues that I would otherwise have had to spend time in unravelling. Therefore, I am doubly grateful to them for considerably lessening my task and I would not like to cover the same ground all over again. It is hardly necessary.

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Yesterday, our revered Chavan Saheb made a speech which had helped me a great deal. His analysis of the situation, his exposition on several points, important points, that were raised in the debate was something which is completely in line with the thinking of the Government of India.

Except one or two points raised by him on which I shall presently dwell, I find that this was a real example of the consensus which I have referred to just now. Therefore, instead of going into all these details, what I have been intending to do, since the debate began, is to think a bit in advance.

CHALLENGES OF THE EIGHTIES

We are on the threshold of new decade. The decade of the seventies is over and the decade of eighties has just started. Is there going to be a qualitative change in the thinking of men on world affairs, on their own affairs, on national and international affairs, on political affairs and economic affairs? Or is there just going to be a dittoing of the line of the seventies? If so, is there going to be any outcome of this dittoing? Is there or is there not a need to break new ground when we are standing at the beginning of this extremely crucial decade in the history of mankind? These were some of the thoughts that were crowding on my mind while I was listening to the debate and finding myself largely in agreement with many of the points raised by Hon. Members.

I would, in all humility, like to share with the House some of these alternatives, some of these choices that present themselves without being dogmatic about them, because ultimately decisions need to be, taken after due deliberation. There is nothing wrong, however, in posing the questions, in trying to perceive the alternative as we see them and find them. But before 'I go to that topic, there seem to be some concrete points raised which need to be answered factually.

One of the very persistent objections, persistent criticisms, which has been figuring in the debates of the House on foreign policy, particularly in regard to this Government, happens to relate to our neighbours. I would like to disabuse the mind of anyone who has any illusion, any misunderstanding, on this topic because that is very necessary. If this is repeated time and again, this could erode our relations with our neighbours and it could cause incalculable harm to the image of the country and to the foreign policy of the, country.

RELATIONS WITH NEIGHBOURS

Neighbours have a special position. That position brings us into relations of various kinds, relations of all descriptions. If we have a common border, if we have common rivers, if have common

interests, this could happen. Both countries might want the same thing. It is natural that at some point of time, there is a conflict. It is the essence of statesmanship to steer clear of the conflict and harmonise positions, harmonise attitudes and live in peace. Therefore, our relations with neighbours are of very great importance. So any lasting relationship with a neighbour as was pointed out by Chavanji yesterday, has to be delineated first. What are the ingredients of the relationship between one country and its neighbouring country? Could it be on the basis of big and small? Could it be on the basis of rich and poor? Could it be on the basis of domination and being dominated? I submit it is obvious that it could not be on any such basis. It has to be on the basis of sovereign equality. It has to be on the basis of mutuality of interests, mutuality of perception to the extent possible and also the will to harmonise, the will to live together, the will to see that the interests of both countries lie in living together and not being at loggerheads with each other. Still there will be problems. We cannot wish them away. It is inherent in neighbourhood itself that while it fosters friendship, love and affection, it could also give rise to conflict. It is a two-way lane.

What has been our policy in this regard? I would like to submit that this Government has tried to rebuild our relations with neighbours on the basis of trust, mutual advantage, reciprocity and national interest.

Now this last thing, called national interest, cannot be parted with, cannot be
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glossed over, cannot be diluted, because the only abiding relationship between neighbours can be of mutual interest and not one-sided interests. It just cannot be one-sided. If you go on conceding, conceding and conceding, you will never be able to have a lasting relationship with any neighbour. The neighbour should know where you stand and you should know where the neighbour stands: Only on that basis can there be an abiding friendship.

Sir, instead of going into too many details, I would very briefly recount, point by point, what has happened in regard to our relations with each of these countries.

NEPAL

I take Nepal first. The programme of techno-economic cooperation with Nepal is going ahead in order to make Nepal strong and self-reliant. Supply of iodised salt, Devighat hydel project, Mahendra Raj Marg hospitals and dispensaries etc. were the ongoing programmes which many of the Members know about. During this year, after long and patient negotiations, agreement has been reached on preparation of project report on Pancheshwar Project.

This was one of those things we were dreaming about for decades. Now it is almost coming true because we have taken a decision to go ahead with the preparation of the project report. Sir, the greatest of the projects, the biggest of the projects between India and Nepal still remains to materialise even at this stage and that is the Karnali, project. We are making every effort to go ahead at least with the preparations, at least with investigation. I am not in a position to say that this stage has been reached. But I can say that we are in a position to go ahead in this direction and perhaps it may not be very long before even this becomes a fact, particularly the investigation part of it. It is a huge project, perhaps costing more than Rs. 30001 - crores. It is going to be located in Nepal. Its benefits are going to accrue to both countries. Money will have to come from international agencies. India also has to bear its share. As to what decisions are to be taken in this connection - these matters are being considered. That is why it is still in, the initial stages. It is still something which we have to reach.

BHUTAN

Now I come to Bhutan. Our relations with Bhutan, as is well known, are based on imperatives of geo-politics, shared history, tradition and mutuality of interests, as reflected in the Treaty of 1949. Our relations are cordial and mutually useful. This year, i.e. within the last one year, agreement has been reached on:

- (1) National Civil Airline linking Calcutta with Paro;
- (2) Setting up of a broadcasting station in Bhutan;
- (3) Discussions are going on India's participation in Bhutan's 5th Five-year plan; and
- (4) Assistance extended to Chukha hydel project, which is well known to every one, and on Penden cement plant. Discussions are due to take place on Chukha Phase-II and Phase-II of the Gyalephug irrigation projects.

These are some of the important things which were completed over the year.

Here again, the largest of them all is still far away; and that is the Manas Sankosh project. If that becomes a fact, not only the relations between Bhutan and, India, but also the entire economic prospects of both countries will undergo a revolutionary change. But still, for various reasons including the stupendous nature of the project, matters are moving slowly. We do not wish to force the pace, because it is Bhutan which has to come to a conclusion in regard to the usefulness of this project. We are not asking any of our neighbours to go in for a project merely because it is useful to us. They have to come to the conclusion, independently, that it is useful to them as well. And only then will it materialize. When the King of Bhutan came here recently, he told us that this was a matter which he would like to consider

further. To this extent there has been a forward movement. We are waiting for his response. I feel that there is hope that
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this huge project also might materialise, if not in the very near future, then after some years.

BANGLADESH

Next I come to a very important relationship, which has become the subject matter of much comment recently, viz. our relations with Bangladesh. We again wish to, establish a relationship on the basis of friendship and reciprocity. A constructive dialogue has started with Bangladesh. There have been several exchanges of visits. I visited Dacca. Mr. Pranab Mukherjee visited, Dacca. President Zia-ur-Rahman visited Delhi twice on different occasions; and the Foreign Minister of Bangladesh and several other Ministers have visited this country in one connection or another. So, so far as visits are concerned 'they have been many in number. There has been steady progress on:

(1) Land boundary;

(2) Maritime boundary.

I will not go into the details of each item and say how much progress has been made. I am making a statement, with full responsibility, that there has been a forward movement on all these issues;

(3) Illegal movements across the borders. This was a very important thing which had been rankling. It was really creating difficulties on both sides. I am glad to say that we have come to an understanding, between the two Governments, and there are better prospects of this understanding being implemented by both sides.

(4) Railway transit facilities. This was one of the issues pending for a long time on which there was no forward movement for one reason or another. This year Bangladesh has agreed, in principle, to provide these facilities. Details, naturally have to be worked out.

(5) Improvement in the level of trade relations.

(6) Indian engineering exhibition held in Dacca was a resounding success and that gave the people of Bangladesh a panorama of the immense possibility of cooperation between the two countries.

(7) Cultural exchanges are also developing satisfactorily. On this point also, there had not been much progress earlier. We tried to hammer it out this year with a certain amount of

determination and I am glad to say that there has been some forward movement.

FARAKKA

Now, I come to the toughest of the problems, Farakka. I shall not go into who did what. It is a relationship between India and Bangladesh. I shall not name parties; I shall not name individuals; I shall not name the governments. The Government is a continuing institution. I am prepared to take it as that. Now what I am going to say is factually undeniable. The Farakka agreement, concluded, you know, when, had two shortcomings. It did not safeguard the principal purpose of the Farakka Barrage in ensuring an adequate supply of water to Calcutta Port. Secondly it did not ensure any time-bound programme for the overall utilization of the water of the basin. Now, these two are undeniable facts. Flowing from these facts, certain developments have taken place. There are two parts of the Farakka agreement as is known. One is the short term one and the other is the long term one. We have always taken the agreement in its entirety. These two aspects or these two parts are integrated with one another to make the whole agreement. Now, there is a tendency to treat this short term agreement, or short-term use of waters, as something, which is final, while the long-term aspect goes on languishing, without any solution anywhere in sight, without even an attempt to come to a solution, without even an attempt to go into the details of the question, the feasibilities, of the question or otherwise. This naturally is not acceptable to us. This is against the purport and spirit of the agreement itself. Therefore, we are at a very crucial point.

The Joint Rivers Commission has not been able to tackle this problem. The term

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of the short term agreement is coming to an end soon; and now we have to find ways and means of either salvaging the agreement, if that is possible, or we will have to see what alternative courses are open. This is the stage at which we find ourselves on Farakka. Let us not blame anyone. The question is between one country and another. Here is a problem and we are greatly concerned because it is not only Calcutta Port, but much more that is at stake on our side, Bihar is at stake, U.P. is at stake and the entire area which prospectively would have got water from the Ganga and its basin. So, it is not an easy matter for us. We cannot take it lightly and at the same time we know that even Bangladesh cannot take it lightly. Therefore it will be a test of political will; it will be a test of statesmanship and I am not able to presently envisage a right answer to the question, a right solution, for various reasons. This is the position and therefore we will have to be patient, we will have to be imaginative and we will have to go on with the effort. This will take time.

SRI LANKA

Coming to Sri Lanka, yesterday one I-Ion. Member was rightly indignant because of the very very slow progress on the question of the stateless persons in Sri Lanka. I admit that for various reasons this delay has occurred. But I would like to assure the House and the Hon. Member that on our side we have neither been causing nor contributing to the delay. Nor do I say categorically that the other Government is responsible for it. There have been certain vicissitudes, certain developments which have, slowed down the process. In regard to the fishermen of Rameswaram to whom the Hon'ble Member also made a reference, I would like to tell him that we are taking all possible steps. It is of course, just not possible to build a wall across the sea. We are taking whatever steps that are possible in order to see that our fishermen, even by mistake, do not stray into their waters and get into trouble. I had occasion to go to Rameswaram a year ago. I personally saw the area and how difficult it is for our fishermen to really do their fishing within our waters and how difficult it is for them not to stray out by mistake; it is inevitable. The Kachhativu Agreement, on the whole, was considered to be reasonably fair to both the countries and once that agreement has been arrived at, we will have to put up with the consequences and we will have to take steps to see that our fishermen do not suffer thereby.

MALDIVES

Coming to Maldives, it is a very good picture that I would like to present to the House. Our relations have been very good and we have also recently appointed a resident Ambassador in Maldives. That shows the need for upgrading our relations and the manner in which our co-operation has been increasing year after year.

PAKISTAN

Now, finally - or may be pre-finally - Pakistan. It is known that I made more than a dozen statements in regard to Indo-Pak relations during the last one year. On an average, at least one statement was made every month. Month to month, we were making new statements, in the sense that we were reviewing the situation as it went on evolving. We did not make the same statement over and over. We have sent our envoys. The Foreign Minister of Pakistan also came here. We have had visits, we have had discussions here, elsewhere, at the United Nations and other places. In relation to ' the actual meetings and contacts, I do not think that anything more could have been done. All that is physically possible to increase contacts, increase the frequency of discussions, increase the efforts to understand each other, has been done. I am not sure that anything more could have been done. Now, what is the real question? The real question is that Pakistan has to make up its mind. Ultimately, it is that simple because as I stated just a few days back in a statement in answer to a Calling Attention Motion, the attempt now is to suck

Pakistan into something. Is Pakistan prepared to be sucked into it? Is Pakistan prepared to keep out of it? Is Pakistan prepared to play the role of a non-aligned country, pure and simple? This is the real question. I did mention this in my statement. I made a guarded statement, yes, because things are fluid. At least on that

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day, things appeared to be fluid. I did not want to say anything which would have the effect of pushing Pakistan into something. So, while we protested, while we expressed our concern to the authorities of the US Administration - this very day - 31st March - our Ambassador is to meet Gen. Haig - we have not relented on our efforts. We have done everything that is possible to make them understand that this does not merely involve giving a few weapons to Pakistan. This goes much farther. This means creation of tensions. This means a new arms race in this region. This means a set-back to the normalisation of relations between Pakistan and India and it has so many repercussions. We have told the U.S. so, we have told Pakistan so. And, we are hoping against hope, because during the last three or four days, even that hope has dimmed a little, but we are still hoping that wiser counsels will prevail. However, I would like to submit to the House that if Pakistan insists on being armed to the teeth and the US Administration insists on arming Pakistan to the teeth once again, well, all I have to say is that it is Pakistan's teeth. I have nothing more to say on that. But so far as India is concerned, I would like to assure the House that we shall continue to be vigilant, we shall continue to be aware of what is happening and we shall continue to be aware of what we have to do in relation to what is happening.

SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV: Are you proposing to meet Mr. Haig or are you asking the Ambassador to meet him.

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: This question was put to me the other day. We don't run like that. The point is that there is a setting in which two Foreign Ministers can meet. I have said that meetings will take place in due course. But I must say that any panic displayed on behalf of the Government of India would be counterproductive.

SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV: It is not out of panic. It is a serious situation.

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: Absolutely, I am serious about it. I have said so. I have not ruled out meetings. I have not ruled out discussions. I have not ruled out any of those things. But the point is, there is always a setting, a kind of preparation that has to be made. It is not as though they do not know our concerns. It is not as though they are studying this problem for the first time. These decisions are made deliberately and it is not as if they do not know what India stands for. But still all

efforts will be made. This promise, this commitment, I would like to reiterate to the House.

ESCALATION OF TENSION

I now pass on to the next question which has figured very prominently in the debate, viz, the security environment around us - the Indian Ocean, West Asia, South West Asia, East Asia and our surroundings. Sir, again, I would not like to repeat all that has been said. I entirely agree with analysis given by the Hon. Members and with the very grave situation that they have perceived all around us along with its grave consequences. The only aspect which becomes relevant in this connection is the aspect, of detente. And detente becomes meaningful only when it leads to disarmament. These are all inter-connected. For 35 years the developed countries were able to develop in peace while the developing countries outside that club, had hundreds of skirmishes, hundreds of wars - small, big, medium, all kinds of wars - and the arms such as they came, emanated from the developed countries. The developing countries were too undeveloped to manufacture arms themselves; this goes without saying and it does not need great intelligence to come to this conclusion. While there was peaceful development in one part of the world, there was complete ruination in the other major part of the world. This has been happening for the last 35 years. When detente was mooted for the first time, the leaders of the third, world said there and then that detente confined to Europe alone would not work; detente has to be global. The implication is that a limited detente within Europe would mean that they will not fight in Europe but will continue to fight through proxies everywhere else. That is what it means. That is what was pointed out by almost all the leaders of the third world. This fell on deaf ears. It was fine while the detente was on. Even the American novels described consultations be-

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tween the Soviet Union and the American Administration at different levels - technology being exchanged, date being processed and exchanged, etc. - as a great euphoric era. Incidentally, while in the American novels the US Administration and the Soviet Union were acting very chummy, the common enemy, very ironically was China. Then came the reversal of detente. And now you find some of the other novels conjuring up fights between the Americans and the Russians on the moon - not just. on the earth. I am straying a bit into the field of literature because I am sure that this literature, very best selling novel which sells millions of copies, gets into the psyche of the people, of the readers. That is why, it becomes important. In one of these, a picture is conjured up that there is a great war between China and Russia, the United States is approached by both for arbitration. I have nothing against the literature. I have nothing against imagination as such. But the point is that this is fiction which takes into account no facts of life. It is pure

fiction. We can forget it. But we cannot forget the fact that while events change, the propensities of the people, the reactions of the people also to these events are likely to change. That is why, if a particular psychosis is created in a particular country, it will be very difficult to get out of that psychosis. Perhaps modern wars, or modern' conflicts, are being continued and conducted on the basis of psychosis, more than anything else. Therefore, the whole atmosphere is so polluted, it is so vitiated, that today even the talk of peace sounds unreal. The non-alignment movement says that there is only one way to exist, and that is to co-exist; there is no other way. Shri Biju Patnaik Says it is because you are weak that you are votaries of non-alignment. Non-alignment is taken as being weak, one is non-aligned because one is weak. This concept of non-alignment movement is itself so faulty, so wrong historically, that at least in this country it needs to be corrected. I am afraid, we cannot really continue in this misconception.

INDIAN OCEAN

The brunt of this reversal of detente has fallen on the Indian Ocean, because it is the nearest, beyond the confines of the erstwhile detente area. All of them are operating, and they have created vested interests for themselves in this; they have an excuse which they are trying to exploit to the full. What does the Indian Ocean mean to India? This is one thing which we have to, understand. We used to talk of 'Chatus Saqara Paryantam'. It is not only today, but for ages, we have taken the Indian Ocean as the medium through which India radiated in all directions. All that India stood for, travelled far and wide through this medium, and if this medium is polluted, if this medium is vitiated, I am afraid, the first victim of this is going to be India. Therefore, we cannot remain complacent while this is happening in the Indian Ocean.

Yesterday, Shri Chavan rightly raised the question of Diego Garcia. I admit that there is nothing comparable to Diego Garcia anywhere in the Indian Ocean. Yes. But why was it omitted from the Non-aligned Declaration? Was it omitted because somebody twisted our arm? Was it omitted because we wanted to please somebody? Was it omitted because India, at that point of time, was no longer interested in the Indian Ocean? There were not the reason at all. As Shri Chavan again pointed out yesterday, this omission was the subject of particularly heated debate, and it took a very long time to come to a conclusion on this particular subject, when it came to a consensus.

COLOMBO CONFERENCE

We are hopefully going to have a conference on the Indian Ocean in Colombo. The question is, when you want the United States to be present at that Conference although I am not sure that the United States is going to attend it, mind you; I am not saying

that I have ensured the participation of the United States - by omitting Diego Garcia, while nothing has been lost in fact and on the ground, we have desisted from giving an excuse for the United States to keep, out. This was done, as was pointed out, at the particular instance of Sri Lanka, who happens to be the host country for the Conference on Indian Ocean, and we had to respect the wishes of Sri Lanka. Now you will ask, having done all this, is the
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United States going to attend at all? Is this Conference going to be held at all? Your guess is as good, as mine in this respect, because, I am sorry to say, that the prospects seem to be receding. I have been reporting on this question from time to time to this House; I had never sounded too confident but now, I am sorry, I have to sound even less confident, because things are shaping that way. There are certain pretexts that have come and in the light of those pretexts the presences in the Indian Ocean are being raised. Why should the Conference not be held in 1981? Suppose it is held in 1983, or in 1984, nobody will probably have any objection because by that time whosoever wants to bring his presence up to the point he wants, would have done that. Then what are you going to have the Conference about? It becomes a fait accompli, it becomes just a gathering of persons who gather and disperse.

So, if this Conference has to be held, it has to be held in 1981. It is of the essence that it is held in 1981. Otherwise its utility will dwindle. I am not sure that we are not going to hold it. But the choice before us is - what do we do if some one does not want to attend? Will you have the Conference notwithstanding, or will you allow the Conference to- be vetoed or delayed by one whose presence is absolutely necessary? Now, this is what is called dharma sankat. This decision has not been taken yet. It will have to be taken as quickly as possible because there is not much time to lose. If we do intend having it, and if we do decide to have it preparations will have to be started immediately. So, while the position regarding the Conference is none too certain, we have to take a very difficult decision in regard to facilitating, as far as possible, the holding of this Conference and the attendance of those whose presence is considered absolutely necessary.

Sir, this is the picture which is presented in the Indian Ocean. The armament race is continuing. This is well-known. We all know a little English, but if some one tells, us the names of the arms and the weapons, I am afraid we won't understand them. They are all English names, but we really do not understand what they mean, what they connote, what they stand for, what they are capable of doing. This is the position where we stand and we find the armament race going on uninhibited and presenting a jig saw puzzle to all of us.

AFGHANISTAN AND KAMPUCHEA

There are theories of deterrence. It is very difficult to say who is deterring whom. I think I am deterring the other man, the other man thinks he is deterring me. What we are, in effect, doing is deterring ourselves. I am deterring myself because I am always thinking of him. Because of this obsession, I am not able to do anything better. I am going on increasing my expenditure on armaments, thinking that by doing so I am stopping him. I am not stopping him; I am only stopping myself. My capacity to use this money for something good - this is what I am stopping, not the other fellow. This is the illogic of the theory of deterrence which has been so much bandied about these days. So, Sir, we have to understand that this position is to be faced by the non-aligned world because, as is well-known, firstly they are to be the victims and secondly, if they want to resist it, they represent the majority of mankind and therefore, they alone have the right to resist, they have to create this strength, the will, within themselves by which, if they resist it, it will not be possible for those who are indulging in this suicidal race to continue with it. It has to be a moral force as Panditji always said. There is no physical force, there is no military force to stop it. But in this there is one very important factor which has come in, in the last one year. And that is Afghanistan. We have made it quite clear that we are against the presence of foreign troops in any country. Now this has been variously interpreted. Why don't you name Kampuchea? Why do you say in "any country"? My answer is, I mean "any country" when I say "any country". I do not mean Afghanistan alone. I do not mean Kampuchea alone. While there are some others who would like to have different prescriptions for different countries, I do not
(interruptions)

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Not at all.

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: (interruptions).
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I do not want any foreign troops in any country. At this very Non-Aligned Foreign Ministers' Conference what has been lost sight of, an achievement of which we could legitimately be proud, is the paragraph on Kampuchea. I will briefly show what we have been able to achieve by consensus.

In the United Nations General Assembly in 1980 when the question of Kampuchea came up, the prospect was very clear, because we knew what the majority would say. They said purue and simple:

"Total withdrawal of foreign troops from Kampuchea within a specific time frame to be verified by the United Nations".

I am reading only the relevant portion.

Now compare this with this paragraph from the Non-aligned Declaration:

"Reviewing the situation in South East Asia, the ministers expressed grave concern over the continuing conflicts and tensions in the region particularly as some of the States are Members of the movement of non-aligned countries; They re-affirm their support for the principles of non-interference in the affairs of sovereign States and the inadmissibility of the use of force against sovereign States; they warned that there was a real danger of the tensions in and around Kampuchea escalating over a wider area."

and this is important:

"They were convinced of the urgent need to de-escalate these tensions through a comprehensive political solution which would provide for the withdrawal of all foreign forces thus ensuring full respect for the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of all States in the region including Kampuchea."

The difference between these two texts is self evident. This is a measure of what I may very humbly claim to have achieved at the Conference of the Non-Aligned Foreign Ministers. This was agreed to by Singapore. This was agreed to by the ASEAN countries who are members of the Movement. When we say that we do not want foreign troops in any country, it is not for fear of naming a country that we are saying this. We are saying this because we mean it and this is what has to be understood. Unfortunately this has not been understood by many, including some Members in this House.

AFGHAN PROBLEM EXPLAINED

I now come to the economic aspect which again has figured very prominently here. But before doing that I would not be satisfied if I do not add a foot-note to what has happened in Afghanistan. This seems to have entered the psychology, entered the thoughts of people here and else where. References have been made repeatedly. I would like to tell the House what has happened in regard to Afghanistan; why and how it has happened is for the House to decide.

In 1980 when this Government came into power we spelt out our basic stand, namely, that we are against the presence of foreign troops in any country. I will not go into that. Within one month the Soviet, Foreign Minister came here. We told him the same thing. In May, there were certain proposals from the Afghan Government carrying within themselves the element of withdrawal of troops from Afghanistan.

Sir, immediately after the Soviet troops went into Afghanistan, what was the reaction everywhere in the world? One reaction was,

very stridently and very prominently featured everywhere in the media, that the Soviet Union wants to go to the warm waters of the Gulf and, therefore, it has entered Afghanistan. I am not going into the details of that. I am only dwelling upon the question of how everyone reacted to this incident.

I had occasion to say in one of my statements in Parliament that we have to sift. There are three aspects of the question. There is the local national aspect; there is the regional aspect and there is the global aspect.

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There were proposals from the other side. We urged upon Pakistan; we urged upon everybody to come and sit together. I had occasion to refer to this in last year's debate also. I referred to the Mahabharata, when they fought in the day and negotiated in the night. But what was the difficulty? There was no will and, therefore, there was no way. That could be one aspect. The stated difficulty was, "If I go and talk to Babrak Karmal, it would amount to recognition of Babrak Karmal". But from the other side came the reply, "We are prepared to talk as members of the party. We will not have a label of the Government, if you so wish. We will come as leaders of the PDPA." Then what? It was not possible to say "no" when the other side was prepared to talk without any pre-conditions. We wanted talks without any pre-conditions.

We went on harping on this because we wanted to sift these aspects. We were afraid that once it is regionalised or globalised, the problem becomes infinitely more difficult to solve. If you localise it, maybe after a few meetings across the table it will be possible to see our way to a solution.

What has happened now? There were some possibilities of talks starting. On these ultra-technical grounds of recognition, the talks did not take place. They went right upto the brink; maybe, they went upto the table and they shied away.

Then, a very peculiar thing happened. The United Nations had already been seized of the problem. In January, 1980, a vote had taken place. The matter was brought to the United Nations General Assembly a second time. Why? It is for the House 'to decide and for the Hon. Members to imagine what could have been the reasons. I am not against the United Nations General Assembly. You can take anything there any number of times. But the more you take it to a place where it has already been voted by division, the less is the possibility of this matter being sorted out at that forum. This is commonsense. This should have been very clear to anyone.

Now, the Secretary-General has been asked a name a representative. Again, an ultra-technical question has arisen. What is this gentlemen to do Is he to preside over the talks? Is he to simply sit and watch the talks or is he to take part now and then? What is his capacity? What are his functions?

I am relating the whole story so that you can compare these technicalities with the real issue. What was the issue and what are they fighting about? What is meanwhile happening to the people of Afghanistan? Now, Mr. Brezhnev has come out with a statement. He says, "If Afghanistan is to be discussed along with the Gulf question, we have no objection." What the other side wanted, he has now agreed to. The question has become regionalised. Tomorrow it can become globalised and then what happens?

THE GULF QUESTION

Now, when is the Gulf question proposed to be discussed? Any idea? Your guess is as good as mine. Obviously, therefore, the question of Afghanistan may now remain in cold-storage as a part of the gulf question This is the prospect they have brought Afghanistan to. We were saying; from, the beginning "Please remove it, scoop it out of larger issues. Make it a national question and discuss it. What all we want is the withdrawal of the foreign troops. That is what you said. That is what we want. Come on. Let us see how we do." Instead, technicalities crept in and, today, the matter has become infinitely more difficult of solution. I hope the representative of the Secretary-General is some how able to make some breakthrough. We wish him well. But what I have to submit to the House is this sequence of events which has made matters much more difficult.

I now pass on to the economic question which again

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: No comments about China.

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: Sir, I would have made some comment, had he not spoken in the last. He produced or seemed to produce some very old books, as very fresh evidence I have made a statement on that. I have nothing to add to the statement. In that statement, I have categorically made it clear that after going
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through all the evidence available, we are convinced that we are in the right and what we consider the border between the two countries is the right border. That is our stand.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: I am quoting from a publication of July, 1980. It is there.

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: My statement, if I remember right, was also made in July. It disposed of the cobwebs that were sought to be created or all the objections that were sought to be raised, all the new light that was sought to be shed, we have made things quite clear and there is nothing more to add. Therefore, that is an end of the matter.

RELATIONS WITH CHINA

We want normalisation with China. I have made that clear. As to what normalisation means, I have also made that clear and I have to add as a parenthesis, 'that during the last two or three months, there have again been some exchanges. A Parliamentary Delegation has been invited to China from India and, of course, we have our common friends shuttling between the two countries all the time So, there is nothing to worry about.

On the economic question, it is true that again the picture is very gloomy, indeed. The Special Session of the United Nations which wanted to get the global round going, the North-South dialogue started, has failed. All these facts are known.

NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE

Now, I will not take much time of the House. But I would like to pinpoint certain aspects of this North-South dialogue which, I think try to break new ground, not adhering to the old cliches, realising the need to break new ground and think in new directions.

The military expenditure that is being incurred by the world powers today is well known. The Brandt Commission report and several other reports have brought out the absolute absurdity of going in for an armament race of this magnitude, while 60 to 70% of mankind is wallowing in poverty. Therefore, that argument is absolutely final; it is impeccable. There is nothing to add to that.

Sir, what unfortunately has not been understood is this concept of interdependence which has been adumbrated at the United Nations' forums and also in the Brandt Commission Report. This is something which it is not easy to understand. I will just read a small portion. This is what Willy Brandt says:

"The issue today is not only or even mainly one of aid, rather of basic changes in the world economy to help developing countries pay their own way...

It is not charity that they want; make t em pay their own way.

"... and the countries of the, North, given their increasing inter-dependence with the South, themselves need international economic reform to ensure their own future prosperity."

So, it is mutual. Interdependence is something which the developed countries also have to realise.

"The North-South debate is often described as if the rich were being asked to make sacrifices in response to the demands of the poor. We reject this view. The world is now a fragile and

interlocking system, whether for its people, its ecology or its resources. Many individual societies have settled their inner conflicts by accommodation to protect the weak and to promote the principles of justice becoming stronger as a result. The world too can become stronger by becoming a just and humane society. If it fails in this, it will move towards its own destruction."

This is the central piece of the whole thing. If we ask ourselves as to how many nations are convinced of this interdependence, we have to come to the conclusion that their number is very, very small; they could be counted on fingers. This being the case, if <pg-113>

every citizen of a developed country thinks only of himself, only of what he is going to get in the next Budget, only of what he is going to get by voting a particular Party to power when election time comes, if this is the range of his thinking, it is futile to expect any realisation of interdependence in those countries, and if the people are not convinced, it is equally futile to expect any Political Party, in open societies where elections take place, to go against the wishes of or the trends of thinking among, the people. Therefore, it is a very big question; not merely confined to the Heads of State, not merely confined to the Governments, but it envelops all the people of all the countries. Now, has this effort been done? If we ask ourselves this question, the answer is "no"; we have not done it. But, strangely and remarkably, there is one person who has done it 40 years ago, and that was Mahatma Gandhi. He went to the Lancashire mill people and said something which is absolutely classic in the annals of political economy. He went to the people who were affected. How many would dare to go there, I do not know. He goes to them and gives them a straight talk:

"Pray, tell me what I am to do with the fifth of the human race living on the verge of starvation and devoid of all sense of self-respect...

These are his words.

"It should occupy the attention even of the unemployed of Lancashire. You have told us of the help Lancashire gave us during the famine of 1899-1900. What return can we render but the blessings of the poor."

This is what he says. So, this interdependence between the poor people of India and the workers of Lancashire was first established by Mahatma Gandhi. Not only that, he went into the intricacies of the question so long ago as 1931.

"There is no boycott of British cloth as distinct from other foreign cloth since the 5th March when the truce was signed. As a nation we are pledged to boycott all foreign cloth. But, in case of an honourable settlement between England and India, that is,

in case of a permanent truce, I should not hesitate to give preference to Lancashire cloth over all other foreign cloth, to the extent that we may need to supplement our cloth and on agreed terms."

"We want to supplement our cloth. we are prepared to take your cloth provided there is an understanding." Then he went on to say, "But how much relief we can give you, I do not know.... You must recognise that all the markets of the world are now not open to you. What you have done, all other nations are doing today."

Sir, he said, "All are doing the same thing, the same exploitation. So, where do you stand, my dear friends?" This is what he said to the people of Lancashire, those who were themselves in difficulty due to unemployment as a result of the Swadeshi Movement here. Then he says:

"I am pained at the unemployment here, but here there is no starvation or semi-starvation. In India we have both."

Now, can we imagine a person going to those very people - in what mood they would have been, one can imagine - and telling them the whole truth in this candid manner, in this absolutely straight manner.

This is the kind of dialogue that is needed today, between the rich and the poor. This is the kind of dialogue that is needed between the North and the South. I am not able to say whether this will materialise, but it will have to materialise.

MEXICO SUMMIT MEETING

The President of Tanzania is here. He is one of the respected leaders of Africa.... (Applause). There are several Heads of State like this, who can infuse some rethinking on this question and that is why this limited summit in Mexico is being planned. Now, there are many reports about when it is going to be held, and how it is going to be held. I will not take the time of the House by going into those questions. But this limited summit mini summit as it is called - we have an easy word for everything - is going to address itself
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without any agenda, without any agreement, without any, negotiations, without anything of the kind. It will be a meeting of minds. It is intended to be a meeting of minds. Twentyone or twentytwo or twenty-three Heads of State, or Government come together. The expectation and hope is that this barrier between the South and the North which has been created artificially and also as a result of historical circumstances, will at least be partly demolished when these people meet in a small group of twentyone or twentythree. It is not that there is any discrimination but it is only because it is possible to do some

serious hat this thinking only in a smaller group I, is being planned.

NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT

I now come to the last portion of what I wanted to submit to the House. I said that for the eighties there is a need for a new dialogue - a new line of thinking. I am not claiming any infallibility, I am not claiming that this alone can be the thinking. But there are certain experiences of past decades which we can ignore only at our peril. One is that there is no alternative to the non-aligned movement. Let the decade of the eighties see a fresh strengthening of the non-aligned movement so that it becomes a really crucial input in international affairs, much more crucial than it is today. No one can suggest an alternative to this as far as I can see and therefore, this has to be done. This is easier said than done because we know how it is. We have seen the difficulties. But, I have no doubt that the non-aligned movement, which has now completed twenty years, has come of age, it has attained a certain maturity on the basis of which, and on the strength of which, it could go ahead with greater confidence.

Sir, I have not read about any movement which could run for twenty years without any military sanction, without any other kind of sanction, without any office, without any business rules which has still, for twenty years, remained united and come to be the most purposeful movement today. Compared to the non-aligned, I would like to ask: What are the aligned doing? They are only preparing for the destruction of the world and, if there is anyone who is trying to save the world, it is the nonaligned movement and, that too without any of these instruments. That is why it is said: It does not depend on instruments, it depends on the will to do something. So, the non-aligned movement has exhibited this will for the last twenty years; it has not been smooth-sailing always; it has faltered; it has stumbled and fallen down, only to get up and go ahead and this is good experience for any movement. No movement has smooth-sailing throughout. It does, once it goes against a hurdle, perhaps it will never rise. That is not the case with the non-aligned movement and, therefore, the first pre-requisite of the eighties, the decade of the eighties, has to be the strengthening of the non-aligned movement,

What do we have outside the movement We have only, as I said, attempts - intentional or unintentional, intended or unintended - of bringing the world to a disaster.

NEW APPROACH NEEDED

Then, there is another thing also going on, another process of dividing the nonaligned world. One does not know what they get out of this. The only guarantee of peace that is available to

mankind is being torn to bits, or is sought to be torn to bits and by weakening the unity of the nations. As pointed out yesterday by Shri Chavan Ji, this Conference in Delhi could take some legitimate pride in having kept the movement united. If you only compare it with the prognosis that was made all over the world, in all the media, then it was an anti-climax for both. Therefore, it must have come as an astonishment to them. We have to convince all these small countries that beyond the movement, outside the movement, they have nothing but extinction. There is nothing for them because to take the umbrella of a Great Power or to take the protection of armaments as such is, as I said, to have a canopy of clouds to save yourself from rain. This is a self-defeating process and they will have to understand this.

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The other very important point which the decade of the eighties will have to understand or make others understand is that technology has subordinated ideology and, that technology has become neutral to ideology. What one system can do the other system also can do likewise. So, the war of ideology, the tussle between the systems has lost much of its meaning. It will be very difficult for people to understand this or to agree to this. But, I am making a statement which I implore Members of the, House to consider, to ponder over.

COMMITMENT TO CO-EXISTENCE

There is constant talk of Confidence-building measures. But what do we start with? Do we start with armaments? If one system thinks that it is saving mankind from the other system, it is only deluding itself. But both systems are showing the signs, the unmistakable symptoms or their own respective limitations within themselves. Is it possible for the systems to co-exist or even to come into the mood of co-existence? Therefore, in the 1980s the very easy formula of systems which we are all used to, I am used to, you are all used to, will not work. We will have to see that every system, even without making an admission, even without making a public confession, will have to look inwards and see where it is cracking. The world abounds in examples of such cracking. I don't have to name the countries. This is happening today and if we do not go to the root of this and try to evolve a system which is good for co-existence it will not be possible for the 1980s to pass off peacefully.

Therefore, I would just read four sentences from a statement made by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. Long ago he said very clearly:

"Millions of people believe in what is called Western capitalism. Millions also believe in Communism. But there are many millions who are not committed to either of these ideologies and yet seek, in friendship with others, a better life and a more hopeful future."

Therefore, this is what we have to diagnose. Where is the rot setting Where has it set in and how can mankind take it out? Maybe old habits die hard. We have been brought up in certain systems and it may not be easy for us to think beyond the system but at least the new generation will have to do it. I have no doubt that the responsibility is, going to fall on the new generation which, I think, is not committed to one system or the other irrevocably.

Therefore, Sir, there has to be total commitment to the concept of and the reality of an indivisible world - indivisible in all respects - in peace, in progress, in prosperity and, if not, in co-extinction. This is the indivisibility of the world. Today we are at the cross-roads. I have no doubt that good sense will prevail and mankind will take the right road.

Sir, I have taken much time. I would in the end appeal to all the hon. Members to withdraw their cut motions and see that the Demands are passed unanimously.

DIA USA NEPAL BHUTAN UNITED KINGDOM LATVIA BANGLADESH SRI LANKA MALDIVES
PAKISTAN MALI RUSSIA CHINA AFGHANISTAN REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE CENTRAL AFRICAN
REPUBLIC MEXICO TANZANIA PERU

Date : Apr 03, 1981

Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's Reply to Defence Debate

Following are extracts from the Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi's reply to the debate on the demands for grants for the Ministry of Defence in Lok Sabha on Apr 09, 1981:

.... The best defence is the prevention of war. That is what India has been involved in during all these years and that is the major preoccupation of our foreign policy. Since our Foreign Minister has dealt very lucidly and comprehensively with our thinking on these matters, with our relations with other countries, and especially with our neighbours as well as with recent developments in the non-alignment and, other relevant questions such as the North-South problems, I need not go into these. again.

"PEACE TO US IS VITAL"

There is near if not total unanimity in the world on one point.
Never in the last
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two decades has the international outlook been as grim as it is today. There is not merely my own assessment but that of the scores of world leaders from five continents whom I have met in this past year. I am not given to alarm or exaggeration. Yet I must warn that at this time we simply cannot afford to be complacent or to sit back hoping that matters will somehow be sorted out. It will take the most earnest exertion of all countries, to somehow hang on to peace and to prevent the situation from exploding, or drifting towards disaster. The basic responsibility for peace lies with, the big powers. Their attitudes of confrontation will engulf all others. Much that happens in smaller countries is often the result of such outside manoeuvres and manipulations. Yet countries like ours, which are not big powers in the military or any other sense, can and must pull their weight individually and collectively. Peace to us is vital for the consolidation of our independence, for the building of our economy and indeed for our very survival as nations.

There is actual fighting in more than one part of the world. Many other areas are like powder kegs ready to blow up at any inadvertent striking of a match. The focus of the cold war has shifted from Europe to the Indian Ocean littoral. As has been said our South-West and South-East Asia flanks are flash points. New armaments are being piled up in our region, not only around the Indian Ocean but in a number of inland countries.

EXTERNAL INTERFERENCE

We are told that the purpose of the militarisation of our area is the containment of the expansionism of one big power by the other, and of ensuring the stability of the Gulf region. In our view this policy is counter-productive. It will virtually prevent a politically negotiated settlement in Afghanistan nor will it bring peace to the Gulf and South-West Asian region. The security of the Gulf should primarily be the responsibility of the Gulf countries themselves who should not allow external interference or pressures in the shaping of their future.

The unresolved crisis in Afghanistan and the continuing conflict in Iraq-Iran have given encouragement to the hawks of many countries. We continue to be deeply concerned that there are as yet no signs of improvement in Afghanistan. We stand firmly for the ending of all outside presences in that country as well as elsewhere but it would be wrong to think that there is only one foreign intervention there. Our advocacy of a political solution to this problem has assumed even greater relevance than when the trouble began, because of the increasing entanglement of the big powers in this entire region. Any solution must obviously balance

the views of all concerned parties.

Developments in Afghanistan have given Pakistan an excuse to demand more arms and to other countries to supply them. We are also disturbed that a mischievous campaign has been started in some quarters to suggest that Pakistan needs to be strengthened because of India's designs. This is patently ridiculous.

DANGER OF REARMING PAKISTAN

Every country has a duty to look after its defence. But let us remember that in the last ten years, Pakistan has doubled its defence strength. Yet we did not protest then. But the present moves introduce a qualitative difference. Now Pakistan's defence seems once again to be becoming part of a larger strategic alignment stretching from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific Ocean, to say nothing of the Indian Ocean in between. This is what worries us.

We welcomed Pakistan's entry into the non-aligned movement. But do their new intentions fit in with non-alignment or are they going back to their old policies?

Officially Pakistan has denied that it is planning to produce nuclear weapons. But these denials have not allayed the fears and suspicions anywhere in the world. In fact, it is in the countries of the West that detailed accounts have been appearing about Pakistan's nuclear preparations. It should be clearly understood that Pakistan's development of nuclear bombs will have grave and irreversible consequences on our subcontinent. We have kept our eyes and ears open. We are fully aware of our respon-

sibilities and the House can be confident that we shall respond in an appropriate way to any development. Our own policy has been to use nuclear energy only for peaceful purposes and we counsel for the total banning of all nuclear weapons.

Pakistan Foreign Minister Mr. Agha Shahi has been here twice, in response to his invitation and in pursuance of the Simla Agreement, our Foreign Minister will, I hope, soon go to Islamabad. This visit will be in continuation of our patient approach in dealing with Pakistan since the Simla Conference.

INDIA'S MISGIVINGS

Some leaders of the opposition parties have been pleased to say, outside the House, that India with its size need not be afraid of Pakistan. We are not afraid of Pakistan or of anyone else. Size itself is not strength, in fact without unity and discipline it can be a liability. But we do care very much for the tranquillity of our region and the stability of our neighbourhood. I had expected greater farsightedness from such experienced leaders.

We have expressed our serious misgivings directly to the US Government, through our Ambassador and through Shri G. Parthasarathi, who had gone to the United States on some other work. The response of the USA will be known by its actions. Our efforts at friendship and cooperation continue and will continue but at the same time we must not ignore the realities of dangers of the unfolding situation.

India has never resorted to any step which might be taken as a threat to our neighbouring countries. Indeed we have repeatedly assured them of our policy of respect for their sovereignty and integrity. We want them to live in peace and stability. In fact the pace of socio-economic development in our own country is vitally linked with what happens in our neighbourhood.

RESUMPTION OF COLD WAR

Jawaharlal Nehru's words uttered 25 years ago that the cold war had come to our doorstep is true once again. The gains made through patient international diplomacy over the last 30 years have been swept away by the hot winds of belligerency. The situations in Afghanistan and the Gulf, serious as they are, are not half as menacing as the resumption of the Cold War. The powerful nations of Europe and America seem to have a special flair for fighting their wars on the soils of the under-developed and developing countries of Asia and Africa. Added to this are the ocean waters of our region.

We are alarmed at the pronouncements of some major spokesmen of the US Administration which have created disquiet even amongst some of their close allies. We hope that as that Government studies the complex international situation in greater depth and with greater understanding it will appreciate the need to de-escalate tensions. Experience has shown that military solutions are short-lived and give rise to new problems. Hence no opportunity for a dialogue should be missed. Proposals like those of President Brezhnev should be looked at in this context. The big powers have the primary responsibility for the maintenance of peace. But recent history has shown that the big powers do not always have their own way. Other countries can do a great deal to generate the right atmosphere and to mobilize the voices for peace....

OCEAN MANAGEMENT

This brings me on to the large issue of the oceans around us. Our seas are vital from the point of view of security, from the point of view of natural resources, communication and from the point of view of our environment. All these years a few big powers considered the Oceans as their preserve. Global attempts have been made to bring about an acceptable international regime of ocean management. But even these have met with opposition and

have recently received a setback. In the meantime we must be vigilant to safeguard our legitimate rights....

Modern security implies defence plus foreign policy plus self-reliant technology. It rests on the soundness of the economy, political cohesion and social harmony. But
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in the ultimate analysis it is the people who count - their morale, their commitment and patriotic determination. As one Hon. Member pointed out, the Vietnamese had neither money, industrial capacity, nor military equipment worth the name. The people were poor and short of almost all their needs. Yet the manner in which they rallied and united, matched their strength against the mightiest and prevailed, is a saga of our times. Our own freedom struggle is a shining example of the power of will, perseverance and endurance. The Indian people have these qualities in abundant measure. Let us, the political parties and others, not fail them or our Defence forces by diverting attention dissipating energies on non-issues.

DIA USA AFGHANISTAN IRAN IRAQ PAKISTAN CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC VIETNAM

Date : Apr 09, 1981

Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's Views on Pak Military Buildup

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Apr 27, 1981:

There was no question of trying to compete with Pakistan in an arms race. We had never complained as to why Pakistan was being armed. Our only worry was that such arms supply is creating a situation where every body was drifting towards a war. The major danger was that, without anybody wanting it, suddenly there may be a war. With the best of intentions there was no doubt that we did not have the resources which the country needed for meeting the situation that was developing. All the same we have to be prepared for any situation.

These observations were made in New Delhi on April 27 by the Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi, at the meeting of the Consultative Committee for the Departments of Atomic Energy,

Space, Science & Technology, Electronics and Environment.

PAK NUCLEAR CAPABILITY

Regarding the nuclear capability of Pakistan, reference was made to the reports which indicated that Pakistan may go in for a nuclear explosion anytime between July this year and September next year. According to the estimate of experts, the site of explosion may be either (i) near the Rann of Kutch; (ii) near the Rajasthan Border or (iii) Baluchistan. The nature of explosion may be fission.

Reference was also made to the reports that Pakistan had built a second reprocessing plant capable of producing 20 to 25 kg. of Plutonium per year. About the centrifuge capabilities, a reference was made to the reports indicating that Pakistan had two plants - Pilot and Medium. Both the plants together had the capability of producing 25 to 28 kg. of high enriched uranium.

Regarding suggestions by some Members that India should take a tough attitude about the fuel question to Tarapur Atomic Plant, the Members were informed that taking a tough stand could create unnecessary and avoidable problems. There was also no question of deciding as to whom the fuel belongs. It is clearly stated in the Agreement.

Besides the Prime Minister, the Minister of State for Science & Technology, Electronics and Environment, Shri C.P.N. Singh as well as Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs and Home Affairs, Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah were present. The Members present at the meeting were Shri P. V. G. Raju, M. S. Sanjeevi Rao, Digvijay Singh, K. C. Pant, Nihal Singh Jain, Hari Krishan Shastri, Smt. Gurbinder Kaur Brar and Smt. P. D. Chavan.

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DIA PAKISTAN

Date : Apr 27, 1981

Volume No

1995

INDIA AND EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY

Indo-EEC Commercial and Economic Cooperation Agreement Negotiations Concluded

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Apr 15, 1981:

The negotiations for the conclusion of a new Commercial and Economic Cooperation Agreement between the European Economic Community and India were completed in Brussels last night, according to information received here. The delegation of the Community was led by Mr. Edourd Volpi, Director in the Directorate General of External Relations of the Commission and the Indian delegation by Ambassador Shri P. K. Dave.

The two delegations will submit the results of their negotiations to their respective authorities for approval so that the Agreement can be signed later in the year.

The Agreement is a 5-year non-preferential cooperation Agreement designed to promote closer trade and economic relations between the Community and India and to give a new impetus to the mutual relations between the partners, building on the previous Commercial Cooperation Agreement which came into operation on April 1, 1974.

The new Agreement encourages industrial, technological and scientific cooperation. The two partners also agree to promote and facilitate increased and mutually beneficial investment.

This is a considerable advance on the 1973 Agreement which limited economic cooperation to trade matters.

A Joint Commission will be established to promote and keep under review the various cooperation activities envisaged in the Agreement, to make recommendations for the use of community funds available for the implementation of the objectives of the new Agreement and to provide a forum for consultation between the partners.

The Agreement will give practical expression to the desire expressed by both sides to broaden the scope of their cooperation through a new, more dynamic relationship.

The negotiations were conducted in a friendly atmosphere and in a spirit of mutual comprehension.

DIA USA BELGIUM

Date : Apr 15, 1981

Volume No

1995

INDIA AND NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT

Minister of External Affairs P.V. Narasimha Rao's Call to the Non-aligned Countries to Wage a Final Struggle Against the Pretorial Regime

Following is the text of the statement made by the Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, at the Extraordinary Ministerial Meeting of the Coordinating Bureau of Non-aligned Countries on Namibia made in Algiers on Apr 18, 1981:

Mr. Chairman, we are gathered in Algiers to reaffirm our solidarity with the heroic people of Namibia, to reiterate that we shall not relent in our efforts to bring independence to Namibia, to reassure the African frontline states that they are not alone and they shall not be alone in their fight against injustice, to rededicate ourselves to the principles of Non-alignment on which our commitment to decolonisation is based and to exercise our collective judge-
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ment on the ways and means to complete the liberation of Africa. It is indeed appropriate, Mr. Chairman, that we have convened under your wise and dynamic leadership. It is all the more appropriate that we should be meeting on Algerian soil because this soil has been consecrated by the martyrs of the Algerian Revolution who sacrificed their lives in the struggle against colonialism. Sharing common ideals and goals as Algeria and India do, our two countries have developed close ties and mutually beneficial cooperation in different fields and that is yet another reason for me to feel happy about the present opportunity to visit this -beautiful country. May I, Mr. Chairman, on behalf of my delegation and myself thank you for your gracious hospitality.

INDIVISIBILITY OF FREEDOM

India has always believed in the indivisibility of freedom: As long as any people in the world is deprived of its right to self-determination and independence, our down freedom is incomplete. Our founding fathers conceived the freedom movement in India as an integral part of the resurgence in Asia, Africa and Latin America and believed that India should not rest until the forces of colonialism are totally vanquished. Speaking about the Indian freedom struggle, Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru observed: "We cannot separate it from the rest. What happens in India will affect the world and world events will change India's future."

NAMIBIA

The plight of the people of Southern Africa engaged the attention of India's national leaders several years ago. Mahatma Gandhi, the Father of our nation, started his crusade against racial discrimination in South Africa even before he launched our own freedom struggle. Our support to Namibia dates back to the days

when we actively supported the termination of South Africa's mandate over Namibia and we volunteered to be a founder member of the United Nations Council for Namibia, the legal administering authority for Namibia till independence.

U. N. RESPONSIBILITY,

We believe that the United Nations has a special responsibility for bringing Namibia to independence. This is the key to the resolution of the conflict in Namibia. The vast majority of the membership of the United Nations which acknowledges this responsibility has enabled the UN to make a contribution to the cause of Namibia. The establishment of the Council for Namibia, the declaration by the General Assembly that SWAPO is the sole and authentic representative of the people of Namibia, the drawing up of a scheme to build up a cadre of Namibians to take over the reins of the administration of Namibia, the enactment of Decree No. I and the preparation of a settlement plan to hold free and fair elections under UN supervision are significant elements of that signal contribution. But the United Nations has so far failed to compel the Pretoria regime to terminate its illegal occupation of Namibia. It is an irony that one of the very few countries still waiting to become independent should face such unprecedented hurdles. It was our expectation that the tremendous impact and impetus of the entire free mankind would have easily brought about the freedom of Namibia. It was inconceivable that the last vestige of colonialism would, by itself, prove so difficult to remove. It is clear, therefore, that South Africa is not quite alone in this act of defiance of the international community. Certain countries have subjugated basic principles to narrow and selfish economic and strategic considerations. Consequently, oppression and suppression of the majority continues in Namibia, the very survival of neighbouring sovereign States is threatened and the fabric of international peace is rendered fragile. This, Mr. Chairman, is the most unfortunate part of this vexed question.

ROLE OF NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT

The situation in Namibia today calls for a new strategy and a new effort on the part of the Non-aligned Movement to wage a final struggle against the Pretorial Regime, encompassing political, economic, diplomatic and military fields. The first priority is to strengthen the hands of SWAPO

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which has had to resort to an armed struggle in the face of the threat of genocide from an unscrupulous colonial regime. We are convinced that we should recognise the right of every people to choose its own method of liberating itself from oppression and tyranny and remain prepared to contribute our mite to SWAPO's struggle. India has, to the limit of its capabilities, extended moral and material assistance to SWAPO in its noble struggle. The

Havana Summit Conference of Non-aligned Countries established a special fund for Namibia of the movement of non-aligned countries. The New Delhi Declaration of the Foreign Ministers of Non-aligned Countries adopted in February this year, called for increased assistance to SWAPO. It gives me great pleasure to pledge on behalf of India a contribution of US \$ 20,0001- to the special Non-aligned Fund for Namibia as a token of our continuing commitment to this cause.

Equally, we pledge our support to the frontline States as they continue; to make sacrifices for the sake of Namibia in terms of life and property lost during armed incursions into their lands by the troops of Pretoria regime.

BIG POWERS' CONTRIBUTION

On the diplomatic front, our effort should concentrate on the speedy implementation of Security Council Resolution No. 435 which provides a universally acceptable basis for a settlement. The only option open to us now is to invoke the relevant provisions of the UN Charter to force South Africa to implement the UN plan. It is here that the attitude of the Permanent Members of the Security Council becomes crucial. They cannot shirk their responsibility to maintain international peace because of their notions of South Africa's strategic importance to themselves.. If USA, UK and France are genuinely interested in a solution to the Question of Namibia, they should now demonstrate their support to the efforts of the UN by agreeing to impose Economic Sanctions against South Africa. I am confident that if we unanimously raise our voice in Algiers in this behalf, it cannot but have, the desired impact on the three western Permanent Members of the Security Council.

We do realise that the economic sanctions proposed against South Africa will have an adverse impact on certain geographically disadvantaged nations in Southern Africa. However, it should not be beyond human ingenuity to devise suitable ways and means to alleviate their difficulties. Serious attention should, therefore, be given forthwith to drawing up a programme of assistance to the independent countries of Southern, Africa to enable them to stand up to the challenge posed by the sanctions.

The only other way of solving the problem is the establishment of a strict time-frame accepted by South Africa as well as, the Western five to implement Security Council Resolution 435. The Western five should guarantee that in case difficulties, are created by South Africa about the establishment schedule, they shall themselves initiate action to impose mandatory sanctions. A renewed commitment by the Western five to the UN Plan which they themselves authored will be the first step, in the right direction. Once that commitment is made and the western five clearly demonstrate to implement the UN Plan, even at this late stage the Non-aligned Movement should, I think, be willing to

cooperate in the negotiations towards a peaceful settlement of the question of Namibia.

The Non-aligned Movement has looked upon the situation in Southern Africa as a challenge to the conscience of humanity. It has continuously responded to the different phases of that challenge appropriately over the years, whether in the field of the struggle or at the negotiating table. The action that we stand ready to take at this juncture would, I am sure, immeasurably enhance the strength of those struggling for freedom. The cause that we champion here is a cause that unites that movement and the strength that we derive from that unity must enable, to act with determination.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
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DIA SOUTH AFRICA ALGERIA NAMIBIA USA CUBA FRANCE UNITED KINGDOM

Date : Apr 18, 1981

Volume No

1995

INDIA AND UNITED NATIONS ORGANISATION

Minister of External Affairs P. V. Narasimha Rao Calls on Security Council to Act Decisively for Namibia

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Apr 23, 1981:

speaking in the Security Council on "The Situation in Namibia" on April 22, the Foreign Minister, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao said that if the Security Council failed to act now with determination, the strength of the United Nations to play a crucial role in other crisis would be considerably weakened.

The Foreign Minister added that the time had now come for a new response to the challenge the attitude of South Africa posed to the Security Council itself. The Council that approved a plan of action barely two years ago and patiently negotiated for its implementation could not abandon it now a unworthy and impractical. The very fact that the plan gained universal acceptance over a period of time was sufficient testimony to its continuing validity. "The first step the Security Council should take following the failure of the Geneva talks is a reaffirmation of the plan accompanied by a determined effort to forge South Africa to implement it", the Foreign Minister said.

CALL TO SUPPORT NAMIBIANS

"Let not the future generations judge us wrong for having failed to give sustenance to the peace-keeping ability of the United Nations. Let us not be accused of having succumbed to the pressures of selfish economic and strategic considerations. Let it not be said that a racist minority regime held the entire international community to ransom. Let us rise to the challenge and do justice to the people of Namibia who look up, to the United Nations, particularly the Security Council, for support", the Foreign Minister declared.

The Foreign Minister said that the struggle of the Namibian people for their birth right and the efforts of the United Nations to complete the process of decolonisation must reinforce each other. If South Africa sought to subvert either the UN Plan or the approved time frame, the Security Council should be willing to impose mandatory sanctions without waiting for a fresh call from the rest of the world.

NO PRICE TOO GREAT FOR FREEDOM

"We remain convinced that the time has come for the Security Council to act decisively in support of the people of Namibia and to strengthen the United Nations in whose continued existence lie the hopes for the very survival of mankind", Shri Narasimha Rao said.

Referring to the serious difficulties which the imposition of sanctions against South Africa was likely to create to the geographically disadvantaged nations in Africa, whose economies are inextricably entangled with the South African economy, the Foreign Minister said that these temporary difficulties could not be used as a pretext to encourage a racist regime to persist in its defiance of the United Nations. Independent African countries in Southern Africa had expressed their willingness to make sacrifices, however great, for their brethren in Namibia. There was no price too great to pay for the emancipation of the majority community in Namibia and the liberation of the African Continent.

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DIA NAMIBIA SOUTH AFRICA SWITZERLAND USA

Date : Apr 23, 1981

Volume No

1995

INDIA AND UNITED NATIONS ORGANISATION

Minister of External Affairs P. V. Narasimha Rao's Meeting with UN Secretary General

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Apr 23, 1981:

The External Affairs Minister Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, called on UN Secretary General Dr. Kurt Waldheim, on April 22. Apart from the question of Namibia' which the Security Council is presently discussing, the meeting covered other important international issues like Afghanistan, Iran-Iraq conflict and Kampuchea.

The Secretary General informed Shri Narasimha. Rao of the efforts of his personal representative Mr. Perez De Cuellar, who, had recently visited Islamabad and Kabul, towards bringing about a solution to the Afghanistan problem on the Iran Iraq problem, the Secretary General informed the External Affairs Minister of the efforts of his special representative Mr. Olaf Palme. The two dignitaries agreed that the various initiatives under way to try and resolve Iraq-Iran conflict should be complementary and not competitive. The Secretary General was appreciative of India's constructive role in international affairs.

DIA NAMIBIA USA AFGHANISTAN IRAN IRAQ PAKISTAN

Date : Apr 23, 1981

Volume No

1995

SAUDI ARABIA

Minister of External Affairs P. V. Narasimha Rao's Speech at Banquet in Honour of Saudi Foreign Minister

Following is the text of the speech by the Minister of External Affairs, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao at the banquet hosted in honour of H.R.H. Prince Saud Al-Faisal, the Foreign Minister of Saudi Arabia in New Delhi on Apr 13, 1981. Proposing the toast Shri Rao said:

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you and your distinguished delegation, once again, amidst us. We were keenly looking forward to your visit and we are very happy that this visit is providing us a valuable opportunity to exchange views on issues of mutual interest.

Your Royal Highness, as you are aware India's links with the Arab world are rooted and go back to time immemorial. Ties which grew out of an exchange of trade and culture, have now developed into a diversified and multifaceted relationship. The Government of India are fully committed to consolidate and further strengthen this relationship.

The bedrock of contemporary Indo-Saudi relations is the existence of a broad appreciation of each other's role in international affairs as well as understanding of each other's needs and aspirations. We in India are aware of the significant role being played by your great country in the region and indeed in world affairs. It is essential to ensure a continuing dialogue at the highest levels between our two Government sand to make a sincere and honest attempt to understand each other's point of view. We place the highest importance on our relations with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.. This was reflected in the visit of the Prime Minister's Special Envoy to your country last November and in your presence, here tonight.

SUPPORT FOR ARAB CAUSE

India's support for the Arab cause, emanating from the principles and values so dear to us, has been firm and consistent. Since the very beginning, India has articu-
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lated her strong opposition to Israel's expansionism and her support for the struggle of the Palestinian people to regain their inalienable rights including the right to a nation-state. Our Arab brothers have, by the' same token, perceptible understanding of India's policies and requirements. We hope that this relationship based on mutual interest would continue to thrive.

Your Royal Highness, India's principled championship of Non-alignment is known to you. We are resolved to maintain our independence in foreign affairs. In the critical times through which we are passing when developments in the region point towards the increased interference - actual as well as potential - by outside powers, it has become all the more urgent for the countries of the region to come close to each other politically and strengthen their solidarity.

BILATERAL COOPERATION

Your Royal Highness, our two countries provide ideal opportunities for mutually beneficial bilateral cooperation. There is today considerable complementarity between our respective economics, needs, requirement, skills and capabilities which, if systematically and properly explored, would contribute significantly to strengthening our self-reliance. Furthermore, it

would provide an excellent example of practical implementation of economic and technical cooperation among developing countries. It is, therefore, only by intensifying and relentlessly pursuing this path that we can march forward in translating the traditional warmth and cordiality characterising our our present relations into meaningful collaboration.

Your Royal Highness, I welcome you once again in our midst and reiterate my hope that when you visit us next, you would be able to stay with us a little longer so that we could show you a wiser panorama of the industrial, technological and cultural facets of the Indian scene.

UDI ARABIA INDIA USA ISRAEL

Date : Apr 13, 1981

Volume No

1995

SAUDI ARABIA

Indo-Saudi Arabian Economic Cooperation Agreement

Following is the text of a Press Release issued i-n New Delhi on Apr 14, 1981:

India and Saudi Arabia today signed an agreement of economic and technical cooperation. The agreement was signed by Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, Minister of External Affairs on behalf of the Government of India and Prince Saud Al-Faisal, Foreign Minister for the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

The agreement envisages formation of a Joint Commission to meet alternately in each other's country at the request of either Party for consultation as to the measures and means to be adopted for the consolidation and promotion of the economic and technical cooperation between them.

The two countries are to exert their efforts to promote and consolidate the economic and technical cooperation between them in a spirit of mutual understanding land in accordance with the laws and regulations prevailing in their respective countries.

The fields of cooperation mentioned in the agreement, include as an example, the following items:

Encouragement of the establishment of agricultural, animal

husbandry, industrial and technical development projects between the two countries.

Encouragement of the exchange of information relating to scientific and technical research.

Encouragement of the exchange of various goods and products between them.

Encouragement of the exchange and training of technical staff required for specific cooperative programme.

JOINT VENTURES

The two countries will promote the encouragement of economic And technical co-
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operation between the institutions of each other's country, including legal entities and establishment of joint ventures and companies in the different spheres.

India and Saudi Arabia will also encourage investment and flow of capital between their respective countries.

Exchange of visits by economic and technical representatives and delegations between the two countries are also to be encouraged.

This Agreement will come into force, and becomes effective on the date of exchange of the instruments of ratification in accordance with their respective procedures.

UDI ARABIA INDIA USA

Date : Apr 14, 1981

Volume No

1995

SOUTH ASIAN FOREIGN SECRETARIES MEETING

Foreign Secretary R. D. Sathe's Speech at South Asian Countries Meeting at Colombo

Following is the text of the Foreign Secretary, Shri R. D. Sathe's speech at the meeting of Foreign Secretaries of South Asian countries which was inaugurated by Sri Lanka Foreign Minister in Colombo on Apr 21, 1981:

Please permit me to join the preceding speakers in extending to you my congratulations on your unanimous election as the Chairman of this first meeting of seven Foreign Secretaries of the South Asian Region. Mr. Chairman, we are grateful for the deep interest you and the Government of Sri Lanka has taken for arranging this conference. I have no doubt that under your wise chairmanship we shall be able to have meaningful discussions which will help to attain our common objectives. Mr. Chairman, permit me to also express to you on my own behalf as well as on behalf of my delegation our warm thanks and appreciation for the excellent arrangements for our stay here and the hospitality extended to us.

Our meeting is a very important landmark and a momentous occasion. It is a landmark for the reason that it is the first time that an effort is being made at an official level to study, in, the words of the paper circulated by the Bangladesh, Government, "The feasibility of Regional Cooperation and Policy Recommendations on the general approach to such cooperation and the possible areas of cooperation". It is also a momentous occasion because it is the, first time that the Foreign Secretaries of the region are getting together. Thus our meeting is a testimony to our political will and determination to use the instrument of regional cooperation for advancing our individual and collective development. My country is particularly happy to be participating in this meeting.

STRENGTHENING REGIONAL COOPERATION

We have had considerable and long experience of cooperating with individual countries of our region on a bilateral and mutually advantageous basis. With some of the countries represented here we have special relationships based on shared history, tradition and interest and formalised by treaties and agreements, with others we have developed mutually beneficial cooperation through arrangements such as joint commissions. This cooperation encompasses practically all fields of endeavour which now form the agenda for economic and technical cooperation among developing countries, We have also participated in regional programmes of cooperation undertaken in the framework of ESCAP and, Colombo Plan. We do not view the proposal now under consideration as detracting in any way from the significance of existing bilateral and multilateral cooperation

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arrangements. Indeed, we see it as filling a void in the existing pattern of cooperation.

We have studied the paper on the subject of regional cooperation in South Asia which had been circulated some months ago by the Government of Bangladesh. I would like to congratulate the authors of that paper for the lucid manner in which the problems have been set out. As has been correctly pointed out in the paper, unlike other regions, regional cooperation in South Asia

has not yet taken roots. The Bangladesh Paper has articulated the possibilities and advantages in this regard. We fully subscribe to the view expressed therein that in the foreseeable future, regional cooperation in South-Asia has to be confined to economic, technical, scientific, social and cultural fields. It is inevitable that there will be some differences of emphasis if not perception in regard to a preliminary document of this nature. We feel that till detailed examination has taken place it would be premature to consider the institutionalisation of regional cooperation through the establishment of a Secretariat, etc. It is our hope that our present meeting will identify positive factors which would be conducive to promotion of regional cooperation. Such cooperation, I must emphasise, must not be a sum total of existing bilateral arrangements. What would be necessary is to carefully identify areas where it is only through collective action of all of us that we are able to remove the handicaps and disadvantages which otherwise we would be facing in these areas.

HARMONISATION OF POLICIES

At this stage it would also be useful to stress that we reach unequivocal agreement on what I would call the "ground Rules" which should govern regional cooperation exercise and which in fact appear in the Bangladesh Paper itself. Here I would submit that the principle of avoiding discussions on the framework of all bilateral and contentious issues and of unanimity as the principle on the basis of which decisions in regard to regional cooperation are taken should be followed scrupulously.

Naturally, all of us would find the present exercise useful only if it is in the nature of a positive sum game. The ideal is, however, difficult to attain. There are certain obvious areas of cooperation where benefits will accrue to all of us in still others benefits may not be immediately perceptible but will become evident as time goes on. Finally, there are also those areas where one can see that a common stand through harmonisation and concentration of our policies would benefit us all.

IDENTIFYING FIELDS OF COOPERATION

I will spell these out in some detail. The first category can be identified as the cultural field. In this field cooperation can be envisaged in sport, education, films, theatre, production of text books, organisation of seminars, exhibitions, etc. The list can be quite a long one. The second group is what could be considered as infrastructural group. Here, the Bangladesh Paper has already identified quite a number of areas in that group. To recapitulate these are telecommunications, meteorology, transport, shipping, agriculture and tourism. One could add development of appropriate technologies and alternative sources of energy. There is the third area for cooperation among our countries which relates to negotiations with developed countries

and other developing countries in the various international forums. This is particularly true in respect of developmental aid - its quantum and terms, problems of brain drain encountered by most of us changes in the international monetary system etc. It should also be possible for us to have a useful exchange of views as to how best we can cooperate with the neighbouring regions. We can also work out cooperation measures in regard to stabilisation of prices of commodities of common interest, or their joint marketing, and measures for facing competition against these from synthetics and other substitutes. There is yet another fourth area where one can envisage cooperation on a regional basis. This is in the field of science and technology and its practical application in joint ventures, exchange of information and data, Joint R and D etc. The broader ramifications of programmes in the abovementioned fields need be discussed and spelt out in considerable detail at technical and expert levels.

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I should now turn to some of the measures that need to be taken individually and collectively for facilitating the development of regional cooperation. First and foremost it is important for us to remember that our present exercise has to relate to functional cooperation in areas which are most relevant for the socio-economic development of our peoples. It is basically therefore the involvement of our peoples in this exercise which is of cardinal importance. We have to prepare the public opinion in our respective countries. Our intelligentsia and academic community should help in this task. The second important step in my view, is for the economic planners of countries of the region to meet at regular intervals to discuss and exchange our experiences in the field of planning as also to consider long-term planning perspectives. This in my view would facilitate a better understanding in all our countries of each other's problems and requirements.

I have attempted to sketch these few thoughts on regional cooperation. The subject will need much more intensive discussion at technical level in the course of which one may expect a number of fields to be explored in depth. As a result of this some ideas may have to be rejected, some others to be developed further and some implemented as soon as possible. Clearly in the kind of meeting which we are having today and tomorrow such indepth discussions would not be possible. It is for this reason, that I would suggest the following methodology.

TECHNICAL GROUPS

I suggest that we agree to appoint four technical groups to look into the four broad areas in which regional cooperation is possible and which I have referred to earlier. It would be advisable to lay down some broad guidelines regarding the terms of reference for the meetings of the technical experts though these may have to be adapted and adopted, mutatis mutandis by

the groups themselves when they meet. The convenors for each group could be decided upon at this meeting and thereafter meetings at technical level can be organised by the convenors to examine the areas in which regional cooperation can be envisaged. The work of these groups need not be timebound but it should be the endeavour of all concerned to complete that task as soon as possible. The reports of these groups will be submitted for examination by the next meeting of the Foreign Secretaries of the region. That meeting should also consider the intersectoral aspects of cooperation the levels of implementation and other follow-up measures. The task of coordinating the work of the four groups and the decision as to when the next meeting of the Foreign Secretaries should be convened can be left to that country which will host the next meeting of the Foreign Secretaries. It is only when, adequate progress in all these fields has taken place that it would be useful and necessary for us to frame recommendations for consideration by our Ministers. The methodology suggested by me may delay the meeting of the Foreign Ministers but it is my submission that it would be necessary to make thorough preparations for the meeting of Foreign Ministers. I believe that the second meeting of the Foreign Secretaries would precisely serve this purpose.

Mr. Chairman and colleagues, at the very outset I referred to the importance of this meeting. I need hardly underline the fact that millions of our people will be following very carefully, the manner in which we move towards establishing regional cooperation. We have an obligation to lay a solid and secure foundation on which regional cooperation can be built. If there are delays one should not become pessimistic. Rome was not built in a day. Neither were other regional groupings established without several meetings and thorough discussions. In fact, I would submit that while we should no doubt profit from the experience of other regions in the world, we should not replicate or copy those patterns. A pattern of regional cooperation in South Asia should evolve itself. We do not have to jump steps ahead and create an organisational super-structure without first agreeing upon arrangements, modalities and programmes of

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regional cooperation. I submit that by participating in this meeting we have embarked upon a thrilling journey. We do not know what type of obstacles we shall run into. But the prospect of running into obstacles need not daunt us. So long as our goal is kept clearly in view it should not be difficult to reach it.

I LANKA USA BANGLADESH MALI CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC ITALY

Date : Apr 21, 1981

Volume No

1995

TANZANIA

India-Tanzania Joint Communique

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Apr 03, 1981:

At the invitation of the President of India Shri Neelam Sanjiva Reddy, the President of the United Republic of Tanzania, H.E. Mwalimu Julius K. Nyerere, accompanied by Madam Maria Nyerere, paid a state visit to India from 30 March to 3 April, 1981. The visit took place in a warm, friendly and cordial atmosphere which has always characterised the relations between the two countries.

The President of Tanzania held extensive discussions on international issues with the Prime Minister of India, Smt. Indira Gandhi. The two leaders also reviewed the bilateral relations between their countries and discussed ways and means of further developing and consolidating them. The talks were held in an atmosphere of cordiality, mutual trust and understanding.

The Tanzanian President was assisted during his visit by the following: Ndugu Salim Ahmed Salim, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Ndugu I. Kaduma, Minister of Communications, Ndugu George Kahama, Minister of State, President's office, Ndugu Usi Khamia Usi, Minister of Planning, Zanzibar, Ndugu Paul Sozigwa, Press Secretary to President and Member of Central Committee of CCM, Ndugu J. Butiku, Private Secretary to the President, Ndugu M. A. Fom, Tanzanian High Commissioner in India, Ndugu G. M. Nhilgula, Director, Asian Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ndugu R. Lukindo, Chief of Protocol and Prof. Mbilinyi, Personal Assistant to President.

The Indian Prime Minister was assisted by the following: Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, Minister of External Affairs, Dr. Charanjit Chana, Minister of State for Industry, Shri R. D. Sathe, Foreign Secretary, Shri M. S. Gujral, Chairman, Railway Board, Shri K. S. Rajan, Secretary (Heavy Industry), Ministry of Industry, Shri R. Bhandari, Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, Shri J. R. Hiremath, Additional Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, Shri A. S. Gonsalves, High Commissioner of India in Tanzania, Shri S. V. S. Juneja, Additional Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, and Dr. D. N. Misra, Joint Educational Adviser, Ministry of Education and Culture.

During his stay the President of Tan-Zania visited the Indian Agricultural Research Institute in New Delhi, the Punjab Agricultural University at Ludhiana, the Centre for Rural and Industrial Development Studies in Chandigarh and the Water Resources Management Centre in Rourkee.

The President of Tanzania and the Prime Minister of India recalled the solidarity which has always existed between the two countries. The Prime Minister of India expressed admiration for the efforts of the Tanzanian people, under the enlightened leadership of President Nyerere to create a socialist and self-reliant society in Tanzania. The President of Tanzania expressed his admiration for India's success in

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maintaining unity in diversity and for the multi-faceted progress made by India since its independence.

The President of Tanzania and the Prime Minister of India agreed that tension and confrontation in Southern Africa could not be eradicated and peace established until the liberation of Namibia from the illegal occupation of South Africa and the dismantling of the structure of apartheid in South Africa are achieved. They reaffirmed their total support for the Namibian people's inalienable right to freedom and their solidarity with the struggle being waged by the South West African People's Organisation (SWAPO), the sole and legitimate representative of the Namibian people. Both leaders condemned all attempts by South Africa to subvert the UN Plan for Namibia, as contained in Security Council Resolution 435 (1979), and deplored the action of certain states which had encouraged the apartheid regime of South Africa to persist in its recalcitrance and arrogant defiance of world opinion. The President of Tanzania and the Prime Minister of India expressed their strong condemnation of the acts of unprovoked armed aggression by the South Africa regime, against the Front-Line States. They noted with concern the attempts by certain powers to destabilise some independent African States in Southern Africa. President Nyerere expressed his appreciation of India's unwavering support for the cause of liberation in Southern Africa.

The Prime Minister of India noted with satisfaction the renewed efforts of the leaders of the countries of Eastern Africa to promote greater cooperation among themselves. Both the leaders felt that the recent summit meetings in Uganda and Tanzania were significant developments and would contribute to the promotion of security, stability and economic progress in the region.

The President of Tanzania and the Prime Minister of India expressed their grave concern over the increasing escalation of Great Power Military presences in the Indian Ocean area notwithstanding the express wishes of the littoral and hinterland states of the Indian Ocean. They noted with serious concern the

expansion of Diego Garcia base and all other manifestations of intensified military presences in the Indian-Ocean by the Great Powers and called on these powers to progressively reduce and eventually eliminate their military presences from the Indian Ocean. The two leaders reaffirmed the need to redouble efforts for the speedy implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace, as contained in the 1971 United Nations General Assembly resolution on this subject. In this context, the Indian and Tanzanian leaders reiterated their determination to work for the success of the conference on the Indian Ocean, which is scheduled to be held in Sri Lanka later in 1981. To this end, they urged all Great Powers and other major maritime users of the Indian Ocean to participate constructively in the conference.

The President of Tanzania and the Prime Minister of India noted with grave concern the situation in South West Asia and agreed that it carried dangerous consequences for the peace and stability of the region. In this context, the situation in Afghanistan was viewed with particular concern. The two sides urgently called for a comprehensive political settlement of the question on the basis of full respect for the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and non-aligned status of Afghanistan, the withdrawal of foreign troops and strict observance of the principle of nonintervention and non-interference. They urged all concerned to work towards a settlement which would ensure that the Afghan people would determine their own destiny free from foreign interference and intervention.

The President of Tanzania and the Prime Minister of India expressed their deep concern and distress at the Iran-Iraq war and affirmed that a continuation of the present conflict would have grave implications for both regional and global peace, and security. They noted that the continuation of the conflict undermines the solidarity of non-aligned and developing countries. They expressed the hope that Iran and Iraq would resolve their differences in accordance with the principles of the Non-Aligned Movement. The two sides also reiterated their support for the guidelines

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contained in the New Delhi Declaration of the Non-Aligned Foreign Ministers' Conference of February 1981, for bringing about an early end to this conflict.

Noting with concern the deterioration in the situation in West Asia, the two leaders called for immediate withdrawal by Israel from all Arab territories occupied by it since June 1967, including Jerusalem. Both sides stressed that the Palestine question is the core of the Problem and that unless it is resolved satisfactorily with the PLO as an equal partner in negotiations, no attempt towards a settlement can be succeed. The inalienable right of the Palestinian people to their homeland and

to a nation State of their own should be recognised and restored. The two sides denounced the continuing actions by Israel to alter the status of the holy city of Jerusalem in defiance of the United Nations Security Council Regulations 476 (1980) and 478 (1980).

The recent situation in South East Asia was also reviewed. Both sides agreed on the need for a dialogue between the countries of the region to create the necessary conditions in which the sovereignty, integrity and independent personality of all countries of the region could be fully safeguarded, in accordance with the Principles of the United Nations and the Non-aligned Movement. To this end they recalled, in particular, paragraphs 84 and 85 of the New Delhi Declaration of the Ministerial Conference of the Non-aligned countries, adopted on 13th February 1981.

The President of the United Republic of Tanzania and the Prime Minister of the Republic of India reaffirmed their faith in the policy of non-alignment and noted that the Non-aligned Movement represents the hopes and aspirations of the majority of mankind and has become an independent and positive force for world peace. They expressed the hope that through strict adherence to the principles of non-alignment and by stressing the common bonds which unite the non-aligned countries, the Movement would continue to subscribe to a common strategy and consensus which would reflect the real essence of non-alignment. In this connection, the two sides noted with satisfaction the success of the Conference of Foreign Ministers of the Non-aligned countries held recently in New Delhi, which also commemorated the 20th Anniversary of the first Summit Conference.

The two leaders reviewed with satisfaction the programme of economic cooperation between the two countries. It was agreed that Indian participation in such sectors as the sugar industry, development of facilities for technical education, irrigation for rice farming, railways, port development, the cement industry, etc. which had been identified, would be further discussed during the next session of the Indo-Tanzanian Joint Commission, to be held in Dar-es-Salaam later in 1981.

The President of Tanzania and the Prime Minister of India expressed their deep concern at the acute crisis facing the world economy. They underlined the urgent need to bring about structural changes in the present international economic system with a view to securing the effective establishment of a New International Economic Order. They also stressed the need for a massive transfer of resources to developing countries, particularly those whose developmental needs and problems are the greatest. They emphasised the need to adopt urgent measures to counter the growing trend towards protectionism, which makes it even more difficult for the manufactures of developing countries to have access to the markets of the advanced countries.

While welcoming with satisfaction the consensus evolved at the UN on a new International Development Strategy for the Third Development Decade, both leaders regretted that global negotiations on international economic cooperation for development could not be initiated as scheduled. They expressed the hope that the present efforts to achieve agreement would be successful and that they would facilitate the commencement of such negotiations.

India and Tanzania welcomed with satisfaction the initiative of a number of developing and developed countries to hold an international meeting at Mexico in October 1981 on cooperation and develop-
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ment at the level of Heads of States and of Governments, with a view to promoting greater understanding of the inter-dependence' between the nations and interrelationship of the problems of the International economy. The two leaders expressed the hope that the proposed meeting would lead to the mobilisation of the political will to secure the necessary restructuring of the world economy based on the principles of equity as a means of assuring international peace and security. They affirmed their commitment to work for the success of the Mexico Summit.

The President of the United Republic of Tanzania and the Prime Minister of India underlined the growing importance of economic and technical cooperation among the developing countries in the present international economic situation. Both leaders expressed the hope that the high level Conference on Economic Cooperation among the Developing countries scheduled for this year at Caracas, would be held at ministerial level. They were confident that such a conference would be able to identify concrete areas of cooperation in the fields of trade, technology, food, energy, raw materials, finance and industrialisation.

The President of the United Republic of Tanzania expressed his deep appreciation to the President of India, the Government and the people of India for the warm hospitality extended to him and his delegation during his visit to India.

The President of Tanzania extended invitations to the President and the Prime Minister of India to visit Tanzania. The invitations were accepted with pleasure.

NZANIA INDIA USA UNITED KINGDOM NAMIBIA SOUTH AFRICA UGANDA SRI LANKA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC AFGHANISTAN IRAN IRAQ ISRAEL LATVIA RUSSIA MEXICO VENEZUELA

Date : Apr 03, 1981

Volume No

1995

UNITED KINGDOM

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's Speech at Dinner in Honour of British Prime Minister

Following is the text of the speech by the Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi at the dinner she hosted in honour of Rt. Hon'ble Mrs. Margaret Thatcher, MP, Prime Minister of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in New Delhi on Apr 15, 1981. The Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi, said:

Without being a feminist or a proponent of women's lib I must confess that I have welcomed the election of women as Prime Ministers, and to other high positions in variols parts of the world. We live in man-made societies but we women believe that a better deal for women means a better deal for men and a higher consciousness for all human beings. So I am glad that the days described by a Chinese woman in 675 BC, but unfortunately continuing into our own lifetime, are fast vanishing:

"I may walk in the garden and gather Lilies of mother of pearl.

I had a plan would have saved the State, But mine are the thoughts of a girl".

We are delighted that you have found it possible to accept our invitation. The scope and complexity of a Prime Minister's responsibilities are now immeasurably more onerous. I know it is not easy to leave one's country. I am specially glad to welcome Mr. Thatcher and your charming daughter. You, Prime Minister, have been to India before. The present visit is brief but we hope you will be able to have a wider, appreciation of our achievements and the many obstacles to development.

We greet you as the Prime Minister of a country which has wielded great influence in the world and one whose voice I hope will still be raised for causes of justice and equality of all races and peoples.

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We applauded your personal statesmanship in solving the knotty Rhodesian problem, thus paving the way for elections there, leading to independence for Zimbabwe which has begun its journey to stability and progress. We look forward to the same wise initiative on other world issues.

COEXISTENCE AND COOPERATION

It is natural that your Government's views and ours should differ on many issues. That makes it all the more essential to meet and

to find a measure of understanding. We in India believe in coexistence and cooperation.

India's long history shows a remarkable aptitude for synthesis. Races, religions and ideas have come from all directions and have got woven into the fabric of our national life, adding colour and variety and giving strength. British influence is visible in our Parliamentary, legal, administrative, even educational systems and in words, not only those used by the English-speaking elite but to a surprising degree in our villages too. A woman who had never been to a town, never heard English spoken or seen the game, used the word 'kirkit'. Can you guess what she meant? It was her village version of 'cricket' to describe a stretch of lawn. The beating of the Retreat, a truly British tradition, has become the most spectacular and popular part of our Republic week celebrations.

The British have done their bit in the mixing of cultures. They took our people to countries near and far primarily for labour, but the enterprising Indians helped to open up those countries making roads, building hospitals, schools and banks and contributed to their economic development. Britain itself is the product of many ethnic streams, and in recent times the people of Indian origin have contributed to British economy. I hope their industriousness and skills will continue to be regarded as a 'source of strength to your country.'

HELPING DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

A statesman must plan and work for a better future. In countries which are economically backward this means making up for lost centuries. Sometimes the economic path itself is fairly clear. Yet, the obstacles are formidable.

Progress rests on peace at home and abroad. Inequality, the gap between those who have and are able to use their capital, knowledge and equipment to get more and those who are deprived and fall behind in the race, makes for discontent. Those who build tomorrow may be willing to forego some, but certainly not all, of their immediate needs, specially as in developing countries such as ours these needs are basic to survival, physically and to their worth as individuals. . Thus, in our circumstances, concern for the economy, vital though it is, must be balanced with social justice and the promise of equality of opportunity.

There is much to disturb international harmony. On the one hand the growing chasm between the affluent and the developing nations. On the other, the increasing confrontation in attitudes and actions. Peace is the hinge of history today. Work for peace has to be many sided - the ending of racialism and dominance, working together to reduce economic disparities, incessantly seeking political solutions to conflicts, and a dedicated effort

for disarmament.

PROMOTING INTERNATIONAL FRIENDSHIP

The responsibility of the powerful may be greater and more direct. Yet none of us dare shirk our share of it, for none of us can escape the consequences of failure to keep the peace.

Recent experience has shown that military strength does not always prevail. There is need for the not so big nations to come together, to allay suspicions, to promote trust and create goodwill. Britain has a genius for conciliation and is known to take a pragmatic view. This is yet another reason why we attach importance to your visit. We hope that apart from consolidating Indo-British cooperation, it will be a step forward in the work for international friendship.

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DIA IRELAND USA OMAN ZIMBABWE

Date : Apr 15, 1981

Volume No

1995

UNITED KINGDOM

Text of British Prime Minister's Speech

Replying to the toast Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher said:

Prime Minister, Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, when I arrived this morning. I spoke briefly of the close ties between the United Kingdom and India. Tonight I should like to return to this theme and explore it in more depth.

I hope you will agree that a relationship spanning nearly four centuries - though only a short period in the long march of India's civilisation - deserves more than a few brief words.

Let me add at once that I do not propose to usurp the task of the historians. Our task as statesmen is to look to the future and make use of the rich legacy which history has given us.

A vital part of that legacy is the tradition of values, ideals and institutions which our two countries share. We do not have to convince ourselves of our basic affinity by reference to vague eternal principles. The evidence is much more tangible than that

- it is seen in our parliamentary structure, in our legal system, in our civil services and in numerous other spheres.

INDIAN DEMOCRATIC TRADITION

You, Prime Minister, believe as I do that people have a right to be involved in the shaping of events which affect them. India's devotion to democratic processes of change is beyond question. In a country so large and so diverse, this is a remarkable achievement. We in Britain salute it. I hope that the long association between our two countries has contributed to fostering these values.

But I recognise that, if they have taken root, and found expression in institutions we hold in common, it is because they are in tune with the age-old genius in India, its traditions of tolerance, humanity, and freedom of thought and inquiry - traditions which have contributed to India's past cultural and intellectual wealth, and to its present scientific and technological achievements.

HISTORICAL LINKS

Our lives in Britain have been deeply influenced by our historical links with India. I am not thinking only of the effects which India has had on our culture and language (our shared language), strong though that is. I am thinking more of the contribution which hundreds of thousands of Britons of Indian origin are making to our every aspect of our society. That contribution makes me the more determined that all our citizens whatever their background and origin, shall live together in peace and harmony.

I have referred to our cultural links. There is already an impressive exchange in both directions between our two countries. But the Festival of India, which will be held in Britain in 1982, will add a new dimension to these links. The exhibitions and displays which are being arranged are sure to give us a deeper awareness of India's heritage and achievements. They will enable our countrymen of Indian origin to renew their cultural traditions. This is a cause for which I hope there will be generous contributions from both our countries. Prime Minister, you have kindly agreed to be joint patron with me of the Festival.

COMMERCIAL RELATIONS

On the material side our close ties are given substance by our ever increasing commercial links. Britain is one of India's top three trading partners, and we are the largest foreign investor in India.

We have a fine record in industrial col, laboration and are proud

of the contribution we have made to India's industrialisation.

I believe there is much more we can do in this area. Britain has the requisite expertise to work with you in the planning and implementation of large scale projects in key sectors of the economy such as coal, steel, power and railways.

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We are among the world's leaders in telecommunications and electronics.

JOINT VENTURES

I believe there is also scope for Britain and India to co-operate in ventures in third countries with each making its distinct contribution.

We live in a world beset by problems of unparalleled magnitude.

The security of nations, great and small, is threatened by the wilful use of force with scant regard for international law.

JUST AND EQUITABLE WORLD ORDER

These tensions sometimes obscure the fundamental problem of creating a more just and equitable world. We must seek to overcome the glaring disparities between various countries and regions of the world;

- To make the fruits of material and cultural progress available to all;

- To eradicate ignorance, disease and poverty.

These are goals to which my country is deeply committed, as I know yours is also.

It is natural that we should consult closely together on ways of achieving them. With our membership of the Atlantic Alliance and the European Community, and your leading role in the Non-Aligned Movement (whose recent meeting in Delhi was such a success under your Chairmanship) we are uniquely placed to promote greater international understanding. I hope that we can continue to work together, in the international institutions, of which we are both members. and particularly in the Commonwealth, to which India has made such a great contribution.

FRIENDSHIP AND MUTUAL RESPECT

Prime Minister, India and Britain have travelled a long road together.

Our relationship has been a constantly changing one but it has

always been based on true friendship and mutual respect for one another's qualities.

If I have a message tonight, it is that Britain and India matter to each other.

If we have differences we must work to overcome them, to understand.

But the important thing is to work together.

Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, I give you the toast - to the Prime Minister of India, may she continue in good health, to the great people of India, may their wishes for progress and prosperity be fulfilled, and to Indo-British friendship, long may it flourish.

DIA USA

Date : Apr 15, 1981

Volume No

1995

UNITED KINGDOM

Mrs. Margaret Thatcher's Address to Members of Parliament

Following is the text of the address by Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher to both Houses of Parliament in New Delhi on Apr 16, 1981 :

Mr. Vice-President, Prime Minister, Mr. Speaker, distinguished guests, I am greatly delighted to be speaking today to the members of India's Parliament, on this my first visit to your country since taking office as Prime Minister.

BRITAIN AND INDIA

It is only three years since a British Prime Minister last addressed members of the Indian Parliament. That is a sign of the closeness of the relations between our two countries.

In that short period, both our nations have changed their governments by means of parliamentary elections. That is a reminder of the democracy that our two people share.

The right of our people to elect us and dismiss us is our

assurance that we meet today as their true representatives. Too few countries can make such a claim.

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The lives of India and Britain are interwoven to a degree rare among nations. In small ways as well as great, we are part of each other's history and part of each other's present. British interest in India is strong and continuing.

INDIA'S ACHIEVEMENTS

We admire India's priceless contribution to world civilisation. We respect your many striking achievements:

- the social changes you have wrought and the economic progress you have made;

- we applaud the way you have maintained the unity of this vast country with its many peoples and its diverse cultures.

We rejoice that those ideals of liberty and democracy that first emerged in ancient Greece have taken firm root here in Indian soil. The long migration of these ideals, through time and around the globe, is one of the great epics of history. It is potent proof of the oneness of mankind. We know - though few can fully comprehend - how great are the problems posed by the size and variety of your population and by the cruel damage that nature can inflict.

Our world is one, and none of us stands alone. Your success in the struggle for progress matters to us just as the health of our economies matters to you. Your victories over poverty, flood and drought and disease are victories for all free men and women. Your achievements at the frontiers of science, industry and agriculture are an inspiration and example to the world.

We have watched with admiration India's substantial progress in food production, raising farm yields through a great investment in irrigation and through new techniques. You have built up your reserve stocks of food. You have made yourselves less vulnerable to the treachery of weather.

Over the past three decades you have achieved an impressive rate of agricultural and industrial growth:

- Your success in food production tells its own story;
- Your engineering, and chemical industries thrive;
- You are developing your own energy resources;
- You have launched your own space satellite.

ECONOMIC COOPERATION

Britain has been privileged to play an important part in many of

these things. Indo-British trade last year amounted to 1500 crores of rupees - over three-quarters of a billion pounds. That is one-third of your total trade with the European Community which is, in turn, by far your most important market and supplier. Britain's aid to India is still the largest of all our aid programmes. We are your largest single donor. We have always believed that aid to India was the soundest of investments in the future. The present situation provides an impressive base on which to build.

Of course both our countries face major economic problems and awkward choices. We in Britain have had to take hard decisions in the last two years. But the decisions are being made. The foundations for a more prosperous and assured future are being put down.

In part the problems which you face in India are the same as ours - problems of priorities, of coordination, of investment and industrial renewal. Others are quite different - reflecting the sheer size and diversity of your country, the extremes of your climate.

But your Government is not shrinking from the problems. On the contrary, your Sixth Plan faces them boldly. And India has notable sources of strength. There may be considerable reserves of oil off your West Coast. Soon you may be a grain exporter, an extraordinary achievement given the difficulties you have faced. Britain hopes to stand alongside you as you advance to new successes. I hope that in the near future we can extend and strengthen the collaboration we already have with you in such vital sectors as steel, power, coal and fertilizers.

I am glad that we have just been able to give ₹44 million, or 8 crores of rupees,

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to the That fertilizer project. We also look forward to new programmes of cooperation in the fields of science and technology, and in space. In the longer term I can foresee cooperation in telecommunications, oil exploration and the modernisation of your railways. Our talks today and the agreements we have signed will, I am confident, give added impetus to our cooperation. The future is rich with promise,

NATIONALITY AND IMMIGRATION

You will, I know, expect that in speaking to you today about our bilateral relations I will say something about the British Government's legislation on nationality questions and immigration. The Government, like its predecessors, is committed to creating a racially just and harmonious society. We are committed to ensuring that, there, are equal opportunities for all our people, regardless of their race, background, or national

origin. Whatever the difficulties - and the last few days have shown that that they are very real - we shall stick to that commitment.

It is reflected in our new law on nationality. On this, first, let me make clear that like every other country, Britain must reserve to herself the right to decide on the rules governing this right to citizenship. You, I know, would expect no less for yourself. At present Britain is perhaps the only country in the world without a clear definition of its own citizenship. The new law aims to remedy this by providing a criterion for British citizenship based on the concept of belonging to, that is to say, having close associations with, Britain. It is also based on the principle that British citizenship should carry with it the right of abode in the United Kingdom.

Let it be clearly understood that there is nothing in the proposed law which discriminates against any racial or national group. It will not affect adversely the position under immigration law of anyone who is settled in the United Kingdom. Those Indian citizens settled in Britain who have not yet exercised their entitlement to register as British citizens (most of them have in fact already become British citizens) will still have several years to exercise that entitlement if they wish. Even after this transition period they will still be able to acquire British citizenship by naturalisation. Alternatively they will be entirely free to retain their Indian citizenship with their right to live in Britain unchanged. The existing rights of UK passport holders to enter the United Kingdom will also not be adversely affected.

Control of immigration into Britain is essential if we are to maintain good race relations. Our immigration officials are instructed to carry out their duties, in accordance with the law, without regard to race, colour or religion. But we live in the age of the Jumbo Jet. Millions of people visit Britain each year, including last year 190 thousand Indians. Inevitably when such large numbers are involved a few people try to enter illegally and inevitably a few are therefore turned back. But the percentage of refusals is tiny - in the case of Indians, not much more than one in two hundred. We are glad that so many people wish to visit Britain, and I think the figures amply demonstrate that all genuine visitors are welcome.

INTERNATIONAL SITUATION

Let me turn now to the international situation, where both our countries have a vital role to play, I know, not least from my conversations with you, Prime Minister, that India's attachment to peace is the foundation of your policy. Your leading role in the Non-Aligned Movement, whose latest conference was so successfully organised here in Delhi, is acknowledged by all.

We in Britain share your devotion to peace. We respect the principle of nonalignment. As I said in a recent speech in New York: "We in the West do not demand alignment or displays of fidelity. Our ambition is that the countries of the Third World should be at liberty to solve their own problems in their own way." It follows that we see a world of difference between those who, like India, are truly committed to the principles of Non-Alignment and those who profess loyalty to it even as they seek to distort its meaning.

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This matters to us in Britain because we remain today, as in the past, a nation with world-wide interests and concerns. Our relative power, may be less than in the past, but our outlook is still world-wide. Our membership of the European Community has not changed this.

After all we and the other nine members are the World's largest trading entity. Together we account for about one-fifth of world trade. The Europeans are the main trading partner of the developing world; about 40 per cent of our trade is with developing countries. Of all the official aid from the industrialised democracies to the developing world, Europe gives about half. The amount we give is ten times greater than the amount given by the Soviet Union and its Comecon partners. But I do not want to burden this speech with statistics.

With that degree of international involvement, of commerce with the rest of the world, it is inevitable that we in Britain, and we in Europe should look outward. These things govern our international policies.

We want to find ways to allow the international trading system to work more effectively. We are well aware of the benefits which three decades of expansion of international trade and investment have brought to so many countries, including ourselves. We want to see that expansion resumed. We know of the pressures for protectionism. We shall resist them to the best of our ability, for trade to be free must also be fair.

We are anxious to see greater political stability in the world as a whole. That is why we have been active in search for a settlement to the Arab/Israel dispute. A solution is needed which will offer a secure and independent future to Israel while respecting the legitimate rights of the Palestinians. The key to progress lies in the acceptance by each side of the rights of the other. The efforts of the European Community are designed to promote this.

A similar desire to see stability replace uncertainty has informed Britain's activities, alongside those of our four Western partners, in regard to Namibia. We, have been trying to build on the success achieved in Zimbabwe to make possible

another step forward in Southern Africa. Alas, it proved impossible in Geneva. But we have not given up.

The final, and most important, consequence of Britain's and of Europe's, involvement with the world community is that we are, like India committed to the cause of peace; to peace, above all, between East and West.

For many years we and our other Allies have sought ways of lowering tension in East-West relations. We know and have experienced the horrors of war, and never want to see them again. But weakness does not bring peace. We therefore seek military balance at the lowest level that we can negotiate and monitor. We seek mutual understanding. We have exercised restraint and have encouraged others to do so.

AFGHANISTAN

But that restraint must never be mistaken for a weakening of our resolve to protect our liberty and interests and to support our friends. The invasion of Afghanistan shocked many people into realising that moderation had not been met with moderation. We have no wish to return to the so-called "Cold War" of the early 1950s. It is not we who have imperial ambitions. We, are not imposing our will on other countries by force of arms. We respect the sovereignty of others. We welcome the strong reassertion of this principle by the, Non-Aligned Movement in the wake of the invasion of Afghanistan.

We all know the concerns and uncertainties which that invasion has created in the region and indeed throughout the whole world. We believe a settlement in Afghanistan that will leave the country free from foreign troops is needed to restore confidence. Then, Afghanistan can return to its traditional non-alignment - if that is what her people want. It is for them to choose their government and their destiny. We have put forward proposals for a political
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solution. I repeat here to you that the Government I lead is ready to join with others, including Afghanistan's neighbours and permanent members of the Security Council in discussing how those objectives can be achieved.

The continuing crisis in Afghanistan, like the war between Iran and Iraq, has made many people deeply anxious for the security of oil supplies from the Gulf. Like India, Western Europe is highly dependent on that source of oil. We maintain the closest consultation with the States in the area. The best way we can allay anxiety is by being ready to respond to any request the Gulf States may make for help and by being ready to enhance their defences in any way they wish.

CONCLUSION

Ultimately each nation must be responsible for its own defence, defence of its borders and defence of its people. But few can do it alone. Collaboration in defence matters will, I hope, be only one aspect of the broader cooperation between Britain and India. For it is vitally important that our two countries with their traditions of peace, freedom and democracy, should regularly take counsel together. India and Britain are leading powers in the modern world. In some cases we belong to the same international grouping, as in the Commonwealth; sometimes to different. You non-aligned: we aligned. That gives us at once a special opportunity and a special responsibility.

We understand, better perhaps than most, that we share a world in which nations are becoming ever more dependent on one another. We know that those nations are going to have a work together or perish. Our two countries are destined to show others how this can be done. Although the needs of the developing world are great, its potential is greater still.

We know that men and women can and do achieve extraordinary things. When nations work together they can reach heights to which alone they could not aspire. Britain and India know each other, trust each other, can work with each other. Let us do so with fresh imagination and renewed vigour. Our achievements will be greater than many would now dare predict.

DIA USA GREECE LATVIA PERU CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC UNITED KINGDOM ISRAEL
NAMIBIA ZIMBABWE SWITZERLAND AFGHANISTAN IRAN IRAQ

Date : Apr 16, 1981

Volume No

1995

UNITED KINGDOM

Memorandum of Understanding Between India and UK: Cooperation in Industries and in Trade

Following is the text of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland concerning cooperation in certain industries and in trade, was signed in New Delhi on Apr 16, 1981:

The Government of the Republic of India and the Government, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland agree

that there is great scope for increased cooperation and collaboration between the two countries extending over a wide range of sectors of industry and that this will be to their mutual benefit. This Memorandum sets out their mutual understanding of some of the main areas and sectors in which cooperation and collaboration may be strengthened. They aim to increase the two-way trade between their countries.

The nature of cooperation will vary according to the circumstances of the sector concerned. It could, however, include some or all of such aspects as cooperation in research and development, technical assistance under the Colombo Plan whether by secondment of staff from one country to the other or by support to training programmes, collaboration agreement between individual companies, investment and equipment supply to either country. The two governments agree that this cooperation should be encouraged not only by the maintenance of the appropriate climate of close commercial relations, but also, in appropriate cases by mutual and specific agreement by the asso-
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ciation of special financial arrangement with individual agreements made within the framework of this memorandum. These financial arrangements may include the provision and guarantee of export credit on suitable terms. The Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland state that the further development in India of the sectors mentioned in this memorandum, along with the core sectors, is high amongst the objectives of their programme of bilateral assistance to India.

RAILWAYS

It is noted that further investment in and technical advance by Indian Railways have been planned in order to enable the system to play its vital role in the national economy and that British Rail and the British Railway equipment industry could make significant contributions both by transfer of technology and supply of equipment. Future cooperation may include technical collaboration, training of railway personnel and provision of advanced equipment for service on the Indian Railways. The latter category includes electrification, passenger coach manufacture, Metro and operations in information systems.

It is further agreed that there is considerable scope for railway consultancy and construction Organisation in the two countries for cooperative participation in joint ventures in third countries.

OIL AND NATURAL GAS DEVELOPMENT

It is agreed that further exploration for and production of oil and gas is a high priority for both countries, and that Britain's own experience over the past decade in locating and developing

major offshore reserves is relevant to offshore operations in the waters around India's land mass. The scope for collaboration is likely to increase as the experience of both countries develop to include not only exploration and development but also the long term maintenance of offshore structure.

ELECTRONICS

The Indian electronics industry has grown at a very rapid rate in recent years and it is agreed that future growth in India, as equally in Britain, is likely to stem from a number of recent technical advances, notably the miniaturisation of complex circuits and the consequent displacement of mechanical devices by electronic ones. In this context, the area of electronic components and computer software offers distinct possibilities of cooperation. There is also scope for cooperation in research and development and the provision of training and consultancy, especially, in the area of compound semi-conductor materials and the application of computers in education and training. A joint programme of action needs to be considered to increase the pace of progress in both countries in a highly competitive field.

PORT DEVELOPMENT

In view of the importance that is, attached to the creation of port facilities in India, it is agreed that cooperation should be continued and strengthened.

FERTILISERS

Further increase in food production in India will require the expansion of her fertiliser industry. Discussions between the appropriate Indian organisations and UK companies should continue to explore the contribution which could be made by the UK to the accelerated development of additional fertiliser capacity in India.

PETROCHEMICALS

The exploitation of domestic oil and gas, resources by India and the UK has provided these two countries with promising sources of petrochemical feedstocks and enables the development of a substantial petrochemical industry. The experience of both countries in the design, construction and operation of petrochemical plants provides a basis for cooperation in this important industry and in setting up suitable plants in their own countries and in third countries. The possibility of cooperation in the research and, development and commercialisation of petrochemical processes jointly will be explored further.

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SHIPPING

In view of India's ambitious programme of augmenting Indian tonnage, great scope exists for Indo-British cooperation in the shipping field, especially in respect of supply of dry bulk cargo vessels. The cooperation could include further assistance from the UK to India's plants to augment her ship building and ship repairing facilities.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

The Indian plants for telecommunication development during the decade of the eighties envisage large scale expansion as well as modernisation in various sectors of the network. Both India and Britain are beginning programmes to incorporate new technology into the switching and transmission of voice and data signals. This common concern gives rise to considerable potential for exchange of technical information, appropriate interaction on research and development and development and training of the technical staff. There are also possibilities of joint ventures in consultancy and construction work in (developing) third countries. It is agreed that meetings should take place from time to time and the appropriate level to define a programme of action in the field of telecommunications for approval by the two Governments prior to implementation.

JOINT VENTURES

Both Governments consider that, in the background of long association between many branches of Indian and British industries, there exists considerable potential for development of further joint ventures between Indian and British enterprises on the basis of mutual advantage, particularly in the sophisticated and high technology areas and in predominantly export-oriented units, subject to the laws and policies of the two Governments.

THIRD COUNTRY PROJECTS

Both Governments recognise the opportunities for collaboration between Indian and British enterprises in executing projects in third countries, including the provision of design work, equipment supply and consultancy services in connection with such projects and in undertaking other forms of joint ventures, on the basis of mutual advantage and competitiveness. They agree that such collaboration should be encouraged and will facilitate contacts between potential collaborators.

TRADE

Both Governments recognise that the current recession in world economic activity, while affecting all countries, has had particularly adverse repercussions on developing countries like India. The depressed demand for imports of manufactures in industrialised countries occurs in many sectors of interest to

developing countries and in these sectors the situation is made more difficult by protectionism. Both countries agree that vigorous efforts have to be made to resist protectionism and to maintain and improve the open and multilateral world trading system. They further agree that, for strengthening trade relations between industrialised and developing countries, it is necessary to continue efforts to provide increased access to developing countries in the markets of industrialised countries.

It is recognised that India needs to increase her earnings from exports to United Kingdom and other developed countries if she is to maintain her ability to import from them and that measures to bring this about are required. The Government of the United Kingdom stand ready to play their part in this. The Government will continue to encourage the Commission of the European Communities to give sympathetic consideration to appropriate commercial policy measures to improve India's exports.

The two Governments undertake to make special efforts to increase their bilateral trade to the mutual advantage of their respective countries. The two Governments agree jointly to identify and seek early solutions to problems which impede imports from India. Additionally, noting that Indian exports to the United Kingdom have declined significantly in 1980, the two Governments recognise the scope that exists for cooperation between Indian and British companies. The United Kingdom Government have agreed to give active consideration to measures which might be taken within the framework of the technical cooperation programme to enhance India's export potential.

The Memorandum of Understanding was signed by Shri R. D. Sathe, Foreign Secretary on behalf of the Government of India and Sir John Thomson KCMG., British High Commissioner in India on behalf of the Government of United Kingdom to Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

The Memorandum of Understanding was signed by Shri R. D. Sathe, Foreign Secretary on behalf of the Government of India and Sir John Thomson KCMG., British High Commissioner in India on behalf of the Government of United Kingdom to Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

DIA UNITED KINGDOM USA IRELAND SRI LANKA PERU RUSSIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Apr 16, 1981

Volume No

1995

UNITED KINGDOM

British Grant Aid to India

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Apr 16, 1981:

Notes were exchanged here today for two Grants by UK of 91.3 million equivalent to about Rs. 1690 million. Sir John Thomson, High Commissioner for United Kingdom in India signed on behalf of the Government of the United Kingdom while Shri R. N. Malhotra, Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, signed on behalf of the Government of India.

The grant of f. 37.35 million is for meeting local costs of agreed development projects; the Grant, matching India's dept liability to UK Government in the year 1981-82, is the fourth in the series of annual Local Costs Grants by the Government of the United Kingdom as a measure equivalent to Retrospective Terms Adjustment, (RTA) for the earlier UK Government Loans to India. The other Grant, for an aggregate of 144.5 million is for financing and installation of three Steam Generation Units as well as part of the Local costs of the Thal Fertiliser Project near Bombay.

DIA UNITED KINGDOM USA

Date : Apr 16, 1981

Volume No

1995

UNITED KINGDOM

Indo-British Economic Collaboration: Joint Press Release

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Apr 16, 1981:

Agreements between India and Britain on industrial, technological and scientific collaboration which were concluded today give new depth to Indo-British relations. Five memoranda of understanding signed in the presence of Mrs. Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, and the British Prime Minister, Mrs. Thatcher, cover cooperation in key sectors of the Indian economy, notably the coal sector, the power sector and in Science and technology, and activities in space. In addition, the two sides signed a Double Taxation Convention as well as agreements on local costs aid and on aid for the Thal fertiliser project.

The Memorandum on Industries and Trade covers wide range of

important sectors including railways; oil and natural gas development, petro-chemicals; electronics; tele-communications; fertilisers; port development and shipping as well as trade, joint ventures and third country projects. Specific areas in each of these sectors are identified for further cooperation. The Memorandum also recognises that there is great potential for joint ventures between Indian and British enterprises particularly in high technology industries and in export-oriented units. Both Britain and India agree that they will facilitate collaboration in projects in third countries including the provision of design work, equipment supply and consultancy services. The two Governments have also undertaken to make special efforts to increase their bilateral trade. They agreed that it was necessary to continue efforts to provide increased access to developing countries in the markets of industrialised countries.

COAL SECTOR

The Coal Sector Memorandum covers a wide range of possible further areas of collaboration including mechanisation,
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training and safety. It gives priority to the development of two mines; Ghosick Colliery in West Bengal and Asnapani in Bihar.

The power sector memorandum covers possible future collaboration in power generation as well as a range of consultancy services.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

In Science and Technology there is already considerable research collaboration between India and Britain to the mutual benefit of both countries. Areas covered include renewable natural resources; health, technical education and applied sciences. The new Memorandum agrees that research collaboration should be extended in these and other areas such as nutrition, genetic engineering and alternative energy under Colombo, Plan arrangements.

The memorandum on space collaboration is a five-year agreement, renewable afterwards at two yearly intervals. It will facilitate Indo-British collaboration in many activities such as space science missions, for example for astronomy and Earth observation using 600 kg class satellites that are planned to be launched towards the end of the decade, and exchange of space technology such as the development of maritime terminals to improve communications.

Finally, the double taxation convention represents a further powerful stimulus to the development of Indo-British commercial links. In particular it will be valuable in encouraging collaboration agreements between the two countries. Before it

comes into effect, the Convention will have to be approved by the Indian and British Parliaments.
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DIA USA SRI LANKA

Date : Apr 16, 1981

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GERIA BELGIUM USA KENYA YEMEN INDIA SWEDEN VENEZUELA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC VIETNAM ZIMBABWE

Date : May 01, 1981

Volume No

1995

ALGERIA

Indo-Algerian Trade and Economic Cooperation

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on May 22, 1981:

India and Algeria have agreed on the need for greater South - South Dialogue for economic development of developing countries.

This was discussed, here last night, when the visiting Algerian Minister of Planning, Mr. Abdalhamid Ibrahim called on the Union Minister for Commerce, Steel and Mines, Shri Pranab Mukherjee.

The two Ministers also agreed that steps should be taken to increase and diversify Indo-Algerian trade and economic cooperation with special emphasis on joint ventures in each other's country as well as in third countries. Shri Mukherjee pointed out that the technology developed by India would be appropriate for the co-developing countries. The Algerian Minister also said that his country was keen to benefit by the experience of India in the field of industrial development.

Shri Mukherjee referred to the protectionist tendency displayed by the developed countries as well as to the recent discussion on Multi Fibre Arrangement. Both the Ministers agreed on the need for joint efforts for establishment of a new economic order.

Indo-Algerian trade is governed by a Most Favoured Nation Type Trade Agreement, concluded in February 1976. India's exports to Algeria are nominal while the imports, barring oil and gas, are very little.

India's project exports to Algeria are mainly concentrated in the field of consultancy and technical services. Indian companies such as HMT, Electronics Trade and Technology Development Corporation (ETTDC), Rural Electrification Corporation (REQ), National Industrial Development Corporation (NIDC) and Engineers India Limited (EIL) have entered into, contracts with Algerian State Companies for the provision of exports, management services and technical services. We also have a few contracts in the industrial field.

GERIA INDIA USA UNITED KINGDOM

Date : May 22, 1981

Volume No

1995

BELGIUM

Bilateral Credit Agreement with Belgium

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on May 28, 1981:

The Bilateral 1980 Credit Agreement to receive Belgian Francs 350

million (approximately Dollars 10 million) from the Royal Government of Belgium was concluded at Brussels on May 26, 1981. Ambassador P. K. Dave signed the Agreement on behalf of Government of India while Mr. R. Urbain, Belgian Minister of Foreign Trade and Mr. R. Vandeputte, Belgian Minister of Finance, signed on be-
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half of the Government of Belgium. Out of the total aid, a small amount of Belgian Francs 56 million is for meeting debit servicing and the balance would be utilised for import of Belgian capital goods and services. The Government of Belgium has been providing this assistance annually since 1966 as a Member of the Aid India Consortium. Since 1977 the loan has been made interest-free and the current repayment period is 30 years with 10 years grace period.

LGIUM INDIA USA

Date : May 28, 1981

Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Minister of External Affairs P. V. Narasimha Rao's Reply to Discussion on Working of Ministry of External Affairs

Following is the Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao's reply to the discussion on the working of Ministry of External Affairs in the Rajya Sabha on May 04, 1981:

Sir, fourteen hon. Members have participated in the debate and I am grateful to them for their valuable contribution. Once again, it has come out very vividly that the foreign policy of this country has been and is being run on the basis of a national consensus. The national consensus, according to some, needs strengthening. I would only say that when I propose to strengthen it from one side, I should take care to see that it does not get weakened from another side. And that is the exercise which the Government incessantly has to do in order to keep the consensus on an even keel because that is the only way of keeping up the consensus, of maintaining the consensus. To do anything which will destroy the essential ingredients of the consensus, its essential nature, its timbre would be very wrong, for, once it gets disturbed, it will not be possible to bring it back. That is why when we call it a consensus we appeal to all shades of

opinion not to insist on the consensus being on their own side beyond a point. It cannot be so. If it is on one side beyond a point, it will go farther away from the other side beyond their point and then the focus will be disturbed, the consensus character will be destroyed. whatever the differences and there are bound to be differences this consensus has to be maintained and in this maintenance of the consensus it is not only Government but all shades of opinion which will have to cooperate, as they have indeed been doing....

INDO-PAK RELATIONS

I cannot be too plain-speaking on the question of Indo-Pak relations because less than a month from today, I am going to Pakistan. I need not take with me an impression of having made up my mind....

CHINA

Then, Sir, about relations with China, it is the other way around. The Chinese Foreign Minister is coming here. As it is, we have had to contend with the Chinese leaders talking to us through pressmen and through individual members. All these matters have been dealt with in both the Houses of Parliament. I have made any number of statements on all important matters between China and India. The only matter which has not been raised and answered is Dr. Subramaniam. Swamy! All other matters have been dealt with. What they said about the borders, I have answered; what they said about normalisation, I have answered; what they said about other matters being attended to while the bor-
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der question is kept aside, I have answered. So there is hardly anything which has not been raised and answered on Sino-Indian relations during the last one year or more. But this time when he is coming here, while his coming here itself had become a very exciting matter of controversy and discussion - animated discussion - in this country, I do not want an artificially created atmosphere of excitement where it will be difficult for us to talk coolly, quietly and in a logical way. Therefore, because there is nothing new to say and because it is not proper to repeat at this time what has already been said I would desist from dealing with that topic.

IRAN-IRAQ

The third is the Iran-Iraq matter. It is again a matter in which India, and personally I myself have been very very closely connected. In the next few days, the four of us are likely to go again to Iran and Iraq I would like to assure ... that we are going there ... as small instruments, may be insignificantly small instruments, in order to stop the gory drama that is going

on, which is getting a bad name to the entire movement of non-alignment; and in any case India has always been against war. The civilization he spoke of has never, preferred war for solving any question. Not only to day but also for thousands of years we have been a peace-loving people, our civilization has been based on peace, and the concept of peace is not just the absence of war.

I wish I had some occasion to dwell on this a little more in detail. The concept of peace in Indian civilization is not just the absence of conflicts. It is a peace which is universal, it is a peace wherein man is harmonised with the universe, it is a peace where every being is harmonised with the Creator. That is the kind of all pervading peace we stand for. An ordinary Foreign Minister, a humble Foreign Minister, is going to two different countries, two friendly countries, who are unfortunately locked in a conflict, in order to tell this to them, because they cannot tell it to themselves, please do not think that in Iran and Iraq diplomacy is lacking and intelligence is lacking. They can do as well as we can, but no one can operate on his own back. Therefore, someone else has to do it...

RELATIONS WITH NEIGHBOURS

I have a concrete suggestion. I have been pestering the officers of my Ministry for the last 14 months to tell me specifically where there has been a departure in our policy with regard to neighbours, because certain claims have been made that this was done, that some Himalayan heights of friendship were scaled in the last three years before we came in and that we spoiled the same. I wanted them to tell me what those Himalayan heights of friendship were, that they had scaled and with which country they had built those impregnable bridges which we have blown up. They were not able to lay their hands on any, and, therefore, I will have to have this from the politicians themselves. So let us have, Sir - I beg of you - a debate again - I am asking for it - on relations with our neighbours....

No DEVIATION FROM NEHRU'S POLICY

Then, Sir, I would like to refer to one very interesting, if not amusing, development that has taken place. Today everyone in every section of this House says that Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru's policy was impeccable. I wonder what was said when he was alive. I have gone through the old debates. Those debates do not unfortunately bear out this kind of posthumous admiration. In those halcyon days, as Mr. Khushwant Singh put it, when India was the honest broker of peace for the world, we had the height of our foreign policy, a most resplendent foreign policy, and now everything has gone down. So I would like to refer to those halcyon days, to a very specific episode which Mr. Khushwant Singh himself referred to - he is right in referring to that - namely, the Korean war and our role in it. I would only beg of you, Sir, to give me a few minutes because that was a very

difficult question for Nehru to answer, a very difficult problem to solve. On the one side, China was the outcast of the world and we were carrying China on our shoulders. We wanted China to come in; others did not want China to come in. Everybody wanted us to condemn someone. The question was a resolution condemning
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so and so, more or less on the same lines as we face in Afghanistan today, not of course, on all fours, but the essential ingredients being the same. Sir, He says:

"Subsequently the aggression by North Korea was checked and the North Korean armies pushed back till they seemed to be completely broken. The forces of the United Nations appeared to have won a total victory, as indeed they had. This victory inevitably gave rise to certain fundamental questions. Should the forces of the United Nations continue to advance? If so, how far they should go? We consulted our Ambassador in Peking and our representatives in other countries about how the various Governments were viewing the scene. We had perhaps a rather special responsibility in regard to China

This is what I was referring to,

". . . because we were one of the very few countries represented there. Furthermore, we were the only country besides the countries of the Soviet group which was in a position to find out through its Ambassador what the reactions of the Chinese Government to the developing events were. Since we were anxious that the other countries with whom we were co-operating should know these views....

Now this is the honest broker's role.

"... we sent them on to the Governments of the United Kingdom and the United States. The Chinese Government clearly indicated that if the 38th Parallel was crossed, they would consider it a grave danger to their own security and they would not tolerate it."

Shri P. V, Narasimha Rao:

"Whether their view was right or wrong is not the point. However, it was decided that the forces of United Nations should advance beyond the 38th Parallel. They did so and came into conflict with reorganised North Korean troops and at a later stage with the Chinese forces."

Then, he goes on to say:

"We realise that it will be very harmful if this matter is considered in the United Nations at a purely formal level and if resolutions of condemnation are passed."

Sir, that is exactly what happened on Afghanistan.

"We realise that it will be very harmful if this matter is considered in the United Nations at a purely formal level and if resolutions of condemnation are passed. The House will remember that one of the first things suggested by the Chinese delegation was that a resolution of condemnation be passed against the United Nations or the USA. On the other hand, resolutions condemning China-and calling her aggressor have also been repeatedly suggested. The point is that we are on the very verge of a world war and obviously it does not help in the slightest to call each other names. If you want a war to come sooner rather than later and if the present situation is merely a manoeuvre to provide political justification for military action. . . "

Mark these words; these are prophetic because this can be applied almost hundred per cent to the situation which we find ourselves in today.

"If we want a war to come sooner rather than later and if the present situation is merely a manoeuvre to provide political justification for military action, then of course, no more need be said. But if we seek to avoid war, then we must avoid the kind of approach that creates bitterness. The only possible way is that of peaceful negotiations. The negotiations may fail, but there is no other way except war. It was clear to us that no negotiations would have any value unless China was associated with it."

If there was no negotiations, war was the only way. That was the Korean situation.

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Now, Sir, what negotiations could have any value unless the Government in Afghanistan which is in position is brought to the negotiating table? What is the point in anybody saying, "I do not want to talk because I do not want to recognise." Then whom do you talk to? I quote further - China, apart from being a great power, is most intimately concerned with the events happening next door to her. We suggested that there should be a ceasefire, and if possible, a demilitarized zone, where negotiations among the parties concerned including China, could take place, negotiations not merely about what, is to follow the ceasefire but about the entire Korean problem as well." Sir, this is precisely what we have been saying. This is what we have been calling a political solution. So we have not very much deviated from the Nehruvian path although we are much smaller people. That is granted, that is conceded: but the path is the same, and in similar situations we are doing what he wanted to do. This is what I would like to submit. Afghanistan has been discussed times without number, I would not like to take much time of the House normally on a repetition of what has been said in both Houses and otherwise; but, Sir, I would like to take a few minutes on this,

because there is another angle to Afghanistan, there is another phase, another facet.

AFGHANISTAN

Chronically, there was a statement of the Ministry of External Affairs on the 31st of December, 1979 saying that the same day the then Prime Minister, Mr. Charan Singh, called the Soviet Ambassador, and this is what he is reported to have said: "The Prime Minister pointed out that the presence of Soviet troops in Afghanistan would have far-reaching adverse consequences for this region and for this reason expressed the hope that the Soviet troops would withdraw from Afghanistan as soon as possible in accordance with the message conveyed by the Soviet Union." This is what he said. In the next paragraph it is said that another officer, Mr. Gonsalves, saw the U.S. Ambassador and told him that India is against the induction of arms into Pakistan.

We were not the first to start this process. The protest against arms supply to Pakistan started on the same day on which the then Prime Minister said that he hoped that the Soviet troops would withdraw for such and such reasons. He made a pointed reference to message conveyed by the Soviet Union. We have checked in the Ministry of External Affairs. There was no separate message conveyed. The message was what appeared in the whole world as the Soviet stand. Their stand was that the Soviet Union offered to pull out its limited military contingent from Afghanistan when the reasons for sending it no longer existed. It is the same story. There was nothing new after this Government came to power the same hope was expressed by the Prime Minister and the same stand taken by the Soviet Union.

Despite this, Sir, we are told that this Government has taken a 'U' turn. This has been very much splashed in every newspaper particularly in the West and those who take the cue from the West in India. What was the 'U' turn? If it was Mr. Brajesh Mishra's statement in the United Nations, what was in it? Taking out all the rhetoric, this is what he said: "India hopes that the Soviet Union will not violate the independence of Afghanistan and that Soviet troops will not remain there a day longer than necessary." What a 'U' turn from what the Prime Minister said to what our Permanent Representative in the United Nations said! This is supposed to be 'U' turn - a complete, reversal.

We were sworn in on the 14th or the 15th. On the 17th January the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi said that no country is justified in entering another country. On the 24th January in Parliament, I made a statement very clearly stating that it is our hope that the people of Afghanistan will be able to resolve their internal problems without any outside interference. As the Prime Minister has clearly indicated, we are against the presence of foreign troops or any based in any country. We expressed our hope that the Soviet forces will withdraw from Afghanistan. Yet,

Sir, this is also said to be a 'U' turn. Whatever we have said is taken as 'U' turn. I
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really do not know why this Government has been given the epithet - 'U' turner. We have not ITT turned, anywhere. The line has been there for anyone to see. But, of course, in the din of propaganda, interested propaganda, sometimes truth can be left out, can be camouflaged, can be missed and that is why I have taken these few minutes to show that there is no U-turn anywhere. I shall now explain where the turn actually is.

Sir, I have quoted Pandit Nehru on the Korean issue. In the same manner, in May 1980 some proposals came from the Afghan Government with the blessings of the Soviet Union, with the support of the Soviet Union. They may be right, they may be wrong, as Nehru had said then. But how were they treated? Were they ever looked into? They were dismissed out of hand. It was said, "You first get out of Afghanistan and then we shall see." And, Sir, what, was the resolution of the United Nations? "Unconditional, immediate, full withdrawal of the Soviet troops." Now, anyone can understand that this is mere rhetoric and this is not a practical solution to any problem. This has never been done and it is never possible. It does not require much perspicacity or experience to know that this is something which involves the matter more rather than resolves it and this is what exactly happened. We told everybody: "Here are some proposals. I am not saying that they are perfect; I am not standing by the proposals; I am not supporting them; and I am not endorsing them. But what I am saying is - I am nobody to endorse them - that negotiations are not between me and Pakistan, they are to be between Afghanistan and Pakistan. The proposals have come; you consider them. You give them counter-proposals, if you choose. You say whether you agree or you don't agree. That will be the way and that is to be the path of negotiation. But to say, 'First let the Soviet troops withdraw and then we will see.' is not the path of negotiation." Thus it is very clear as to who wanted the Soviet troops to withdraw, who did not want the Soviet troops to withdraw. And why they did not want the withdrawal is again very clear because, from the beginning the Afghanistan Problem has been seen by India at three levels, at the local level, at the regional level and at the global level, but only by India, unfortunately. President Carter said, for instance - What better instance one need? - He said:

"The Soviet Union is now attempting to consolidate its strategic position which poses a grave threat to the free world and movement of West Asian oil. Any attempt by any outside forces to gain control of the Persian Gulf region will be regarded as an assault on the vital interests of the United States. It will be repelled by using any means necessary including military force."

Now, what is the problem and what is the response? So, right from

the beginning - and this is on January 23, not very late the first reaction, almost the first, was that this is for the Gulf, this is for the warm waters, and it is not merely Afghanistan. Then, no less a person than Mr. Kissinger says:

"The main issue really isn't Afghanistan."

See, we are all talking of Afghanistan and the first sentence of Mr. Kissinger is:

"The main issue isn't really Afghanistan."

He says:

"The issue is what the countries who rely on us can expect of us and what we can expect from them and what countries have a right or reasonable expectation to rely on us. These are the issues."

Now, if these are the issues, I fail to see how one can really solve the Afghanistan problem, how one can solve the problem of the Soviet troops remaining in Afghanistan. So, this is how right from the beginning.... Right from the, beginning, the tendency has been to treat Afghanistan not as a local problem, not as a problem to be solved between two countries, but to globalise it or to regionalise it, in order to have certain other advantages meanwhile. This is the scenario which no one can deny. Sir, after the May 14 proposals, India made an effort tried like a simple peace-maker, we tried
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our best and did a lot of shuttling in New York, between one delegation and another, and we almost succeeded in bringing them to the negotiating table, if not to the negotiating table, at least to the breakfast table. But, at the last moment - I do not want to go into details; but I am telling the House with all the responsibility at my command - the parties shied away, not because they did not see the reasonableness of coming to the table and talking, but because they did not find themselves in a position to approach the table and sit there. They came right up to the door and went away. How does such a thing happen? It is for us to understand. It is for us to understand that once the problem is globalised or regionalised, it is not Mr. Agha Shahi and Mr. Dost; they are no longer there just the two of them, they are - no longer the only parties; and this is exactly what happened. Then, Sir, the matter was once again taken to the United Nations. At this stage, Sir, I will refer to this honest broker's position of ours. Within two months - although no one on the face of the earth can possibly convince Mr. Shahabuddin - everybody was convinced of our role, as was stated in "The Statesman" of the 19th March 1980. It says:

"Mr. Narasimha Rao's just concluded first foreign visit as India's External Affairs Minister has coincided with the

emergence of this country as a credible catalyst for efforts to secure peace in the region. In concert with some other countries, India has, in the past two months, been able to establish its credentials as an honest broker among the principals involved in the conflict in the region, particularly in Afghanistan. The two superpowers have come, a long way from the positions they took at one time or the other in the past ten weeks regarding India's role in the Afghan crisis. They have obviously come to accept the validity of the Indian approach of defusing the crisis even though they may not share India's perceptions of the crisis. That India does not want the problem in Afghanistan to be just frozen is widely understood; that it wants a solution that satisfies the superpowers or at least lessens the chances of superpower confrontation is now accepted."

Now, this happened within two months, and still the matter is being raised today and I am sure it will be raised until some other matter worth raising comes along.

ROLE OF U.N.

Sir, the matter as I said went up a second time to the United Nations. I said, "for heaven's sake, why are you taking this matter to the United Nations? You know how many votes it got last time. Two or three votes more or two or three less, how are they going to make any difference? Why do you say that it should go again to the United Nations and there should be no initiative allowed outside the United Nations?" I am taking this House into confidence and I say that there was a stage when India was almost threatening to solve the problem as a peace-maker. This threat was very successfully warded off by recourse to the United Nations. In the United Nations, there was the same resolution, in addition asking the Secretary General to appoint someone to carry on the negotiations. The Resolution is voted upon. It was not unanimous. It is clear that the Secretary-General cannot act on the basis of this Resolution. Knowing full-well that he is not going to act on this Resolution, the Resolution was tabled. When it was passed with a divided vote the Secretary-General found himself completely immobilised. He cannot act on that Resolution. Then privately he was told: You can act on your own as you have been doing in Kampuchea. Now, if he had to act on his own, what was the earthly need of a Resolution and a rigmarole? It had to be done because all the other endeavours had to be blocked. That is the strategy. Now, we wish well to the Secretary General and his personal representative. He appointed his personal representative in Delhi. At the Non-aligned Foreign Minister's Conference, when he was speaking, he made the announcement. His personal representative is still called by one party as 'Official representative'. Now, look at this play of words. Look at this hair-splitting. Look at this super technicality, which is being indulged in while the people of Afghanistan are undergoing we know what. So, one party says he is the official representative. The man appoin-

ting him says he is the personal representative. The man shuttles between the two capitals, goes back to New York and draws a blank. Now this is the exercise that is going on to solve the Afghanistan tangle. Sir, I am not generally given to bitterness, but on this some times I feel bitter. I feel like asking myself as to who wants the Soviet troops to leave Afghanistan. Maybe India. But that is it. That seems to be the unfortunate position today. So, we have done our best. When Mr. Shahabuddin asks us what we have done, I have to tell him that this is all we have done. If there is anything more that we could have done, he is welcome to tell me. I am not saying that I am infallible. I am always subject to addition. There is nothing to correct at the moment. But addition is possible. Let me tell him or any other Member that, if there is anything more that India can do, we are prepared to do it.

REGIONAL COOPERATION

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: I have given you a concrete suggestion.

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: We will certainly look into the suggestion. He said something about regional cooperation. Sir, he was again hitting, a little below the belt, not exactly on the belt, where he was entitled to hit. He hit a little below the belt when he said that India was dragging its feet on regional cooperation. Nothing can be farther from the truth. When the idea was mooted first, it was mooted like this. Let there be a meeting of all the Heads of States or Heads of Governments and let them decide on regional cooperation. We respectfully told them that this is not done this way. It is not a club of the Heads of State who can talk about regional cooperation and then disperse while the countries are still struggling with bilateral problems day in and day out. It will not be realistic because if we call all the Heads together, hopes will be raised and people will expect something. If that does not materialise, there will be, to that extent, an anti-climax and disillusion. We do not want that. So, let us do our home work first. I am sorry, Mr. V. B. Raju is not here. He was one of those who through the University of Hyderabad, the Osmania University, and another institution tried to organise a seminar on regional co-operation. I would have requested him, if he had been here, to stand for one minute and tell me and tell the House if there was any feetdragging on the part of the Ministry of External Affairs, when he as an individual started this. It was a successful seminar. I want more seminars because all the ramifications of regional co-operation have to come out. If I am able to produce one paper and think that it contains everything, I am not doing the right thing. We got one paper from Bangladesh. I am not criticising the paper. As a first attempt, it was good. But why do we have to go on first attempts? As mature nations, are we not to have the patience to have a second attempt, a third attempt made so that nothing goes

wrong anywhere? And this is what we wanted them to do. This is what we did. Our Foreign Secretary went there. Sir, the Foreign Minister of Bhutan was here. He left only today. Yesterday, he told me something about the report which he received from his representative who had attended the Colombo meeting. He told me, and I am glad to quote him without his permission, that it was India whose role was most constructive and, perhaps, saved the meeting from something which would have happened. This is not my report. I do not know what happened to my Secretary; he never told me this. It was the Foreign Minister of Bhutan who told me this. Therefore, we are not dragging our feet. But we are not rushing into something which we will later repent for having rushed in. If you go through the records of the debate of the Lok Sabha on this subject, the senior leaders said, "Yes, it is a good thing. But, Mr. Foreign Minister, be carefull about it." And that is what I am trying to be. And, therefore, there is no question of feet-dragging. This is going to take a long time. Our political perceptions do not happen to be the same. our interests do not happen to be the same. There can be a clash of interests and that is why, while inaugurating this seminar in absentia. I summed up my thoughts and, perhaps, I can claim as thoughts of the-Government of India. I said this:

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"Finally I would like to refer quite candidly to one extremely important aspect. We find ourselves at a rather crucial stage in the indispensable process of confidence-building. We have to set in motion, what I may call, a "virtuous circle" wherein cooperation strengthens confidence, which in turn makes for still closer co-operation. To my mind, this involves two distinct processes. The first consists in looking ahead instead of looking back too much. By doing so, we shall respond appropriately to the inexorable demands of fast-changing times. This is a matter more of understanding than of exhortation which in the context of equal sovereign states would be superfluous anyway. I am mentioning it merely because it is always desirable to remind oneself even of self-evident truths from time to time. The second process which again is nothing spectacular but nevertheless deserves reiteration is to take ourselves as we really are in all our heterogeneity and diversity, the common factor being the determination to forge co-operation. It is time to put an end to the endless commentary of big and small, rich and poor, forward and backward, a commentary which has tended often unwittingly, to create psychological barriers in the past. I do hope, therefore, that a new realism and mutual trust will inform the discussions of this seminar."

"SPIRIT OF SHARING"

This is precisely what has been happening. India is big. Therefore, every other country feels worried. I would like to submit to the House, Sir, that it is not only a small country that is worried; it is a big country also that has its own

worries. It is inherent that if you talk of worries, you will have to talk of the worry of the small country as well as worry of the big country. There can be no big country, howsoever big, without a worry. In fact big countries have bigger worries. So, we do not count worries. And then, we do not necessarily measure the strength of a country on its size. Any number of examples can be shown where very small countries have become so powerful that they are causing sleepless nights even to big powers. There is no need of name dropping. It is self-evident. So, let us not start with the assumption that because India is big, and the others are small, therefore India has to be magnanimous, therefore India has to remove their doubts. Their doubt is caused by India being big. Now, how can I remove that doubt? If there is any other doubt or fear, I can remove it.

But the fear which is inherent, a fear which stems out of an unalterable fact of India being big, how can I remove that? Therefore, the best way is not to entertain that doubt. I am not entertaining any doubt in spite of being big. Our neighbours need not entertain any doubts merely because they are small. This is the kind of co-operation we want. Whatever is the advantage of bigness, we are prepared to share with our small neighbours and whatever is the advantage of smallness - and do not forget that there is an advantage in smallness also - we are prepared to share that but they should be prepared to share that with us. This is how cooperation grows and this is how we propose to foster this co-operation. So we are not dithering on that. It will take its own time. I must remind the House once again that everything cannot be done overnight. But the inexorable logic of facts of geography and today's economic factor will make it possible; if it had not been made possible so far, it is going to make it possible now. And, I have no doubt that this is going to be a fact in the near future...

BREZHNEV'S PROPOSALS

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Say something on Mr. Brezhnev's proposals.

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: We have already said about Mr. Brezhnev's proposals, I think more than once. Sir, these proposals essentially are not addressed to us, they are addressed to someone else and they are going unheeded by that someone else, that is also a fact, but so far as we are concerned, we have always said that these proposals merit consideration. But merit consideration by whom? What is the point in my giving a testimonial to Mr. Brezhnev's proposals? It is the others to whom the proposals are addressed, who should consider, and we are saying that they should consider these proposals. As I said in regard to the May 14 proposals, yes, they are there. If you do not like them, give counter pro-

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posals, amend the proposals, say why you don't like them, but not

to say anything is not the way of solving problems. And about Mr. Brezhnev's proposals the Prime Minister has said, I have also said. We have said what a country like India, which is not essentially concerned with the implementation of the proposals, has to say....

Sir, I have taken a long time on some important aspects which I thought I should deal with. Once again I wish to assure the House that whenever a debate takes place, we shall meticulously take note of any suggestions that may come from any quarter, any side of the House, with an open mind and will examine them. We do not claim omniscience. After all, any policy needs to be elaborated, it needs to be refined all the time and refinement coming from any quarter is welcome. And since this particular policy, namely foreign policy, is based on consensus, every quarter, every Member, has a right to take part in it, in the refinement of it, and, therefore, I am not doing any favour to any one by saying that I am going to listen to him; it is his right because it is a matter of consensus. That is all I would like to say, Sir. Thank you very much.

A CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC PAKISTAN CHINA INDIA MALI IRAN IRAQ KOREA
AFGHANISTAN NORTH KOREA PERU BANGLADESH BHUTAN SRI LANKA

Date : May 04, 1981

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KENYA

President N. Sanjiva Reddy's Speech at Banquet Hosted by Kenyan President

Following is the text of the speech by the President of India, Shri N. Sanjiva Reddy at the banquet hosted by Mr. Daniel T. Arap Moi, President of the Republic of Kenya, in Nairobi on May 30, 1981 during Shri Reddy's four-day State visit to Kenya. Replying to the toast, the President, Shri N. Sanjiva Reddy, said:

I am deeply touched by the warm and cordial words of welcome, Mr. President, reflecting the close brotherly ties and the traditional friendship between our two peoples and countries. It is a pleasure and privilege for me personally to visit your beautiful country a second time. The pleasant memories of my last visit are still fresh in my mind.

Linked by the Indian Ocean, the peoples, of Kenya and India have had a long history of friendly relations and close cultural and

commercial contacts. Both our countries struggled for our independence against colonialism. It was our proud privilege to have been associated with your independence struggle. The presence of people of Indian origin in Kenya who have made Kenya their home, lends a touch of colour and closer cultural affinity to our relations. As fellow democratic, non-aligned countries and firm believers in a free and democratic society, it is but natural that the traditional bonds of friendship and close contacts between our two countries have further strengthened after both our countries attained independence. Your recent visit to India, Mr. President, provided the necessary impetus to bring our two countries closer together. We intend to follow up energetically the three major agreements that were entered into at the time of your visit.

SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS

As developing countries both India and Kenya face similar social and economic challenges. Guided by the democratic ideals
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of equality and equity, Kenya and India have sought to make the achievement of social and economic betterment and justice a reality for our respective peoples. Since achieving independence, both our countries have directed their energies towards improving the lot of the common man. We have been able to make a fair amount of progress in this direction but realise that a lot more needs to be achieved. Mr. President, we in India have noted with great admiration the progress Kenya has made since independence and more recently under your dynamic leadership. We are confident that under your able guidance the people of Kenya would achieve even greater prosperity in the coming years.

In the years following our independence, we alongwith other similarly placed countries, realised the need for peace and stability in the world to enable us to devote our attention to the essential and urgent task of nation-building, which led to the birth of the non-aligned movement. This has helped us to largely steer clear of great power politics and concentrate on our economic development. Since those early years, the non-aligned movement has grown both in stature and strength. The adoption by the Organisation of African Unity of non-alignment as a fundamental principle of its charter has contributed to the strength of the movement. We share with Kenya the conviction that the non-aligned movement be further strengthened and that the principles and provisions enshrined in the Charters of the U.N. and the Organisation of African Unity be followed in the conduct of international relations.

GLOBAL TENSION

Recent years have witnessed a worsening of the international climate. There are increasing signs of global tension and rivalry

between the big powers in various parts of the world. Their effect is being felt in the Indian Ocean and in South West Asia. Despite the 1971 U.N. Declaration, the Indian Ocean remains far from being a zone of peace. On the contrary, we are now witnessing an escalation of great power military presence and rivalry in the Indian Ocean despite the expressed wishes of the Indian Ocean littoral and hinterland States for peace and stability in this region. For peace to return to South West Asia, we call for a political solution on the basis of withdrawal of foreign troops and full respect for the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and non-aligned status of Afghanistan and strict observance of the principle of non-intervention and non-interference. It is also a matter of much concern and distress to us that the unfortunate and armed conflict between Iraq and Iran, two fellow developing and non-aligned countries, with both of whom we have friendly relations, still continues. The Non-aligned Movement has taken energetic initiatives in this regard and we look forward to an early settlement of the conflict through peaceful means.

WEST ASIA

The situation in West Asia too, leaves much to be desired. We are convinced that a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in West Asia cannot come about without the withdrawal of Israel from all occupied Arab territories, including Jerusalem. The inalienable rights of the Palestinian people for self-determination and to a free, independent and sovereign nation state of their own must be respected.

NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE

In the increasingly inter-dependent and small world we live in, the need for closer cooperation, especially between developing countries, is growing day by day. The urgency is all the greater as the 'North-South Dialogue' which was expected to bring about a closer and more equitable relationship between the rich and poor countries of the world has not been able to provide any concrete results so far. Deterioration of the world economic situation, especially for the developing countries, makes it imperative that effective steps be urgently taken for improving the international economic climate and for the establishment of a New International Economic Order.

Mr. President, we have noted with satisfaction the renewed efforts being made by leaders of countries in East and Central Africa to have greater regional cooperation

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and feel this is a welcome development which would contribute to greater peace, stability and economic progress in the region.

SUPPORT TO NAMIBIA'S STRUGGLE

Mr. President, India has been closely associated with the struggle for the liberation of Africa from colonial rule. Our association with this, dates back to Mahatma Gandhi's struggle against apartheid and imperialism in South Africa, in the early decades of the twentieth century. It was in Africa that Mahatma Gandhi, while fighting racial discrimination in South Africa, first evolved the principles of non-violence which he so effectively used in helping India attain freedom. Unfortunately, even in this modern day and age, vestiges of colonialism and racism still remain on the African continent. We are convinced that tension and confrontation in Southern Africa will continue until the liberation of Namibia from the illegal occupation by South Africa and the dismantling of the abhorrent system of apartheid are achieved and the democratic principle of majority rule is accepted. We reaffirm our total support for the Namibian people's inalienable right to freedom and support SWAPO, the sole, legitimate and genuine representative of the Namibian people, in their struggle for freedom and independence of Namibia. I would like to reiterate our unflinching support for the liberation movements in South Africa for their just fight to win the political and human rights for the people of South Africa.

INDIA-KENYA COOPERATION

Mr. President, I am happy to note the diverse fields in which cooperation between India and Kenya is taking place and would like to express my satisfaction with the smooth manner in which bilateral relations between our two countries are progressing. India has always been ready to share with friendly developing countries, like Kenya, whatever expertise it has acquired through its own developmental process. It will be our constant endeavour to identify new areas of mutually beneficial multi-faceted cooperation and strive to expand further the existing warm and friendly relations between our two countries.

It is indeed a singular honour for me to be able to participate in the celebrations and functions to be held on Madaraka Day, the day Kenya achieved self-government. I would like to express my deep gratitude to You, Mr. President, and to the government and the people of Kenya, for giving me this opportunity and for the warm and brotherly welcome and gracious hospitality already extended to me and my delegation during this visit.

NYA INDIA USA PERU AFGHANISTAN IRAN IRAQ ISRAEL NAMIBIA SOUTH AFRICA

Date : May 30, 1981

Volume No

1995

PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF YEMEN

Economic and Technical Cooperation Between India and People's Democratic Republic of Yemen

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on May 19, 1981:

The minutes of the discussions held between the delegations of India and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen on Economic and Technical Cooperation were signed here today by Shri R. D. Sathe, Foreign Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs on behalf of Government of India and Air. Abdulla Saeed Abaddan, Deputy Minister of Planning, Government of People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, on behalf of his Government.

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The following are the minutes of discussions:

The delegation of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen was led by the Deputy Minister of Planning, Mr. Abdulla Saeed Abaddan, who was assisted by the aides from various Ministries. The Indian delegation was led by Shri N. R. Verrna, Director, Ministry of External Affairs, who was assisted by representatives of the Ministries of Agriculture and Health. Two meetings were held on May 15th and 16th, 1981 at the Ministry of External Affairs.

The Indian side welcomed the PDRY delegation and expressed their sincere desire to further strengthen economic and technical cooperation with the PDRY. Economic and Technical Cooperation among developing countries is not a matter of rhetoric for India, but an article of deep faith. The PDRY side appreciated the economic and technical cooperation with Indian and reciprocated the feeling that it should be further strengthened. With this view in mind, the PDRY side suggested the following areas for cooperation during 1981-82: Fresh feasibility studies:

Review and re-examination of old feasibility studies done by other sources;

Training places of various duration for the PDRY nationals in Indian specialised institutions;

Deputation of Indian experts in different disciplines for various duration;

Supply of agricultural equipment;

Supply of wheat seeds;

Treatment of seriously ill PDRY patients in Indian hospitals;

Visits of Indian medical teams to PDRY for short durations and long-term deputation of Indian doctors and nurses, etc.

The Indian side noted the PDRY requests and agreed to receive detailed proposals with a view to implement them in the following areas:

Five new feasibility studies;

Review and re-examination of six old feasibility studies done by other sources;

Visit of one Indian medical team;

Training of 30 PDRY nationals for various duration;

Deputation of 15 Indian experts in various disciplines for various duration;

Supply of some spraying equipment and agricultural machinery;

Supply of 50 tonnes of wheat seeds.

The People's Democratic Republic of Yemen side agreed to send their proposals within the above parameters set out by the Indian side on a priority scale.

MEN INDIA USA

Date : May 19, 1981

Volume No

1995

PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF YEMEN

Indo-PDRY Joint Statement

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on May 21, 1981:

At the invitation of the President of India, Shri Neelam Sanjiva Reddy, the Secretary-General of the Central Committee of the Yemini Socialist Party, Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, and Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, H.E. Mr. Ali Nasser

Mohammed, paid a visit to India from May 17 to May 21. The visit took place in a warm and friendly atmosphere, characteristic of the relations between India and the PDRY.

The President of PDRY and the Prime Minister of India had detailed discussions on matters of mutual interest and concern in the bilateral, regional and, international
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sphere. They also discussed ways and means of further developing and consolidating relations between the two countries. These talks were held in an atmosphere of mutual cordiality, friendship and understanding. H.E. Mr. Ali Nasser visited some places of historical and cultural importance.

The PDRY delegation for the discussions between the two sides consisted of the following:

H.E. Mr. Abdulla Ahmed Al-Khamri, Alternate Member of the Politbureau; H.E. Mr. Salem Saleh Mohamed, Member of the Central Committee and Minister of Foreign Affairs; H.E. Mr. Saleh Mosleh Qasim, Member of the Central Committee, Minister of Home Affairs; H.E. Dr. Abdul Aziz Addali, Member of the Central Committee, Minister of Health; H.E. Mr. Hussein Abubakar Al-Mahdar, Member of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council; H.E. Mr. Ahmed Obeid Al-Fadhli, Minister of Trade and Supply; H.E. Mr. Abdulla Saeed Abaddan, Deputy Minister of Planning; H.E. Mr. Taha Ahmed Ghanim, Member of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council and Ambassador in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Mr. Abdulla Abodah Humam, Director of Asia Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Mr. Abubaker Saeed Ba-Abbad, Charge d'Affaires, Embassy of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen in India.

The Indian delegation for the discussions between the two sides consisted of the following:

Giani Zail Singh, Minister of Home Affairs; Shri B. Shankaranand, Minister of Health and Family Welfare; Shri Kartik Oraon, Minister of State for Communications; Shri R. D. Sathe, Foreign Secretary; Shri Mir Nasrullah, Additional Secretary, Department of Education; Shri S. K. Arora, Joint Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs; Shri D. K. Chatterjee, Joint Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs; Shri T. S. R. Subramanian, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Commerce; Dr. D. N. Misra, Joint Educational Adviser, Deptt. Of Education; Shri N. R. Verma, Director,, Ministry of External Affairs; Shri S. K. Uppal, Ambassador of India, Aden.; Shri R. K. Bhatia, Under Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs.

The President of PDRY and the Prime Minister of India recalled the historic and traditional contacts between the two countries and the common experiences of the, struggle against colonialism and for achieving independence. The Prime Minister of India

admired the achievement of the PDRY since independence for the economic, and social development of the country. The President of PDRY expressed admiration for the progress achieved by India in the technological, industrial and agricultural sphere.

The President of PDRY acquainted the Prime Minister of India with the efforts being made by the Yemeni people to fulfil their aspirations for the reunification of North and South Yemen.

The two sides exchanged views on developments in the international sphere. In this regard they affirmed the necessity of consolidating international peace and disarmament, and elimination of tensions in the world to achieve positive cooperation and peaceful co-existence among the countries of different socio-economic systems.

The two sides discussed developments in the Indian Ocean region and the causes leading to tension in the area. They called for the dismantling of all foreign bases in the region, for preventing the creation of new bases and condemned any attempts to build up foreign military presence in the Indian Ocean under any pretext whatsoever. The two sides reaffirmed the need to accelerate the efforts for the speedy implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace, as contained in the 1971 United Nations General Assembly Resolution on this subject. In this context, they reiterated determination to work for the success of the conference on the Indian Ocean, which is scheduled to be held in Sri Lanka later in 1981.

The President of PDRY and the Prime Minister of India noted with grave concern the situation in the Middle East which remained a source of great danger to peace
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and stability in the region. They called for immediate withdrawal by Israel from all occupied Arab and Palestinian territories, including Jerusalem. They agreed that no solution to this problem could be found without full participation of the Palestinian Liberation Organisation as an equal partner in any negotiations. They also agreed that a durable solution to the problem could be achieved only through the restoration of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, including their rights to a nation State of their own. They expressed great anxiety over the recent deterioration in the situation in Lebanon and expressed the hope that this issue will be soon resolved peacefully and that it would not be allowed to escalate into a wider conflict. They condemned the continuing violations of the Lebanese sovereignty by Israel in defiance of numerous resolutions of the United Nations.

The President of PDRY and the Prime Minister of India expressed their deep concern and distress at the Iran-Iraq war and affirmed that a continuation of the present conflict would have grave

implications for both regional and global peace and security. They expressed the hope that Iran and Iraq would resolve their differences in accordance with the principles of the Non-Aligned Movement. The two sides also reiterated their support for the guidelines contained in the New Delhi Declaration of the Non-aligned Foreign Ministers' Conference of February 1981, for bringing about an early end to this conflict. The President of PDRY expressed his solidarity and support to the efforts being made by the Non-Aligned Group to restore peace to the region in pursuance of the New Delhi Declaration of the Non-Aligned 'Foreign Ministers' Conference.

The two sides expressed the view that tension and confrontation in South Africa cannot be removed and peace cannot be established until the liberation of Namibia from the illegal occupation of South Africa and the dismantling of the structure of apartheid in South Africa are achieved. They reaffirmed their total support for the Namibian people's right to freedom and its solidarity with the struggle led by SWAPO, the sole legitimate and genuine representative of the Namibian people. They condemned all attempts by South Africa to subvert the UN plan for a peaceful settlement in Namibia as contained in Security Council Resolution 435 (1978) and deplored the action of certain states which encouraged the apartheid regime of South Africa to persist in its intransigence and defiance of world opinion. They also condemned attempts by the Western powers to dilute the UN plan under the guise of revising it. They expressed disappointment that these powers had vetoed a Security Council resolution for imposing mandatory sanctions against South Africa.

The President of PDRY and the Prime Minister of India reaffirmed their faith in the policy of non-alignment and noted that the Non-Aligned Movement represents the hopes and aspirations of the majority of mankind and has become an independent and positive force for world peace. They expressed the hope that through strict adherence to the principles of non-alignment and by stressing the common bonds which united the non-aligned countries the Movement would continue to subscribe to a common strategy and consensus which would reflect the real essence of non-alignment. In this connection, the two sides noted with satisfaction the success of the Conference of Foreign Ministers of the Non-Aligned countries held recently in New Delhi, which also commemorated the 20th Anniversary of the First Summit Conference.

While welcoming with satisfaction the new international strategy for the Third Development Decade of the United Nations adopted by the General Assembly, both sides regretted that global negotiations on international economic cooperation for development could not be initiated as scheduled. They expressed the hope that the present efforts to achieve agreement would be successful and would result in the commencement of negotiations whose satisfactory conclusion would contribute to the implementation of the international strategy for development and

would make a significant contribution to the establishment of the New International Economic Order. In this connection, the two sides also welcomed with satisfaction the initiative of some developing and developed countries for holding
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an international meeting on cooperation and development at the level of Heads of States and Governments, which will contribute to a greater understanding of the interdependence between nations and the inter-relationship of the problems of international economy.

The President of PDRY and the Prime Minister of India expressed satisfaction that bilateral relations had been progressing smoothly. Both sides agreed that there was scope for further strengthening mutually beneficial cooperation in various fields.

The officials of the two sides finalised and signed the Cultural Exchange Programme for the years 1981-82 under the already existing Cultural Agreement between the two countries while expressing satisfaction at the cultural contacts being maintained by regular exchanges, they agreed to increase and diversify the activities under the Cultural Exchange Programme.

The PDRY side expressed deep appreciation of the assistance rendered by India under the ITEC Programme for training of PDRY personnel, deputation of Indian experts to PDRY and in other areas. The PDRY side expressed the hope that further Indian cooperation in this regard would be available in future. The Indian side assured that all endeavours will be made to meet the current and future requests from the PDRY side under the ITEC Programme and other bilateral arrangements.

The President of PDRY thanked the President, the Government and the people of India for the warm and cordial welcome accorded to him and for the generous hospitality extended to him and to the members of his party during their visit to India.

The President of PDRY extended to the President of the Republic of India, Shri Neelam Sanjiva Reddy, and to the Prime Minister of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, an invitation to visit People's Democratic Republic of Yemen. These invitations were gladly accepted.

MEN INDIA USA TURKEY SRI LANKA ISRAEL LEBANON IRAN IRAQ SOUTH AFRICA NAMIBIA

Date : May 21, 1981

Volume No

1995

SWEDEN

Agreement on Rs. 1200 Million Assistance from Sweden

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on May 15, 1981:

India will receive assistance from Sweden of the order of S. Kr. 660 million (Rs. 1200 million) over a two-year period, 1981-83.

An Agreement to this effect was signed here today by Ambassador Tom Tscherning of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Stockholm and Shri A. G. Asrani, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Finance, Department of Economic Affairs, on behalf of their respective Governments.

Out of the assistance of S. Kr. 660 million, an amount of S. Kr. 330 million has been made available for 1981-82, S. Kr. 20 million more than in 1980-81. Of this, an amount of S. Kr. 95 million will be available for general imports. This portion of the aid is united and can be used for financing imports from any part of the world to India's best advantage.
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A provision of S. Kr. 120 million has been made in the Agreement to finance imports of goods and services from Sweden. As in the past, this amount will be used for the import of bulk commodities and capital goods and services from Sweden.

The Agreement also provides for programme and project support to the extent of S. Kr. 115 million. This will, be used for the implementation of technical cooperation projects and programmes mainly in the fields of health and family welfare, forestry, drinking water supply, fisheries, ground water development and non-formal education.

The development assistance from Sweden is totally by way of grant.

EDEN INDIA USA

Date : May 15, 1981

Volume No

1995

Ambassador Krishnan's Speech on Disarmament

Following is the text of the statement made by Ambassador Krishnan, India's Permanent Representative to the UN, at Preparatory Committee for Second Special Session on Disarmament on May 07, 1981:

Mr. Chairman, My delegation would like to express its gratification at seeing you preside over the deliberations of the first substantive session of the Preparatory Committee for the Second Special Session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament. We have no doubt that with your considerable expertise, diplomatic skill, pleasant informality and incurable optimism you will be able to guide the deliberations of this body towards purposive activity, and concrete achievement. My delegation will extend its fullest cooperation to you in this effort. We would also like to extend our good wishes to the other members of the Bureau.

There is an air of unreality in disarmament deliberations these days. While the most powerful nations of the world have, with an air of cynical realism assumed that a projection of strength in terms of offensive military over-kill is the surest way to strengthen security and peace in the world, the fact of the matter is that our universe is today poised on the edge of a new precipice where technological ingenuity and strategic calculation have conspired to drive the arms race into well nigh uncontrollable directions. Only last year, an expert group of the UN in a comprehensive study on nuclear weapons had focussed on the dubiousness of the acceptability of traditional notions of deterrence. But today, some of these ideas are being self-consciously cast aside by their original proponents in favour of ever more dangerous ones geared to the impulse of frightening new technologies. The irrationality of mutually assured destruction as an instrument of extended deterrence is now variously being substituted, supplemented or exchanged for newer ideas of flexible response, controlled escalation through modernised theatre of nuclear forces, Prolonged limited nuclear war, the alternative of limited defence systems and indeed of the idea of a winnable nuclear conflict.

ARMS RACE AND GLOBAL TENSION

The effect of these factors and notions on the international situation is not unpredictable. The direct casual relationship between arms race and the deterioration of the international environment is a truth which has already become a truism. Yet,
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whenever the world community calls for a reversal of the arms race, we are told by its very perpetrators that the "current international environment" does not allow it. We believe that the vital security interests of all nations should not be subject to the whims of a handful of states however powerful. The international environment should reflect the collective concerns of all states, big and small, and the security of all states can be safeguarded only when these concerns are harmonised in a genuine multilateral context.

In an age such as the one we live in, the security of one region is inextricably connected with that of other parts of the world. Yet rather than serving to moderate their policies, this fact is being adduced by some states to extend further the area of confrontation in the world. We have only to observe the rapid escalation of great power military presence in the Indian Ocean, together with other related developments in the area to realise that this has created a strategic situation, at least in our part of the world, which, is historically unprecedented.

CONTAINING NUCLEAR ARMS

The present Preparatory Committee has to face its tasks in the context of such portentous international developments. If the Preparatory Committee is to address these concerns squarely it will have to take stock of the view of the overwhelming number of states in the various regions of the world, that the sharp deterioration in the international political and security environment can be alleviated only through urgent steps to halt and reverse the newly intensified arms race particularly in its nuclear aspect. This subject, therefore, cannot but constitute a central concern of the next special session on Disarmament. Indeed, the combined influence of the international community will have to be harnessed in order to exert pressure upon the powerful nuclear weapon states in order that appropriate steps are immediately taken bilaterally and multilaterally to ensure that agreements are reached on genuine measures for the limiting of the arms race and for achievement to the states concerned.

The next special session will no doubt concentrate on a review of the implementation of the decisions and recommendations of the First Special Session on Disarmament and of the progress in Disarmament efforts since then. The first special session in 1978, constituting as it did a landmark in the efforts of the UN in this field, had, unfortunately not been followed by any substantial progress in any of the priority areas identified in the programme of action contained in the final document. While the international situation remains vitiated by the continued festering of dangerous sore points of tension, even limited arms control measures such as the so-called SALT process have become cramped if not totally paralysed. Indeed, efforts in the multilateral disarmament field appear to have ground to a halt for lack of preparedness on the part of important states to

commit themselves to any meaningful negotiations.

The General Assembly had last year adopted the Declaration of the 1980s as the Second Disarmament Decade which had inter alia called upon the Committee on Disarmament to submit agreed texts, where possible, before the SSOD II upon such measures as, a CTBT and a Chemical Weapons Treaty.

DILATORY TACTICS

The work of the Committee on Disarmament has, however, been successively stymied by the introduction of peripheral issues and by the adoption of dilatory tactics. Despite its status as the single multilateral negotiating body on Disarmament it suffers, the Committee on Disarmament has had to experience the embarrassment of not even being informed of the precise stage on progress in the limited trilateral negotiations on an item such as the comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. As the Group of 21 has recently indicated, the Committee on Disarmament is entitled to know without delay the specific reasons that have so far prevented the separate negotiations among the three nuclear weapons states to be brought "to a positive conclusion as a matter of urgency". The Group has also put forward specific questions in this respect to the States concerned.

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Concern for the above arises, Mr. Chairman, specifically because it has often been stated by the parties to the above-mentioned negotiations that any progress within the Committee on Disarmament as well as at the Special Session can be expected only to follow as a consequence of a modicum of progress on the major issues of arms control that have earlier been embarked on at the bilateral and trilateral levels. Even by their own logic, therefore, the onus for registering progress should lie with these countries. We seriously hope that the Committee on Disarmament is enabled to take early, and effective action to ensure that agreed and negotiated texts in respect of the Priority items are, in fact, made available to the Special Session in due time.

COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAMME

If the Second Special Session is to lay the foundation for concrete measures of Disarmament as identified in the programme of action contained in the final document, the cornerstone of such activity should be the consideration and adoption of a comprehensive programme of disarmament. Such a programme to be elaborated by the Committee on Disarmament should contain an unambiguous stipulation of the priority measures in the field of disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, agreed to and contained in the final Document and lay specific and detailed time frames both short and long term for their implementation. It would also provide the framework for all disarmament negotiations

in the future.

We endorse in principle the position taken by the Nigerian delegation that once such a programme is adopted with specific time frames, further activity on the part of the international community could consist of reviews, at appropriate and regular intervals, of progress in the implementation of the programme itself.

In his intervention the day before yesterday, the distinguished delegate of the Soviet Union had proposed that the next special session should take into account at an appropriate stage a number of proposals that were placed before the First Session and which are contained in paragraph 125 of the Final Document. My delegation would, in this context, like to refer to a proposal put forward then as also at subsequent session of the General Assembly and considered at the Committee on Disarmament regarding the conclusion of an International Convention on the prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons. We note that so far one nuclear weapon state has voted in favour of this proposal at the 35th session of the General Assembly. Further efforts need to be made to achieve our objective of outlawing the use of nuclear weapons.

DISARMAMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

One of the important issues that the Special Session must consider is the relationship between Disarmament and Development. The session must underscore the fact that, while the pursuit of national defence and security in an indispensable adjunct of a State's preoccupations, these are necessarily meant to serve the large purpose of affording to its population the prospect of a better life. Not only does the total military expenditures of the world today dwarf any spending on development but the profoundly disturbing effects of such massive wastage are evident not only in terms of funds and material but also of manpower and skills. These resources should rather be channelised towards alleviating the acute social economic problems particularly of developing countries. The relationship between disarmament and development is the subject of a separate study and its results will be available by the time of the session. It is our expectation that the study will help the special session make recommendations on the important question. If nothing else the session should, like the Brandt Commission, identify the fact that one of the chief enemies of Disarmament is the sense of resignation and traditional acceptance that accompanies high military spendings.

Coming to the question of institutional measures, one of the significant changes brought about after the SSOD-I was the establishment of the Committee on Disarmament. as a "single multilateral negotiating forum" on Disarmament. Its wider composition and the participation of all the nuclear weapon states makes it today the most appropriate forum for negotiation.

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Despite this, however, it would be essential for the special session to consider means to ensure that the Committee on Disarmament became a truly meaningful negotiating forum capable of initiating and carrying through negotiation on important disarmament items rather than either being passive and on the sidelines or for that matter being bogged down in peripheral issues. The existing role of the UNDC as a deliberative body should likewise be maintained and strengthened.

In general, it is our hope that the Second Special Session will review the existing machinery in the disarmament field in order to promote and expand the central role of the UN in such activities in the light of the expectations generated at the time of the First SSOD and of the actual practice over the years since the Session.

On the final point of the mobilisation of international opinion in favour of Disarmament initiative, my delegation is fully supportive of any realistic suggestion relating to the involvement of NGOs, Parliamentarians and, public personalities in these efforts. Active commitment will also be essential for a worldwide effort at dissemination of the disarmament ideals involved in a world disarmament campaign.

As regards item 6, we would like to state that a number of constructive suggestions have been made. In particular we note the suggestions made with respect to a duration of around four weeks, of participation at an appropriately high political level and that the rules of procedure should be the same as the First SSOD. As regards the Document that should emerge from the Session, our major preoccupation will be not so much with nomenclature or for that matter even with format or size but with its essential content. We should strive to ensure against either a distortion of the, priorities established and clearly recognised in the Final Document or any dilution. of the requirement of time frames with respect to the, stages to be identified or set down in a carefully drawn up and elaborated CPD.

DIA MALI USA NIGER NIGERIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : May 07, 1981

Volume No

1995

VENEZUELA

Following is the text of the statement of the Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, at the high level phase of the Caracas Conference on Economic Cooperation, held in Caracas in May, 1981:

Mr. Chairman, Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates, I am indeed privileged to be participating in this important conference which is taking place at a crucial and critical juncture in international economic relations. Your country has an exemplary record in promoting solidarity among developing countries through economic cooperation. It was in Caracas that the OPEC took the historic decision in December 1979 in regard to priority for oil supplies to oil importing developing countries. Mr. Chairman, we are very happy, therefore, that this conference is being hosted by Venezuela. We
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are sure that under your able Chairmanship, it would achieve signal success. We are also thankful for the warm and generous hospitality we have received from you.

COOPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

The concept of Economic Cooperation among Developing Countries has a fairly long history, with the first specific and concrete reference being made in the Algiers Non-Aligned Summit. Since then, efforts have been made by the developing countries to foster mutual cooperation at the subregional, regional and inter-regional levels. The immediate background to this conference should, however, be traced to the meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the Group of 77 held in New York in March, 1980 when we had agreed, inter alia, that the policy guidelines for reinforcing collective self-reliance between developing countries approved by the Non-Aligned Heads of States I Governments at Havana should, in addition to the Arusha programme for collective self-reliance, be the basis for urgent and substantial forward movement in this regard. It is on the basis of these two important decisions that integrated cooperation among Developing Countries has now to be intensified, both as a significant end in itself and also for strengthening their unity and solidarity in negotiations with developed countries.

Mr. Chairman, as rightly pointed out by your Government, the current uncertainties in international economic relations, and the stalemate in the North-South dialogue, call for renewed efforts for cooperation among ourselves. In the words of the New Delhi Declaration of Foreign Ministers of the Non-Aligned Countries, "... action-oriented and positive decisions in regard to the modalities, arrangements, programmes and projects of cooperation within a time-bound framework". In this

connection, I would like to compliment Dr. Perez Guerrero, Chairman of the Group of 77 in New York under whose leadership some important work has been accomplished recently. The recommendations and sectoral conclusions agreed upon would integrate and consolidate collective self-reliance in the fields of trade, raw materials, energy, food and agriculture, ' industrialisation and technology, and finance.

TRADE AND RAW MATERIALS

In the fields of trade and raw materials, considerable progress has already been made towards cooperation at the regional and sub-regional levels. However, while we have been discussing the Global System of Trade Preference since the Mexico meeting in 1976, no concrete advance has yet been made. In our view it would be a positive step if a date for launching the negotiations on the basis of an agreed framework could be agreed upon. However, despite the absence of such an agreement, I do hope that it would be possible for the preparatory work to be brought to speedy conclusion. In the area of primary commodities, my Government attaches the highest priority to the consideration of supply management measures in respect of products in which the developing countries contribute the bulk of world production and trade, particularly in view of the forecast that in a number of tropical products a secular decline in the prices is imminent.

OIL SUPPLIES

I would like to express our thanks to the oil exporting developing countries for according priority in regard to oil supplies to the oil importing developing countries. The supply of oil through direct contracts between Government at official prices has been a great help to the importing countries. We now need continuity of supplies for longer periods so as to enable fuller utilisation of the refining capacities and to obviate refinery imbalances. Cooperation in improving productivity in drilling, reservoir engineering and refining etc. should also receive priority and lead to joint projects for utilising the technological and other inputs available in the developing countries.

The recommendations in the food and agriculture sector are far-reaching significance to all of us. In the fields of technology and industrialisation, this Conference has succeeded in drawing up elaborate guidelines and has agreed upon specific activities to enhance the technological capa-

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bilities and expedite industrial progress of the developing countries. May I, at this stage, reiterate my country's policy to extend fullest possible cooperation to all members of the Group of 77 in these fields where we have been able to make considerable progress ourselves.

FINANCE

In the vital field of finance, some measures have been agreed upon. However, in financing for development and meeting balance of payments problems of developing countries, the progress has not been adequate. I hope that our clear mandate to the group of experts to submit, before the end of this year, concrete recommendations on these subjects will be fully carried out so that concrete decisions could be taken at an early date.

COORDINATIONS OF ACTIVITIES

Mr. Chairman, one of our important objectives has been to ensure implementation of decisions in a concrete and coherent manner. In this substantial agreement has been reached on mechanisms for coordination, monitoring, follow-up action and evaluation. Mr. Chairman, the Caracas conference should, in our view constitute a watershed in the evolution of viable, practicable, efficient and yet flexible mechanisms for effective implementation and follow-up of the ECDC programme. It should also formulate proper conceptual frameworks and set up appropriate institutions. I need hardly reiterate the desirability of establishing a clear correlation between our needs on the one hand and our capacity to fulfil them on the other. This is, in a very real sense, the essence of self-reliance. The developing countries have to devise a pattern of progress which is compatible with their potential and consciously avoid wasteful and blind changes in complete disregard of meaningful time perspectives. Above all, it is clear that self-reliance is neither a mere slogan nor a one-time feat; it is a continuous process of well-conceived planning and single-minded implementation. It often involves the determination to resist temptations held out by excessively affluent models which tend to erode the very foundations of the independence of developing countries. They also tend to accentuate inequalities, inequities and tensions within our societies, leaving them with a huge mass base seething with discontent. It is this mass base which is our real problem and the technology that lifts this base up as a whole, is the one we should always be looking for. In the ultimate analysis, political freedom and economic dependence can not go together, except to the extent that dependence becomes inter-dependence - which is what cooperation is all about, whether of North-South or South-South. Mr. Chairman, these sincere words come from a country which has gone through the mill, in a variety of ways. I assure you that they are in our common interest.

The outcome of our Conference is being closely watched by the outside world. As we proceed to strengthen our cooperation, our task of negotiations with the developed countries would assume greater clarity and decisiveness. We can certainly look to our future with optimism. Our conference should clearly suggest how the endowments of the developing world both in terms of resources

and of existing and evergrowing, scientific, technical and skilled manpower could be woven into effective patterns of all-round cooperation, to the maximum extent possible and in conformity with wholesome socio-economic goals. I believe that this is the real message which we should all carry from Caracas.

Thank you.
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NEZUELA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC USA ALGERIA CUBA MEXICO

Date : May 07, 1981

Volume No

1995

VIETNAM

Rs. 100 Million Indian Loan for Vietnam

A Credit Agreement was signed in New Delhi on May 26, 1981 between India and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

Under the Agreement India will extend a loan of Rs. 100 million to the Government of Vietnam for importing Indian textile fabrics for garments.

The loan is repayable in four years with a moratorium of about two years and will carry interest rate of five per cent per annum.

Shri R. N. Malhotra, Secretary in the Department of Economic Affairs (Ministry of Finance) signed the agreement on behalf of Government of India and Mr. Nguyen Quang Tao, Vietnam Ambassador in India, on behalf of the Government of Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

ETNAM INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : May 26, 1981

Volume No

1995

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's Speech at Dinner in Honour of Zimbabwean Prime Minister

Following is the text of the speech by the Prime Minister of India, Smt. Indira Gandhi, at the dinner she hosted in honour of Mr. Robert G. Mugabe, Prime Minister of Zimbabwe, in New Delhi on May 21, 1981:

It is a privilege to have in our midst The Hon'ble Robert Mugabe, brave fighter for freedom and distinguished nation-builder. We welcome also his gracious lady Mrs. Sally Mugabe and the distinguished members of the Zimbabwean delegation. Indian women will be glad to know of the great work for women which Mrs. Mugabe is doing in her country. We attach great importance to your visit to India. It gives us the opportunity of saluting on our own soil a valiant son and a distinguished daughter of Africa.

Many have been the links between Africa and Asia. In fact the renowned scholar and statesman Dr. Senghor came here some years ago in search of confirmation of his ideas on the links between Dravidian and African culture. Contacts between freedom struggles in Africa and India date back to the twenties, the days of the 'League Against Imperialism' when my father first met many leaders from Africa. Even though fully immersed in our own struggle, our moral support extended beyond the oceans to all those who were similarly chafing against domination by outsiders. After our independence we could and did give more tangible help.

It was a special pleasure for me to be able to participate in the impressive functions in Salisbury - I learn that you are now thinking of changing the name and giving it a name more appropriate to free Zimbabwe - to usher in your independence and to share in the rejoicing in your hour of triumph. During seven long years of bitterness and cruel war, Prime Minister, your vision of humanity remained unblurred

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and in moments of decision you have reached out for reconciliation. Sir Winston Churchill, against whose policies both you and we fought, once declared: "In war: resolution. In defeat: defiance. In victory: Magnanimity. In peace: goodwill." This indeed is the path which India and Zimbabwe have set for themselves. We have watched with interest how you and your colleagues are working together in the service of the people of Zimbabwe, concentrating on building for the future.

BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE

Freedom is the lifting of one kind of burden but the beginning of other far heavier responsibilities, to which is added the

challenge of the people's rising expectations. Development we must have, to solve human problems and equally to give us the capability to safeguard our independence. Each succeeding year, with its rapid scientific and technological advance helps those whose earlier prosperity was based on their colonisation of our peoples and' gave them a headstart, but it complicates matters for developing countries who have to make up for lost time. Thus is widened the gap between us and those who are already at a high level of economic development. The interest in and concern for a New International Economic Order is growing but not yet amongst those who can do the most about it.

BILATERAL AGREEMENTS

No single nation is without economic and other problems. But ours are of particular urgency. We cannot afford to be distracted from the much larger and far more crucial labours of eliminating economic backwardness. Only economic freedom and enlargement of opportunity will give true content and meaning to political freedom. In India our goal is economic and technological self-reliance.' We know that Zimbabwe is well endowed with agricultural and mineral resources and already has a good industrial base. The bilateral agreements that are currently being finalised, should be a good beginning for extensive economic, technological and cultural cooperation between our two countries.

I am interested in the stability and strength of our neighbours - near and far - and especially amongst the nonaligned. Those who have similar problems and shared anxieties should assist one another on a basis of equal respect and for mutual benefit.

On our continents there are unresolved conflicts. We the non-aligned have always, tried to find peaceful solutions through discussions. A threat to peace anywhere is a threat to welfare and progress everywhere. At various levels and in different spheres,, we must all cooperate in finding solutions to international issues.

Across your border, the people of South Africa are oppressed, victims of humiliation and injustice. India's support to their struggle for political and human rights has been consistent and firm, and will continue. We do not doubt that ultimate victory will be theirs. The spark kept alight so courageously by warriors like Nelson Mandela, cannot be extinguished.

NAMIBIA'S STRUGGLE

No less valiant is the struggle of SWAPO in Namibia against illegal occupation of their country by the Pretoria. regime. Mr. Sam Nujoma's reasonable and.. conciliatory attitude at the Geneva talks, were of no avail. On the excuse of making, it stronger, there are now attempts to dilute the UN Resolution on Namibia's

independence. These must be thwarted. In facing, the challenge of these racist regimes, the solidarity of Zimbabwe with the Frontline States is a source of strength to the peoples of those countries. These are also our friends with whom we are closely and regularly in touch.

Imperialism, racialism and military might look formidable especially at close quarters. But people forget that the world is inhabited not by statistics but by men and women. And when they have a dream in their eyes, when their minds are moved by the spirit of nationalism and their hearts afire with the love for freedom, then as a poet has said: 'There can never be a wall so strong, or steel or gun to hold us back from our share of the sun'.

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MBABWE INDIA USA SOUTH AFRICA NAMIBIA SWITZERLAND

Date : May 21, 1981

Volume No

1995

ZIMBABWE

Prime Minister Mugabe's Speech

Replying to the toast, H.E. Mr. Robert G. Mugabe said:

It is with great pleasure that I and my delegation are in your great country today. This is my first official visit to India since we took over the machinery of government from-the colonial and neo-colonial regimes of Ian Smith and Muzorewa after a bitter and protracted armed struggle.

It is indeed a great joy, for me personally, my government and the people of Zimbabwe, to be able to express our gratitude and thanks to the great people of India for having joined hands with us during our struggle for liberation from the colonial rule. My visit is a demonstration of the unity that has bound our two peoples for a long time.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank you, Honourable Prime Minister of India, for your visit to Zimbabwe's independence celebrations. We in Zimbabwe regarded the visit as an expression of both your personnel interest in us and the warm friendship that exists between our two peoples.

India and Zimbabwe have much in common because we are both Third World countries and active member of the nonaligned movement. I and my government are grateful to India for helping many Zimbabweans acquire technical skills by providing them with scholarships to study in India. Zimbabwe as an emerging small nation has a lot to learn from India's achievements in technical fields. I was delighted, therefore, that in your reply to my letter inviting India to participate in our Conference to raise aid for our reconstruction and development programmes, you stated that India would gladly participate in our programme by providing technical assistance on a bilateral basis. We are exceedingly grateful for this pledge of aid and wish to assure you that we shall utilise it to the full.

LIBERATION OF NAMIBIA

Zimbabwe is a member of the Frontline 'States, a group of six nations which operates within the orbit of the O.A.U. and is dedicated to assist in the process Of emancipating the inhabitants of Southern Africa. As such, we believe that tension and confrontation in Southern Africa cannot be eradicated and peace established until the liberation of Namibia and the dismantling of apartheid in South Africa have been achieved. My government and the whole people of Zimbabwe unreservedly support the just struggle being waged by the people of Namibia under the sole and authentic leadership of the South West Africa People's Organisation. We call on the non-aligned countries and the international community as a whole to render support and assistance to SWAPO, the South African liberation movements, and the Frontline States to accelerate the process of decolonization in Southern Africa.

The UN independence plan embodied in Security Council Resolution 435 envisages the holding of democratic elections in Namibia as a prelude to independence. I believe that this resolution is the only basis for an internationally acceptable solution to the Namibian problem. I stress that time is running out for the implementation of the plan.

Zimbabwe unreservedly condemns suggestions by some Western countries for the revision and variation of the plan, because such revisions depart from the basic principles laid down in the plan. We in Zimbabwe, because we believe in democracy, would like to see the Namibian people exercise their sovereign right and draw up. their own constitution. There is therefore a need for elections to produce a constituent assembly of elected members upon whom has been conferred the power to grant a constitution.

SOUTH AFRICAS PROVOCATIONS

Zimbabwe also condemns the naked acts of unprovoked armed aggression by the South African regime against the Frontline States in an effort to destabilise independent African countries.

You will, Honourable Prime Minister, have heard of the recent threat by South African regime
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to attack Zimbabwe for giving shelter to refugees of the national liberation movements of South Africa. We refuse to be threatened by anybody for doing our humanitarian duty under the UN charter and international law. Nor do we accept that South Africa possesses the monopoly to hit others without retaliation. We have just come out of war of liberation which we fought and won. We shall not hesitate to fight another in defence of our hard-won sovereignty. At heart we remain a peaceful people committed to good neighbourliness and cooperation with our neighbours.

As you are aware, Zimbabwe is a member of the regional economic grouping of nine-states, called the Southern African Development and Coordination Conference (SADCC) formed to foster our economic cooperation and reduce our dependence on South Africa and other countries. We are also currently striving to increase our rail traffic through Mozambique in order to carry our exports and imports mainly through Mozambique, with the object in mind of decreasing our vulnerability to the policies of South Africa.

INDIAN OCEAN

May I assure you, Honourable Prime Minister, that Zimbabwe is gravely concerned over the increasing evidence of Great Power military activity in the Indian Ocean area, notwithstanding the express wishes of the littoral and hinterland states of the Indian Ocean. We are equally concerned about the expansion of the base in Diego Garcia and about other military facilities which have been established in the Indian Ocean by the Great Powers. We call on these powers to reduce progressively their military presence in the area in the interests of world peace. Zimbabwe also strongly feels that there is a need to redouble efforts for the speedy implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace.

Zimbabwe, as a democratic state, attaches great importance to the principle of the sovereign will of the people in any state to determine, as masters of their destiny, a political social and economic order of their own choice. Accordingly, we feel that any interference by an outside power in the internal affairs of another is a blatant violation of the sacred principle of territorial sovereignty and integrity cherished under the Charter of the United Nations. There should thus always be recognised the principle of non-interference in the domestic affairs of another.

IRAQ-IRAN CONFLICT

We in Zimbabwe deplore the continuing loss of life in the war between Iraq and Iran and therefore call on the two non-aligned countries to resolve their differences peacefully through

negotiations.

Turning to the Middle East, a just solution can be achieved only through the withdrawal of Israel from all occupied Arab territories, and through the recognition of the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and the establishment of a sovereign state on their national soil. We reaffirm our support to the Palestine Liberation Organisation as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. We believe the whole problem can only be solved satisfactorily by allowing the PLO, to take its place as an equal partner in negotiations. We condemn actions by Israel to alter the status of the holy city of Jerusalem in defiance of the United Nations Security Council Resolutions 476 and 478 of 1980.

NEW ECONOMIC ORDER

Zimbabwe notes with serious concern that, because of the dilatory attitude of the developing countries, progress towards the establishment of the New International Economic Order has been painfully slow. The widening of the gap between the developed and developing countries is a negative influence in international relations. There is a great need for a massive transfer of resources to developing countries and for the adoption of measures to give easier access for manufacturers in developing countries to the markets of the advanced countries.

Your Excellency, thirty three years after India, Zimbabwe has gained its inde-
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pendence. I would be remiss if I did not sincerely recognise the tremendous experiences your country has acquired during this long spell of self-rule, independence and self-determination.

The colonizer of Zimbabwe was the same in nature and nationality as that of India thirty three years ago, but the manner in which Zimbabwe obtained its independence had to be unfortunately an armed and so violent one. This armed confrontation left our country's economy and infrastructure devastated. We are thus, saddled with the task of rebuilding the country. Road construction, dam and bridge building in the rural areas where our peasants are, and the maintenance and expansion of our railway system, to mention only a few areas, all need technical experts. We look forward to India providing us with some skilled personnel in some of these fields. It is also our hope that you will continue to offer Zimbabwe training facilities and opportunities in your many institutions.

We have so far advanced admirably in the area of resettlement and reconciliation. Under our policy of reconciliation, our people are living and working side by side regardless of their race, colour, tribe, creed or political persuasion. Those who were enemies

yesterday are now co-workers and comrades. It is this comradeship and sense of common belonging manifesting our single nationality and allegiance, which will help create greater unity and understanding among our people. With this oneness and understanding, peace and progress will naturally obtain in the country. We draw strength from the help which your country has given us in the past and continues to give us, especially under your able and most enlightened leadership.

MBABWE INDIA USA NAMIBIA SOUTH AFRICA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC MOZAMBIQUE
IRAN IRAQ ISRAEL RUSSIA

Date : May 21, 1981

Volume No

1995

ZIMBABWE

India-Zimbabwe Cultural Agreement

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on May 22, 1981:

A Cultural Agreement between India and Zimbabwe was signed here today by Shri S. B. Chavan, Minister of Education and Social Welfare, and H.E. Dr. Witness Mangwende, M.P. Zimbabwean Minister of Foreign Affairs.

The Agreement consisting of 11 articles aims at establishing closer cultural links and understanding between the two countries in the fields of art, culture, education, science and technology, sports, public health and mass media. .

It visualises, among other things, reciprocal visits of experts for study tours; offer of scholarships and facilities for study in institutions of higher education; recognition of academic degrees and diplomas; exchange of films, documentaries, radio and television programmes; exchange of dance and music ensembles; exchange of art and other exhibitions and sports teams.

For effective implementation of this Agreement, a provision has been made to conclude protocols specifying concrete programmes to be carried out, including periodic review.

MBABWE INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : May 22, 1981

Volume No

1995

ZIMBABWE

Economic and Technical Cooperation Between India and Zimbabwe

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in NOW Delhi on May 22, 1981:

India and Zimbabwe today signed an agreement of economic and technical cooperation. The agreement was signed by Shri Pranab Mukherjee, Minister of Commerce, Steel and Mines on behalf of the Government of India and Mr. W. M. Mangwende, M.P., Minister of Foreign Affairs on behalf of the Republic of Zimbabwe.
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The agreement provides:

exchange of personnel for training purposes including practical and academic training in technical and other institutes, factories and other production centres in each country, grant of scholarships;

exchange of visits of experts and government officials in economic and technical fields with a view to acquiring expert knowledge, lecturing and instructing in the other country;

providing the services of experts in economic and technical fields;

preparation and exchange of technical documentation, including the exchange of corresponding information;

cooperation between production enterprises in exchanging technology and in finding the most suitable technical solutions and attaining increased productivity;

cooperation in establishment of industries, including small scale industries.

cooperation in the development of infrastructure;

cooperation in agriculture and fisheries;

cooperation in the exploration and exploitation of oil and

natural gas resources; and taking all necessary steps to encourage tourism and facilitate travel between the two countries and exchange of technical assistance and expertise between the organisations in the two countries employed in the promotion and marketing of tourism.

The agreement will remain in force for a period of 5 years. Thereafter it will be renewed for successive periods of one year at a time by tacit agreement.

MBABWE INDIA UNITED KINGDOM USA

Date : May 22, 1981

Volume No

1995

ZIMBABWE

India and Zimbabwe Trade Agreement

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on May 22, 1981:

India and Zimbabwe signed, here today a trade agreement with a view to expand trade and economic cooperation between the two countries.

The agreement was signed by Shri Pranab Mukherjee, Union Minister of Commerce, Steel & Mines, on behalf of India and by Dr. Witness Mangwende, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Zimbabwe.

The two countries agreed to encourage exports and imports from each other and have worked out an indicative list for the same. Among items offered by India for export to Zimbabwe are engineering goods, industrial plant and machinery, steel structures, industrial fasteners, non-ferrous products, diesel engines and compressors, chemicals and allied products, electronics items and miscellaneous manufactures. The items which have been indicated for imports from Zimbabwe include asbestos, steel, textiles and cotton yarn, pharmaceuticals and handicraft products.

All payments made between the two countries in pursuance of this' agreement will be in freely convertible currency. The two countries have also agreed to allow the organisation of trade fairs and exhibitions in each other countries. While agreeing to grant each other Most Favoured Nation Treatment, India and

Zimbabwe have also agreed to establish a joint committee composing of representatives of the two countries for effective implementation of this agreement.

The agreement will remain in force for a period of two years from the date of enforcement to be automatically renewed thereafter for a further period of two years, unless a written notice of its termination six months prior to the expiry of agreement is given by either country.
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MBABWE INDIA UNITED KINGDOM USA RUSSIA

Date : May 22, 1981

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Date : Jun 01, 1981

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AUSTRALIA

Indo-Australian Cooperation in Energy Research and Development

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Jun 26, 1981:

India and Australia have agreed to expand their bilateral cooperation in the area of Energy Research and Development, particularly in problems relating to New and Renewable Sources of Energy. This emerged from discussions between the Australian Minister for National Development and Energy, Mr. J. L. Carrick, and the Union Minister of State for Science and Technology, Electronics and Environment, Shri C. P. N. Singh.

Among the areas for cooperation would be bio-conversion, coal technology, solar thermal applications, mini and micro-hydel technology etc. Teams of scientists would be exchanged in order to identify specific projects of interest of the two countries.

The discussions also covered cooperation under the frame-work of the Commonwealth Regional Consultative Group on Energy, which met in New Delhi last month. The possibility of arranging the next meeting of the Group in one of the Pacific Island countries along with an exhibition of equipment for utilising solar, wind and biomass energy was discussed.

The Indian and Australian sides noted that there was an agreement between the two countries in Science and Technology and cooperation in certain areas of solar energy was already progressing.

STRALIA USA INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Jun 26, 1981

Volume No

1995

CHINA

Chinese Foreign Minister's Statement to Pressmen on Arrival in New Delhi

Following statement was made to the Pressmen by the Vice-Premier and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China, Mr. Huang Hua, on his arrival at Delhi airport on Jun 26, 1981 on a five-day official visit to India:

I feel very glad to have come to your great country for a goodwill visit at the invitation of His Excellency Minister of External Affairs Narasimha Rao. My wife and colleagues and I wish to express deep thanks to our friends for their welcome. I wish to take this opportunity to send my regards to the fraternal Indian people, the people of Delhi in particular.

As close neighbours, China and India have maintained friendly contacts and lived in harmony for a long time in history. The forefathers of our two countries started to contact each other as early as more than
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two thousand years ago, and there exists a long-standing traditional friendship between the two peoples with numerous episodes of friendship that remain on the lips of our two peoples even today.

FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION

Our two countries have much in common and both are faced with the task of maintaining world peace and building up our respective countries. We need to learn from each other, deepen understanding and promote friendly relations and cooperation.

It is with this purpose that we have come to your country for a return visit. I am looking forward to having sincere, frank and friendly discussions with His Excellency Minister for External Affairs Narasimha Rao and other Indian leaders, and to explore together ways for further developing the relations between the two countries. I'll be meeting some old friends here to renew our friendship and I also wish to take this precious opportunity to make some new acquaintances.

I hope that this visit will help to better our mutual understanding and further develop the relations between our two countries.

INA INDIA USA

Date : Jun 26, 1981

Volume No

1995

Minister of External Affairs P. V. Narasimha Rao's Speech at Dinner for Mr. Huang Hua

Following is the text of the speech by the Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, at a dinner hosted by him in honour of Mr. Huang Hua, Vice-Premier and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China, in New Delhi on Jun 26, 1981. Proposing the toast, Shri Rao said:

On behalf of the Government of India, it gives me great pleasure to welcome amidst us this evening the Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister of the People's Republic of China and Madame He Liliang. In recent years, this is the first important visit to India since the late Premier Zhou En-lai visited India in 1960.

Excellency, our countries have inherited ancient civilisations which have evoked admiration and respect all over the world. Coming to our own times, our struggles for freedom cover the same period of time and our attainment of freedom was almost simultaneous. During that period valuable contacts continued between our leaders.

The emergence of India and the People's Republic of China as independent entities has had profound impact of international affairs.

Since then, both our countries have grappled with the stupendous tasks of economic developments, technological advancement and modernisation of our large, diverse and complex societies. We have a good deal to learn from each other, such as our experience in agriculture and industry in the past 30 years.

IMPROVING RELATIONS

I recall with satisfaction the good relations of the 1950s and the acceptance of Panch Sheel in 1954. I am also reminded of the several differences that have come between us. The border, in particular, has tended to divide us. But it is our intention to look towards the future. I believe that I speak for both of us when I say that we are genuinely desirous of improving our relations and of resolving all the problems that still exist between us. Given goodwill, we can do so.

Prime Minister Nehru was convinced that Asia had a big role to play in world affairs. Unfortunately, events developed differently, and Asia became an arena of conflict and division and deprived itself of this great opportunity. As countries desirous of marching in step with the rest of mankind, it should be our effort to retrieve the situation, and recapture the original spirit.

BIG POWER RIVALRY

Your Excellency, recent developments in the international situation and in particular developments in our own region have caused us growing and serious concern. Every day we see further manifestation of the increase of outside power presences in our neighbourhood - whether it be the Indian Ocean, West Asia, South Asia or South East Asia. As a developing country, India's efforts have been directed towards helping to eliminate the causes of tension, including those caused by the actions of ' outside powers, so that our energies could be fully devoted to giving a better life to our people.

NON-ALIGNMENT

India's external attitudes have always been consistent. After profound study of the forces at work in the contemporary world, the founding father of India's foreign policy, Jawaharlal Nehru, recognised that our future development, perhaps our very survival, was only possible on the basis of non-alignment. This concept has now come to be accepted by the majority of world nations. The Movement has displayed its resilience and relevance through changing times and vicissitudes. Our philosophy rests on our determination to safeguard our independence, not to get involved in military alliances, and at the same time make a contribution towards resolving problems and advancing the cause of peace and justice in world affairs. We believe in cooperation with all powers, big and small. India's friendship with any one country is never at the cost of friendship with any other country. Nor would we allow ourselves to be influenced by the changing relations between our friends inter se. We believe that Non-alignment has provided and will continue to provide the direction in which lie the possibilities of resolving the problems of mankind.

At the commemorative session of the 20th anniversary of the 1st Summit Conference of the Non-Aligned Countries, our Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi, declared in her keynote address, and may I repeat those words:

"We want to be friends with all, India's policy is to consolidate friendship where it exists; where there is indifference, to create understanding and interest; and where there is hostility, to make every effort to minimise it. It is also our endeavour to find common areas howsoever small, between us and other nations, and to enlarge them".

Excellency, on some matters our perceptions are different deriving, presumably, from various factors including world views. But I believe, as our Prime Minister has indicated, that from a sincere dialogue, there can come closer understanding. And I also

believe that this is the spirit underlying our discussions.

REGIONAL COOPERATION AND STABILITY

India is keen to ensure stability and cooperation in our region. We attach the highest importance to improvement of relations with our neighbours, and to resolving such problems as we may have inherited, through peaceful bilateral negotiations with full recognition of the sovereignty, equality and independence of each country.

Excellency, in the context of our desire for friendly and cooperative relations between our two countries, your visit is of great significance. It has given us an opportunity to better understand each other's perceptions. It will enable us to explore ways and means of resolving problems between us. It will give a further stimulus to the exchanges between our two countries. I look forward to our dialogue becoming deeper and more meaningful. In the complex and rapidly changing situations of today, nations must seek and retain a degree of stability and continuity in their basic relations, as well as the scope of developing them further.

Two-fifths of humanity is concentrated in our two countries. This places on us a responsibility which we could discharge better with greater friendship and cooperation. I hope that both our countries will work towards this end.

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Excellency, your visit is all too brief. We would have liked you to see a little more of our country, its, unity, diversity and achievement. I hope, however, that there will soon be another opportunity. We highly appreciate that you have undertaken this arduous journey at a time when our climate imposes severe discomfort on our guests from abroad.

May I once more say how delighted we are to have you in our midst and also to be able to greet your charming wife who is also an able diplomat in her own right. Friends, I would now like to propose a toast to the health of H.E. Marshal Ye Jianying, Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress of China; to the health of H.E. Mr. Zhao Ziyang, Premier of the State Council of China; to the health of H.E. Mr. Huang Hua, Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister of China; to the health of Madame He Liliang; to the health of all distinguished Chinese guests who are present with us this evening; and to the health of all present.

INA INDIA USA PERU

Date : Jun 26, 1981

Volume No

1995

CHINA

Text of Chinese Foreign Minister's Speech

Replying to the toast H.E. Mr. Huang Hua said:

At the invitation of His Excellency Minister for External Affairs Narasimha Rao, we have come to the Republic of India for an official visit, and we have been accorded a friendly reception. We are very pleased that His Excellency the External Minister is hosting a banquet in our honour tonight, giving us an opportunity to meet our Indian friends. On behalf of my wife and my colleagues, I would like to express our sincere thanks to His Excellency the External Affairs Minister and the Indian Government for the kind hospitality extended to us.

At this banquet permeated with friendly sentiments I recall the course of development of Sino-Indian relations over the past few years. More than two years ago, I received in Beijing His Excellency Mr. Atal Behari Vajpayee, the former Indian Minister for External Affairs. Last year, I had the opportunity of meeting with Her Excellency Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, His Excellency External Affairs Minister Rao and Foreign Secretary Sathe in Salisbury. Later the Chinese Premier and the Indian Prime Minister met in Belgrade and both leaders expressed the desire to improve bilateral relations. It is for the purpose of furthering Sino-Indian friendship that I have come to your country for a visit.

India is a country with a long history and brilliant culture. The great Indian people made outstanding contributions to human civilisation in ancient times, and in modern times they waged long struggles against the colonialists and for national independence, leaving behind an illustrious chapter in history. Since independence, India had achieved gratifying successes in developing the economy and national culture and, in international affairs, played an important role in the creation of the nonaligned movement. The Chinese Government and people sincerely wish India further successes on its road of advance.

COMMON TASKS

There are many similarities between China and India, each having a vast territory, large population, ancient civilization and a historical record of being bullied by the imperialists. At present we face the common tasks of building up our respective

countries. Therefore, we can learn from each other, exchange experience and make up each other's deficiencies. After the establishment of diplomatic relations the friendly relations and cooperation between China and India developed rapidly. The late Premier Zhou En-lai and Prime Minister Nehru exchanged visits and together they initiated the world-famous "Panch Sheel" - the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence. These principles have become the basic norms guiding relations between States. For a time China and India carried out very fruitful cooperation in some international activities. Between us there are, of course,

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still some outstanding issues and divergence of views on certain questions. But we on our part always believe whenever there are disputes, we can discuss them and seek ways to settle them and that we should not allow them to obstruct the development of the relations between our two countries. In recent years, our bilateral relations have gradually moved forward: high-ranking officials of our two countries have exchanged visits; exchanges in various fields have increased; trade volume has grown; both sides have exchanged correspondents and students; and artists, scientists and scholars, too, have exchanged visits. We are pleased with all this and are convinced that through the joint efforts of our two sides, there will be broad vistas for exchanges and cooperation between China and India.

STRENGTHENING BILATERAL RELATIONS

We sincerely hope, that the present visit will help enhance mutual understanding between our two Governments and peoples and further improve and strengthen our bilateral relations. Proceeding from this desire, I have started the exchange of views with His Excellency Mr. Rao in a candid manner on the current international situation and bilateral relations. I believe that so long as both sides show good faith and display a spirit of mutual understanding and mutual accommodation and so long as both make earnest efforts, the differences between our two countries will eventually be solved and Sino-Indian relations will develop further.

PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP

Ladies and Gentlemen, since the beginning of the 1980s, the international situation has become more turbulent, tense, complicated and changeable. The rivalry between the superpowers and their expansion and aggression in various places have rendered the whole world most tranquil. China is a developing country belonging to the third world. The Chinese people are working hard to turn China into a modernized socialist country. They need a peaceful international environment and also need to exchange experience with other countries in national construction. Opposing hegemonism and safeguarding World peace is the basic guideline of China's foreign policies. We are willing

to develop friendly relations and cooperation with all countries, particularly our neighbours in Asia, on the basis of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence. It is also our hope that our neighbours will live in, amity, treat one another on an equal footing, enhance their mutual understanding and strengthen their unity in a concerted effort to oppose aggression and interference from outside and safeguard peace in Asia and the world as a whole. The Chinese Government is willing to work in active cooperation with the Indian Government to this end.

Now, I propose a toast to the further development of the traditional friendship between the Chinese and Indian peoples and the relations between the two countries, to the health of H.E., President Sanjiva Reddy, to the health... of Her Excellency Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, to the health of H.E. Mr. Narasimha Rao, Minister for External Affairs and to the health of friends present here.
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INA INDIA USA YUGOSLAVIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Jun 26, 1981

Volume No

1995

CUBA

India and Cuba Sign Memorandum on Technical Cooperation in Drugs and Pharmaceuticals

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Jun 17, 1981:

India and Cuba today signed a Memorandum of Discussions held here during the visit of the Cuban delegation headed by Dr. R. D. Vallina, Vice-Minister of Public Health, reflecting Cuba's interest in Indian collaboration in the field of pharmaceuticals.

The Cuban side showed interest in technologies for about ten basic drugs which included sulphamethizole, chlorpropamide glybenolamide and the Indian side agreed to explore possibilities in this respect.

The Cuban side also showed interest in steroid technology and indicated that they would be interested in receiving an offer from India in this respect.

The Cuban side was also interested in production of sorbitol from

sugar and requested that India may arrange proposal regarding techno-economic feasibility from an Indian party.

Since Cuba is major producer of canesugar and alcohol, the Cuban side showed interest in procuring technology for 11 alcohol-based chemicals, such as, ethyl acetate, vutanol, acetaldehyde.

The Indian side agreed to explore the possibilities in respect of these synthetic drugs and chemicals.

Regarding antibiotics, the Cuban side showed interest in receiving preliminary technical details for setting-up an antibiotics plant for the manufacture of pencillin, erythromvcin and tetracycline. In respect of penicillin, Cuba indicated that they would prefer the technology which could make use of either molasses or sugar.

In respect of formulations, the Cuban side indicated that they would like India's help in setting-up plants for production of pharmaceutical specialities in third countries, for which an agreement could be signed between India, Cuba and the Third country. The Indian side requested the Cuban delegation to communicate specific proposals identifying such Third countries.

The Cuban delegation during their 12-day stay in the country visited the IDPL Plants at Gurgaon, Rishikesh and Hyderabad and also Hindustan Antibiotics Plant at Pimpri. The delegation also visited Sarabhai Chemicals at Baroda, CIPLA manufacturing unit at Bombay. The delegation also visited Serum Research Institute, Pune and the Central Institute of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants, Lucknow as well as Central Drug Research Institute, Lucknow.

The memorandum was signed by Dr. R. D. Vallina on behalf of the Cuban side and by Shri K. V. Ramanathan, Secretary, Department of Chemicals and Fertilisers.

BA INDIA USA RUSSIA

Date : Jun 17, 1981

Volume No

1995

EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY

Indo-EEC Commercial and Economic Agreement

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on

Jun 25, 1981:

The new Commercial and Economic Cooperation Agreement between European Economic Community and India signed at Luxembourg on June 23, 1981, provides, among other things, promise by the Community to take all possible measures to in-
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tensify its support for India's development programmes,. This will be done through direct concessional transfers as well as through institutional and other sources of finance in accordance with the rules and policies of such institutions.

The Agreement was signed by Shri Khurshed Alam Khan, Minister of State for Commerce, on behalf of India and by Mr. Van Der Klaauwjn, Foreign Minister of the Netherlands and Mr. Wilhelm Haferkamp, Vice-President incharge of External Relations, on behalf of Community and Commission, respectively.

The new Agreement is a considerable advance on the 1973 Agreement which limited India - EEC co-operation generally to trade matters. The new provisions of significance enumerated in the Agreement include acceptance by the parties of the need to promote new relations of dynamic complementarity, based on comparative advantage and mutual benefit in the industrial field. Some of the other agreed provisions are: consultation and cooperation on international commercial and economic problems, jointly identifying possibilities for increased production and improved marketing prospects, promotion of industrial cooperation and transfer of technology through concerted measures, promotion of increased and mutually beneficial investment, consistent with the relative laws and policies and encouraging technological and scientific cooperation including joint programmes of research and development in various fields including energy sources, energy conservation, energy related technology, protection and improvement of the environment.

The machinery for ensuring the proper functioning of the Agreement will be a joint commission, which will be composed of representatives of the parties and will meet atleast once a year in Brussels and New Delhi.

In the annexures of the Agreement, the Community has expressed its preparedness, in the course of its endeavours to improve the Generalised System of Preferences, to take into account the interest of India and also to examine possibilities of further tariff adjustments to promote the development of trade between India and the Community.

DIA THE NETHERLANDS USA BELGIUM

Date : Jun 25, 1981

Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Official Spokesman's Statement on Sale of F-16 Aircraft to Pakistan

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Jun 16, 1981:

The Government of India has noted with concern the agreement announced in Islamabad yesterday of the immediate sale by the United States of F-16 aircraft and other advanced military hardware to Pakistan over and above a five-year package of arms sales and economic aid commencing in October 1982 and said to be of the value of US \$ 3000 million.

The Government of India acknowledges that every country has a right to acquire weapons for self-defence. It has not commented in any way while Pakistan has been steadily increasing and modernising its military strength over the past decade. The agreement announced yesterday is, however, qualitatively and quantitatively different. It could introduce immediately a new level of weapons sophistication into the region which would affect the existing balance.

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The Government of India reiterates its consistent desire for good relations with Pakistan and that India poses no threat whatsoever to that country. The decision of the United States Government could undermine the serious effort that is underway to strengthen the process of normalisation of relations between India and Pakistan, an important manifestation of which was the recently concluded visit of the Indian Foreign Minister to Pakistan.

KISTAN INDIA USA

Date : Jun 16, 1981

Volume No

1995

JAPAN

Expansion of Indo-Japanese Cultural Ties

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Jun 05, 1981:

Steps to expand bilateral relations between India and Japan in the cultural and education fields were discussed at a two-way meeting of the Indo-Japanese Mixed Commission under the Cultural Agreement which concluded here today.

It was decided to continue academic exchanges between the two countries including strengthening of Japanese studies in India and Indian studies in Japan. A number of proposals for exchange of performing troupes and art exhibitions were also discussed besides participation in film festivals and book fairs in the two countries.

PAN INDIA USA

Date : Jun 05, 1981

Volume No

1995

PAKISTAN

Minister of External Affairs P. V. Narasimha Rao's Statement on Arrival in Islamabad

Following is the statement by Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, Minister of External Affairs, on arrival in Islamabad on Jun 08, 1981:

I am grateful for the warm welcome extended to me and to the members of my delegation. My feelings on arriving in your beautiful country are a pleasing mixture of joy and anticipation. To avail myself of your kind invitation is, for me personally, an event that delights. I bring you the greetings and good wishes of our beloved Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, and the greetings of the millions of my countrymen who look to the people of Pakistan with affection and goodwill and who share the belief that India and Pakistan wish to build a splendid edifice of amity and cooperation.

In the last thirty odd years, we have had a chequered relationship, now cordial, now strained - a mixed phenomenon of complexes, affirmities and doubts. This could now be consigned to the past, if we so wish. India wishes this sincerely. Let us give

ourselves a chance.
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SIMLA AGREEMENT

We made a good beginning when we signed the Simla Agreement in 1972. The Agreement was more than a theoretical framework for peace; it was an impetus to greater friendship. Its spirit, to my mind, is much more comprehensive than the clauses contained in it. It flows invisibly like the well known "gupt vahibi" river Saraswati at the confluence of the rivers Ganga and Jamuna, and several other such confluences. We have come some distance since the Agreement was signed and there has been appreciable progress in what we have undertaken. But much remains to be done.

Ever since Shrimati Indira Gandhi returned to the helm of affairs in our country, we have, under her direction and guidance, been working to improve Indo-Pakistani relations. We had the privilege, of welcoming Foreign Minister Agha Shahi to India last year. His visit gave an opportunity for both sides to understand each other a little more and appreciate each other's perceptions. I trust that my visit will further this process.

INDIA'S COMMITMENT TO FRIENDLY RELATIONS

India's commitment to friendship with Pakistan incorporates its support for Pakistan's well-being and growth. Our Prime Minister has had occasion to underline this. And I take this opportunity to state unequivocally that we are committed to respect Pakistan's national unity, territorial integrity, political independence and sovereign equality.

This is why we welcome your stated adherence to the creed and principles of nonalignment. Commitment to the non-aligned cause has been a cardinal tenet in India's foreign relations, and we are convinced that in a world beset by suspicion and confrontation, non-alignment is the only guarantee of independent and meaningful action. Our support for your non-aligned status is a necessary corollary of this conviction.

Let me also add that our friendship will be a two-way current and between equals. I have had occasion to state this in the past, and I repeat it now: we are by no means insensitive to your concerns. We wish you well. As our Prime Minister said recently political independence is not complete till we have given the people more economic independence and the opportunity to grow to their full stature. We believe therefore that your stability and strength contribute to the well-being of the region in which we all live.

India and Pakistan must together have a more munificent vision for the future. We have shared traditions going back thousands of years. Consequently we have shared strengths and frailties too.

This shows that cooperation between us makes good sense. We worked and are still working in close cooperation in many fields - to take a few examples: effort to eradicate apartheid; commitment to the establishment of a just and equitable international economic order; cooperation in international cultural, educational and other fora. Our work at the recent Conference of Foreign Ministers of Non-aligned countries in Delhi achieved an acceptable objective, without either of us claiming to have done any favour to the other. There is much more that can be done. And we believe that our cooperation can transcend or be made to transcend, whatever differences we might happen to have. I am sure we can take these differences in our stride as we go along, without Permitting them to hold our countries to ransom.

Cooperation is possible, as I said, in many fields. Let us, to begin with, learn from each other. No nation is omniscient, You have at least as much to give us as we might have to give you. Let our people understand the variety and depth of all that exists in both countries. They are likely to find, after all, that to a large extent they dream the same dreams.

I have come to Pakistan, then, with this belief in mind that we, on our part, shall work to deepen our friendship and cooperation with you, hoping for a completely free and voluntary response from you".

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I am looking forward to my talks with my colleague the Foreign Minister and other colleagues besides paying my respects to His Excellency the President. I hope my stay in this country will be pleasant and fruitful and compensate for the inconvenience in the hot summer which I am inflicting on my hosts in receiving me.

Thank you.

KISTAN INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Jun 08, 1981

Volume No

1995

PAKISTAN

Indo-Pak Joint Statement

Following is the text of the Joint Press Statement issued in Islamabad on June 10, 1981 by the Foreign Ministers of India and

Pakistan on their talks:

The Foreign Ministers have had two rounds of formal talks and a number of informal discussions. During his stay in Islamabad Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao was received by the President of Pakistan, Gen Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq. Shri Narasimha Rao also met the Finance Minister Mr. Gulam Ishaq Khan. These exchanges have resulted in much closer understanding of each others view-points which provides a good basis for the further improvement of bilateral relations.

The talks were frank and constructive, and were held in a relaxed and cordial atmosphere.

Keeping in view the shared desire to improve relations between the two neighbours, it was felt that the process of confidence building called for patient and continuous effort. They noted that the strengthening of friendship between India and Pakistan served the interest of both peoples and was indeed a geo-political imperative. They recognised that the news media on either side had a vital role, to play in promoting better understanding between the peoples of the two countries.

Reaffirming their commitment to the Simla Agreement both sides noted that this agreement constituted a firm foundation for the preservation of peace and improvement of relations between the two countries. They noted that the Simla Agreement rules out the use of force or the threat of use of force between the two countries, and provides for peaceful settlement of all issues.

There was an in-depth discussion on bilateral matters between the senior officials of the two delegations. Further positive action in a number of areas was agreed upon with a view to expanding mutual cooperation.

There was a general exchange of views on various international issues including the Iraq-Iran War, the situation in the Middle East, the question of Gulf Security and the establishment of a zone of peace in the Indian Ocean. The views of the two sides on these subjects broadly coincided and the Foreign Ministers decided to keep in touch with each other in regard to future developments.

Both sides strongly condemned the Israeli aggression in Lebanon and the attack on Iraqi nuclear installations which, have created an explosive situation.

With regard to the situation in Afghanistan the two Foreign Ministers reaffirmed their adherence to the declaration of the Non-Aligned Foreign Ministers meeting in New Delhi in February 1981. They stressed that efforts should continue to be made to arrive at a comprehensive and just political solution of the Afghanistan crisis.

Both sides reiterated their policy of using nuclear energy for peaceful purposes. They called upon all nuclear weapon states to engage in serious discussions on nuclear disarmament.

The two sides reaffirmed their adherence to the principles of Non-Alignment which rule out participation. in military pacts. Both sides agreed that each country
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had the sovereign right to acquire arms for self-defence., In this context they explained to each other their parameters of their defence acquisition and decided to remain in touch with each other on a continuing basis.

The two sides have agreed on more frequent exchange of veiws at various levels. Mr. Narasimha Rao has invited Mr. Agha Shahi to pay a visit to India before the end of the year. The invitation has been accepted with pleasure.

KISTAN INDIA USA IRAN IRAQ ISRAEL LEBANON AFGHANISTAN

Date : Jun 08, 1981

Volume No

1995

PAKISTAN

Minister of External Affairs P. V. Narasimha Rao's Address to Pakistan Institute of International Affairs

Following is the address by Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, Minister of External Affairs, to the Pakistan Institute of International Affairs, Karachi, on Jun 11, 1981:

Mr. Chairman, Sir, Your Excellency Mr. Agha Shahi, Ladies and Gentlemen, Sisters and Brothers, It is indeed an honour for me to be invited by you to speak to the Pakistan Institute of International Affairs, which was inaugurated by that close associate of the Quaid-e-Azam, Nawabzada Liaquat Ali Khan. It is a measure of the breadth of vision of the Quaid-e-Azam. and the Quaid-e-Millat that within six months of the creation of Pakistan they should have set up this Institute of high academic standing to interpret Pakistan to the world and the world to Pakistan. Earlier today, I placed a wreath on behalf of the Government and people of India at the Mazar of the Quaid-e-Azam. As I did so, I recalled Mahatma Gandhi's letter to the Quaid in January, 1940

hailing the title conferred upon him. On this occasion, I am particularly happy that H.E. Mr. Agha Shahi is present here, I have perhaps been causing him great inconvenience by dragging him wherever I go! He has been gracious enough to put up with this inconvenience and accompany me throughout my visit to this country. This has made it possible for us to talk informally and in a relaxed atmosphere. I am grateful to him.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, Pakistan and India met their tryst with destiny as independent nations within twenty-four hours of each other. In his very first statement as Prime Minister of independent India, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru declared that "we look upon the world with clear and friendly eyes". I bring today to my friends in Pakistan that same message. I also bring to you the message of our Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi - "We have common concerns and friendship is the basic necessity".

There can be no doubt that while our fight for freedom was on, it was for the whole country as such and generally understood and felt on that basis. Naturally, therefore, as the struggle advanced to more and more decisive stages and as more and more signs of success appeared on the horizon, the emerging two-dimensional concept of freedom came to be attended with controversy, whose intensity increased correspondingly with the overall quick tempo of the phase immediately preceding independence. Yet, after the crescendo, when freedom came as a fact, controversy gave place to conciliation. To be sure, it was gradual, even painful, this process of tapering off of tensions; yet it brought about a new atmosphere of normalcy in general, barring of course the specific problems that had surfaced meanwhile.

It may not be out of place to point out here that, in many ways, the partition of the country was debated and implemented in a manner which was entirely familiar to the common people of India. The concept of partition among co-sharers or co-inheritors was and is so much a part of our tradition that many persons from outside the sub-continent, who had wanted a perpetual attrition at the people's level between the two countries, were rather unpleasantly surprised at the comparative ease and speed with which both countries, soon after the

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fact, plunged headlong into their respective internal problems - barring, I repeat, the specific issues that had been thrown up between them. Partition no longer remained an issue as such, just as in the face of the impending monsoon, partition of the ancestral land between two farmer-brothers concluded during the preceding summer months no longer remains an issue. Their hope and effort are directed towards the future. Their efforts are dependent on the monsoon, not against each other. So was, by and large, the case with the people of India and Pakistan.

NEW RELATIONSHIP

Further, Mr. Chairman, it is not our practice in this part of the world to hark back again and again to the circumstances of one's birth. Millions of people cannot even remember the dates of their birth accurately. No authentic data is available about the dates and places of birth of almost any of our saints, savants, kings, heroes and others held in the highest esteem in our history. We are essentially a forward-looking kind whose mind is conditioned to thinking of the hereafter. Therefore, there seems to be no reason whatever why, in our - mutual relations also, we should not come to concentrate on the future, instead of the past. And, in any event, those whose memories are still entangled in the partition are fast disappearing from the scene. For the new generations emerging and to emerge hereafter, India and Pakistan are two distinct and separate entities, totally independent, completely at liberty to attain whatever destinies they choose for themselves, deliberately and unfettered by any of the features of the past, taking it or leaving it, or any of it, as they wish to. Points of commonality need not in any way bind either country down to any particular relationship, other than what both consciously and in their respective interests choose to make of them. The pre-partition generation, with its admixture of nostalgic and bitter sentimentality, has no right to condemn the coming generations to adhere to unwanted identities. In a word, the future on both sides must be free and based on interest and reason - and not on emotion.

I wish to reiterate, Mr. Chairman, that these new premises of our existence are already being tacitly accepted, and I am absolutely certain that a new and fresh relationship is emerging between the two countries, based on objective realities, and not on notions. Even notions have begun to be conditioned by realities. It is not difficult to see that both countries can and should now co-exist, since in the world of today the only way to exist is to co-exist. It is high time that a clear-minded awareness of this new future is heralded and fostered continuously between India and Pakistan.

May I, therefore, submit very sincerely that those who are still trying to see, or make others see, sinister designs in our two countries, aimed at each other's existence are, to say the least, wasting their time. India should at least be credited with the perspicacity to know that there is not a single problem of hers which will come anywhere near solution by the undoing of Pakistan.' And as for the fantastic fear that India wants to gobble up Pakistan, I can only say that those who are plugging this line are doing injustice to Pakistan and India both.

PAKISTAN'S STABILITY IMPORTANT

No, Sir; nothing is farther from India's mind than this course. Alarmists and opponents of Indo-Pak friendship will, I am afraid, have to concoct something more plausible than this worn out

theory. And that something is just not there. We, on our part, are fully convinced that we have an abiding interest, even a vested interest in the stability of Pakistan. It is sometimes pointed out, with some justification, that this picture of India depicted in acquisitive juxtaposition to Pakistan can be traced, at least partially, to external sources. But that is all the more reason why we should shun it with greater determination since it is an insult to our intelligence. Our attitudes towards each other should freely evolve on the basis of our direct and clear perception of each others' interests and motivations based on direct contacts and direct exchange of views. We should develop an individual and, if necessary, a joint capacity to resist

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the negative impact on us by external trends, external elements and extraneous factors.

Coming back to the point that I was making about India's acknowledging Pakistan's separate and permanent identity as an abiding interest of ours, I do not think that this elite audience would expect me to catalogue the reasons for this interest in any great detail. I would, therefore, like to state categorically, on behalf of the Indian people and India's Prime Minister, that India has, and will always continue to have, full respect for the sovereignty, territorial integrity, stability and independence of Pakistan. When this is stated by Smt. Indira Gandhi, I hope it will be realised that there is no voice louder and clearer and no resolve more dependable. It would be my first and foremost concern to set all minds at rest on this score. Our respective successes and failures are, and will continue to be, entirely our own. We could Profit a lot by not putting the blame for them on each other.

Thus, having disposed of this basic aspect, and unmoved by sentiments or bias, if we approach our problems as well as the scene around us and generally in the contemporary world, as two independent sovereign States with the given geo-political situation, I am sure we can work out a whole gamut of sensible relationship based on our respective perceptions. Such relationships will alone endure and we shall have a pragmatic framework of improving upon them, to the extent we both consider such improvement mutually beneficial.

Let me repeat, quite candidly, that between sovereign States, improvement of relations has to stem from a mutuality of desire; it is not possible to achieve this unilaterally in a vacuum, howsoever desirable it may be otherwise. States should be mature enough to absorb possible ups and downs in their relations and nothing should prevent them co-existing peacefully for some time on a low profile of relations, meanwhile working silently for forging a framework of better relations, to emerge at a propitious future time. It is not unusual to find next door neighbours not being on talking terms for a while; but

neighbourliness prevails in the end. This is the experience.

GEOPOLITICAL SITUATION

I shall now briefly advert to the geopolitical situation which both our countries find themselves in. The extent to which they share perceptions on the situation, is again a matter of their compulsions. Mr. Chairman, it is said quite emphatically that the world has travelled from bi-polarism during the past three decades. This trend is indeed unmistakable; but equally unmistakable is another trend, namely that the world, while tending to become multi-polar, is at the same time being subjected to bipolar pulls in a variety of ways. I shall not go into the details of the methodology of these pulls and the intricate and subtle motivations induced; they are all well known. It so happened that almost from the beginning of the bipolar race, some prominent leaders like Nehru, Tito, Nasser etc. strongly felt the illogic and irrelevance of the emerging polarisation from the standpoint of a vast majority of mankind, just freed from the shackles of imperialism and colonialism, and finding itself faced with their accumulated needs and problems hungering for urgent solutions. They had the vision to speak up for this dumb chunk of humanity called the Third World and conceived of the Non-aligned Movement. Since then, more and more "poles", major and minor, have appeared on the horizon from time to time. Despite the short-term questionmarks about their viability, independence and effectiveness, I believe no one doubts the conclusion that they have come to stay and that a return to the classic bipolarism of the late forties and early fifties is quite unlikely. The present scenario is, therefore, one of a painful, even perilous transition.

COOPERATION IN WORLD AFFAIRS

Where do India and Pakistan stand in this crucial transition? It seems to me, Mr. Chairman, that in the emerging multipolar situation, South Asia is bound to be an important "pole". Its size, location, resources and over-all potential compel it to play a no lesser role. There is no running away from it. This role, naturally and inevitably, entails the fulfilment of certain pre-requisite conditions. In the first

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place, any "pole", properly so-called, in a multi-polar system, should make conscious and strenuous efforts to minimise the spectre of dependence behind and move in the direction of self-reliance. Obviously this self-reliance would not be absolute; it would be viewed in a new context of interdependence and complementarity. Can a new relationship of this kind be forged in South Asia? We need to examine this not from the limited standpoint of individual or even collective gains of the countries in the region, but in the truly global context of real multi-polarity. To the extent this new relationship is strengthened,

multi-polarity, and along with it the political substance of Non-alignment, is promoted, at least in the negative sense of making the old type of bipolar blocism more difficult and less meaningful. I suggest, Mr. Chairman, that India and Pakistan could seriously think of their role - joint or separate, as they may choose - in this emerging context. I emphasise joint or separate because I think both are conceivable in a framework of accepted objectives and coordinated actions. What is important is that a beginning be made in the process of understanding the new context in all its ramifications. We have recently witnessed an important and interesting phenomenon of countries of our region manifesting their desire to work together for their common good. I refer to the meeting of the seven Foreign Secretaries of the South Asian countries in Colombo to consider the proposal of the late President of Bangladesh to establish a framework for regional economic cooperation. Perhaps we should expect to see more such initiatives being considered and it is in this context that I invite the attention of one and all, especially intellectuals, to this issue. The matter has become particularly relevant after Pakistan has joined the Nonaligned Movement. This has come as a happy augury.

I now come to another, but allied topic of Economic Co-operation among Developing Countries (ECDC) and Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries (TCDC). It has been my happy experience during the past one and a half years, that on matters concerning the future of developing countries, both inter se and vis-a-vis the developed world, as also on the New International Economic Order and the strategies for the Development Decade, India and Pakistan have held almost identical views and worked in close-cooperation. This, again, was no doubt the result of decisions arrived at independently; what is important is that the decisions coincided in the way they did. It is possible to pursue this modus operandi further and in more diversified fields of endeavour. I propose that deeper thought be given in both countries to this activity which will perhaps outstrip everything else in importance in the near future. It will be mutually beneficial for both countries to play, and be seen to play, the role which must legitimately belong to them.

On issues like those of the Middle East, South, Africa, Namibia and several others, India and Pakistan are already in tune with each other and with the general consensus of the - Non-aligned Movement. I have no doubt that in the years to come, both our countries will be called upon to become more active on such vital issues. This is yet another opportunity to work in close cooperation in world affairs, given the will to do so.

Mr. Chairman, I shall now touch upon a few issues on which our countries have not been in total agreement, although this phenomenon has been depicted as a measure of difference which is hardly justified by the factual position. I do consider it important to put these issues in proper perspective, especially

before a gathering such as the one I am addressing.

AFGHANISTAN

I shall, with your permission, start with Afghanistan, in view of its vital nature to Pakistan as well as to India. It all started on 27th December, 1979 when we in India were in the thick of elections of Parliament. By about 9th or 10th of January, 1980 results came in and our Party got an overwhelming majority. The Government was sworn in only on 14th January. It was during this interregnum that we inherited this problem. A resolution was tabled in
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the UN General Assembly calling for immediate, unconditional, total withdrawal of foreign troops from Afghanistan. From the other side, the Soviet Union said that they had been invited by the leadership in Afghanistan and that they would not remain there longer than necessary. They also made accusations of interference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan from across the borders and fomenting of insurgency etc. This was the scenario three or four days before our Government was formally sworn in.

We took stock of the situation and concluded that there was no hope of the implementation of the resolution in the terms in which it was couched. At the same time, we reiterated, inter alia, our stand that we are opposed to the presence of foreign troops and bases in any country and expressed the hope that the Soviet Union would not violate the independence of Afghanistan. Mr. Chairman, ever since that time, started India's stand urging for a political solution with all the other concomitants clearly spelt out, including of course, withdrawal of foreign forces. Mr. Chairman, during the past sixteen months, we have doggedly stuck to that line, in the face of insufferable calumny, misrepresentation, distortion and a vicious smear campaign. The public statements, of the Prime Minister and my own statements, speak for themselves and they are all public property. In particular, it may be noted that while in the initial stages we were subjected to the treatment I have just described, our consistent stand did result in the gradual acceptance of the need for some kind of dialogue to resolve the problem. This is evident from the progressive modification of resolutions adopted and statements made over the last year.

On this occasion, I thought I owe it to myself and the cause, to bring out the above essential facts concerning India's stand on Afghanistan. However, I have desisted from mentioning many other aspects and subsequent facts because I do not intend to ruffle feathers and I want the issue to be settled under any of the initiatives known to have been taken already. Whatever the Agency, it is the result that matters. While it is encouraging that a political solution is now apparently favoured all round,

it is regrettable that the time taken ostensibly in the quest for the solution is being promptly and assiduously utilised for purposes such as escalation of Great Power presence in the region on a permanent basis, leading to a vicious circle which no one seems to know how and where to break. I invite your pointed attention to this aspect which on no account should be swept under the carpet. The views of India and Pakistan on this issue, while not being identical throughout, have not been diametrically opposite either and have in fact tended to come close to each other as time passed and events unfolded. They eventually converged on the New Delhi Declaration which, as you know, was based on consensus, like all such declarations. In the ultimate analysis each country's attitude should be judged by its commitment to that declaration. For my part, I am prepared to state categorically that India reaffirms her support for the relevant paragraph of the Declaration of the Non-Aligned Foreign Ministers' Conference held in New Delhi in February, 1981. And I am glad to add that both Mr. Agha Shahi and I have reaffirmed this in our Joint Press Statement issued yesterday.

KAMPUCHEA

At this point, I would also like to briefly touch upon the issue of Kampuchea. It has been a tense and a troubled country. The travails of the Kampuchean people over the last two decades and especially in the 1970s go beyond human imagination and were too ghastly for normal human compassion to remedy or to provide succour. Every leader and Foreign Minister I have come across so far has categorically expressed abhorrence of the doing of the Pol Pot regime. Yet the irony is that in the U.N., the same regime is allowed to represent its own victims, as it were, and no concern seems to be felt about this phenomenon. The anomalous position of the Pol Pot regime is that no one favours it, many continue to recognise it technically while voicing their opposition to it, some have derecognised it, some do not seem to know what to do or say and wait for further deve-

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lopments - while the people of Kampuchea continue to suffer. The central concern of all countries should have been to bring to the Kampuchean people some hope of stability, some sense of peace, some prospect for their well-being. In spite of this, the whole issue was dealt with and continues to be dealt with in many quarters and by many countries in terms of their own strategic and national interests under the umbrella of technical and legalistic arguments. India's approach was and is to be responsive to the predicaments and the needs of the Kampuchean people. It is this approach which led us to recognise the present Government of Kampuchea of Mr. Heng Samrin. This is the national consensus which emerged in India both before and after the 1980 elections to Parliament and all political parties, except one, are in favour of the decision. In fact, when I announced this in Parliament as the fulfilment of the election pledge of our party,

all leaders of opposition parties stood up and protested; they said that this was a matter on which there was national consensus and that the Foreign Minister could not, therefore, claim the credit entirely as his own or as of his Party! I then corrected myself and admitted that this was a question of national consensus.

Leaving aside the politics and polemics of tactical and strategic competition and confrontation, some stability and order, some measures of peace and calm have come back to Kampuchea under its present Government. These facts have been confirmed by many persons who visited the country, including some non-political U.N. experts and a delegation of Members of Parliament of India, belonging to/different political parties. It is therefore our assessment that if the people and the Government of Kampuchea are allowed to devote themselves to the task of their national reconstruction and well-being without external interference, without the imposition of extraneous interests on the course of events, then the issue will resolve itself and pave the way for stability in the whole region.

Of course, this would involve withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea if these objectives are to be achieved. In our view that can best be obtained by quiet diplomacy between the countries directly concerned and by a regional dialogue which was urged by the recent Nonaligned Foreign Ministers' Conference in Delhi, and generally accepted by the parties directly concerned. It is our hope that they will continue along this constructive path.

NO BASIC DIFFERENCES

These, then, are the issues on which India and Pakistan have somewhat different perceptions. No one can say they are too many, nor too deep. Nevertheless, there seems to be an unfortunate tendency in both countries to play up the differences rather disproportionately all the time. I have often wondered why this should be so. Could it be a part of the overall effort to establish separate identities? Could it be a bundle of complexes developed on both sides, to the effect that any emphasis on similarities may prove unpopular? In that case how and why did such emphasis become unpopular? Could it be merely a hangover we are not able to get over? It is possible, Mr. Chairman, that it may be a combination of all these and several other factors which has led to the playing up of differences. Be that as it may, I think it is time to realise that just like differences, similarities too cannot be wished away; so also complementarities. It is of course open to us to ignore them and go our separate ways, regardless of the cost of duplication, avoidable wastage, inconvenience of fixing up alternatives etc. Such a cost is known to have been accepted by sovereign States at times for countervailing reasons. What I wish to submit, Mr. Chairman, for the consideration of the people of Pakistan is that

in our case there are no such countervailing reasons. The logic is overwhelmingly in favour of coming closer.

The stark reality which confronts the two of us is that we are both poor, and that for both countries, poverty is the main enemy. Hence our shared interest in the New International Economic Order. Hence too, the interest in our countries in the adaptation and application of scientific knowledge and technological know-how in the essential task before us; the betterment of
<pg-188>

our living conditions and the augmentation of the welfare of our peoples. I would, therefore, suggest that we move towards free exchanges in the economic field. I also believe that if we were to promote thoroughgoing academic exchanges, the greater cross-fertilisation of ideas would gradually and irreversibly lead to a more sympathetic and mutual understanding, at a deeper and more profound level.

SIMLA AGREEMENT

We have in fact been attempting to do this since the commencement of the Simla process. The process of normalisation envisaged in the Simla Agreement means - and can only mean - the intensification of interaction at all levels between our peoples and Governments and with a view to evolving an integrated, realistic and mature relationship.

We are happy to note that in the field of intellectual and cultural contacts, we have received in India scores of Pakistani writers and poets, journalists and commentators, musicians and other artistes. I would like to express my gratitude for the warm and enthusiastic welcome which you, in turn, have, invariably reserved for Indian artistes and intellectuals and sportsmen visiting your country.

OUR DESTINIES ARE INTER-LINKED

India's desire for close and friendly relations with Pakistan is founded on a realistic appreciation in India of Pakistan's inherent strength. In terms of population, Pakistan is one of the big countries in the world. Out of the 160 countries or so of the world, Pakistan comes in among the first ten or twelve. Apart from a large and skilled population, Pakistan has impressive natural resources, ranging from some of the most fertile land in the world to valuable mineral deposits. There is also much to admire in the economic progress you have made in the past three decades. These potentialities strengthen prospects of cooperation between Pakistan and India. Our own experiences and experiments in the spheres of agricultural research, development of resources of energy including solar energy, and intermediate industrial technology have been satisfactory and useful. If you are

persuaded that this Indian experience is relevant to your needs and conditions and could contribute to strengthening your economy, we would be only too ready to share it with you.

It is our belief that the countries of the sub-continent constitute a fraternity, whose destinies are interlinked. This is what led our Prime Minister to tell "The Muslim" newspaper the other day:

"We feel that a stable Pakistan and the progress of its people is as much in India's interest as it is in Pakistan's".

In conclusion, I would venture a few words about my vision for the future of Indo-Pakistan relations. I have referred to the Simla Agreement. Both our countries acknowledge that it provides a framework, a basis for expanding our relations, for encouraging our common endeavour for peace and stability so essential for the well-being of our peoples. It would be our endeavour that attitudes and actions flowing therefrom contribute through varying vicissitudes, to the process of normalisation; to strengthening the bonds of friendship; to adding positive and creative dimensions to our mutual understanding. I am trying to look beyond the stage of normalization and aim at positive friendship based on active co-operation born of genuine mutual trust. I think we have to undertake a deliberate and conscious transformation of our respective psyches. I am conscious that this will be a gradual process. But all progress will depend on the cultivation of grace under pressure, empathy in adversity and a capacity to discern the positive and work for it in the face of limitations. My visit to Pakistan is intended to lay emphasis on this spirit.

It has been a privilege to be amidst you. I must convey my appreciation for the patience with which you have heard me. Your valuable time that I have taken is in the expectation that, given the importance and impact that this institute has in your country, the suggestions that I have made will reach the people at large since the success of relations between governments

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and states is ultimately measured at the bar of public opinion. I convey to you the greetings of the people of India and their firm commitment not only to nurture but also to improve and expand friendly relations with Pakistan. I shall be returning to Delhi in a few hours. I would like to thank you and through you the citizens of Karachi and the Government and people of Pakistan for their warm hospitality.

I would like to add a few words at this point. Over the last three days I have had very cordial discussions with the Foreign Minister and the President of Pakistan. Some people ask, "What have you achieved?" My answer is that what one achieves through such meetings is not something cut and dried; but what we have

achieved is, from our point of view, extremely important, something which makes the way clearer. It is not a question of understanding between Agha Shahi and Narasimha Rao. We are only two individuals. We represent two great countries. We have approached our task with full sense of responsibility and humility. It has been the tradition in our part of the world, for thousands of years, to work without expectation of reward. There is no reason to be daunted by what has not been achieved. But, in all humility, we have a right to claim, and do claim, to have achieved something.

I believe that my visit at this time was very necessary. In the recent past, there has been some danger of our relations sliding back. We have succeeded in averting this danger and arresting this trend. I have requested Mr. Agha Shahi to visit India soon. In the Press Statement, the date set has been the end of this year. To my mind, this is the outer limit. If it is possible, given his and my own busy schedules to accommodate the visit earlier, it is necessary to do so, in the interest of Indo-Pak relations. I am glad to say that, in our informal discussion, Mr. Shahi has agreed to this suggestion. We have come to an understanding which is very hopeful for both countries.

I am grateful for the all-round friendly welcome, which is seen among every section of the people - unconnected with the Government - during the brief period of my stay. I go back with the high hope that these positive trends will be strengthened in the future. We know that there are many forces which do not want our countries to be friends. That is why it is all the more important that we try our hardest to develop our friendship.

In conclusion, I would quote the words of a great poet,

KISTAN INDIA USA SRI LANKA BANGLADESH NAMIBIA AFGHANISTAN CENTRAL AFRICAN
REPUBLIC VIETNAM MALI

Date : Jun 11, 1981

Volume No

1995

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Agreement on US Grant for HUDCO Shelter Design

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on
Jun 16, 1981

An agreement providing for a grant of \$ 125,000 for the US Fiscal Year 1981 for HUDCO Shelter Design and Analysis was signed today by Shri Yogesh Chandra, Joint Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs and Mrs. Priscilla M, Boughton, Director for the United States Agency for International Development in New Delhi.

The total cost of the two year HUDCO Project is estimated at approximately \$ 375,000 of which US Aid will contribute \$ 250,000. Funding by AID will be incremental with \$ 125,000 in US Fiscal Year 1981 and \$ 125,000 in US Fiscal Year 1982,
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subject to the availability of funds and mutual agreement.

In order to promote and expand the supply of low income shelter in India, the Housing and Urban Development Corporation (HUDCO) of the Ministry of Works and Housing is attempting to improve its project identification, project design and project analysis process. The Grant will assist HUDCO in this effort by developing a package of micro-computer based models and programmes for shelter project identification, design and analysis, costing, cash flow and financial planning.

A INDIA

Date : Jun 16, 1981

Volume No

1995

VENEZUELA

Minister of External Affairs Narasimha Rao's Speech at Dinner in Honour of Venezuelan Foreign Minister

Following is the text of the speech by the Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, at the dinner in honour of His Excellency Dr. Jose Alberto Zambrano Velasco, Foreign Minister of Venezuela, on Jun 29, 1981. Proposing the toast, Shri Narasimha Rao said:

It is a pleasure and privilege to welcome amidst us this evening His Excellency Dr. Jose Alberto Zambrano Velasco, the illustrious Foreign Minister of the Republic of Venezuela, and the distinguished members of his delegation.

Excellency, I still have vivid memories of my two recent visits to your beautiful country, first in August last year and, more recently, only last month. During these visits, I had the

privilege of holding fruitful discussions with His Excellency the President of Venezuela, Your Excellency and other high dignitaries in your Government, and of having enjoyed your gracious hospitality. We have had useful talks here this afternoon, and I hope that your talks with my other colleagues here will be equally fruitful.

CLOSE BILATERAL RELATIONS

Friends, it is a matter of satisfaction that despite the long distance which separates the two countries geographically, there is much more that is common and that links us closely in our bilateral relations. Like your people, Excellency, the people of India cherish the democratic way of life and have an attachment to the heritage of the past. At the same time, both aspire to secure a better future for our peoples. Both have been through the colonial experience and, having shaken off the yoke of foreign domination, cherish the values of freedom, sovereignty and independent national destiny. We have common aspirations as members of the Third World and a happy record of cooperation in various world forums.

In the first quarter of the 19th century, the great liberator, Simon Bolivar launched his epic struggle for the political independence of several countries in South America. The fruition of his efforts signified the beginning of the end of the age of imperialism. Bolivar realised that the independence of his own native land would be incomplete without the independence of its neighbours. His struggle offers an object lesson in the contemporary developing world's quest for political independence and economic self-reliance. Last year, as a token of the respect and admiration in which the people of India hold him, we named one of the streets of our capital after Simon Bolivar.

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GREAT-POWER RIVALRY

Friends, we are living through turbulent times. We seem to be/entering a decade of increasing confrontation. Problems beset many parts of the world, sometimes created and always exacerbated by the strategic manoeuvres of the Great Powers. In the process, smaller and weaker countries suffer most. We believe that Non-alignment is the only way of arresting the trend towards world-wide confrontation and safeguarding international peace and stability. The Movement as a whole, and India in particular, are happy to have Venezuela as an Observer.

INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION

The role of Venezuela in the quest for a new international economic order deserves special mention. In this context we are also honoured by the presence among us this evening of Dr. Perez Guerrero, whose eminence as an expert on international economic

issues is very well known. We appreciate the manner in which Venezuela is leading the Group of 77 as its current Chairman and India's immediate successor.

The North-South Dialogue has unfortunately been a story of frustration and disappointment. The record, ranging from the Paris Conference on International Economic Cooperation to the infructuous efforts to launch the Global Round of Negotiations at the United Nations, is indeed dismal. It is a pity that our more privileged brothers in the developed world should fail to see the writing on the wall. While still hoping that wiser counsels will prevail, the developing countries are firm in their resolve to stand on their own feet. India re-affirms its commitment to the concept of economic cooperation among developing countries. The recent conference on ECDC at Caracas, chaired so competently by Your Excellency, marked an important milestone in this process, taking steps as it did to carry the concept of economic cooperation among developing countries from the realm of resolution to actual implementation.

I would be failing in my duty if I did not make special mention of the particular role played by Venezuela in ECDC. A good example of this is the programme of cooperation in the field of energy resources that Venezuela and Mexico have jointly put into operation from this year for the countries of Central America and the Caribbean. This constitutes an example of how oil producing countries can collaborate with other developing countries.

While we intend to press ahead resolutely in projects of cooperation with other developing countries we will also persist with our efforts to put the North-South Dialogue back on the rails. In this context, we look with expectation to the forthcoming restricted summit meeting at Mexico on international economic cooperation for development.

In the bilateral context, it is a source of satisfaction that India and Venezuela have strengthened their economic relations. We appreciate the decision taken by the Government of Venezuela to help us through supply of crude oil. We would like to see our contacts grow, particularly in the economic and cultural spheres. We are also looking forward to the State visit of His Excellency the President of Venezuela to India.

Excellency, this is your first visit to India. Ours is a vast country and your visit is all too brief to enable us to give you more than a superficial glimpse of our cultural heritage and our quest for modernity. I hope that you will give us another opportunity to do so later.

Friends, may I now request you all to join me in a toast to the health and happiness of His Excellency Mr. Luis Herrera Campins, President of the Republic of Venezuela; to the health and

happiness of His Excellency Dr. Jose Alberto Zambrano Velasco, Foreign Minister of the Republic of Venezuela; to the welfare and prosperity of the friendly people of Venezuela and to ever-growing friendship between our two countries.
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NEZUELA USA INDIA FRANCE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC MEXICO

Date : Jun 29, 1981

Volume No

1995

VENEZUELA

Text of Venezuelan Foreign Minister's Speech

Replying to the toast, H.E. Dr. Velasco said:

First of all, I would like to express our gratitude to H.E. The Minister of Foreign Affairs of India, Mr. P. V. Narasimha Rao, who has been so kind as to invite me to make this official visit to his country, and tonight has been willing to offer on our behalf this magnificent reception.

Many are the reasons for feeling particularly pleased upon finding ourselves in this wonderous land, birthplace of one of the most prominent civilizations of humanity and that has given immeasurable contribution to universal culture.

My desire, profiting from this most pleasant occasion, is to point out the immense satisfaction that we Venezuelans feel, when brought under the fascinating spell of this millenary country so full of souvenirs and traditions, so diverse and fertile in the expression of its art and thought, so rich with dazzling feats and exploits during many countless centuries.

All this has cotributed to shape its bountiful and meaningful history, which continues to be enriched with the constant and presevering effort of the Indian people, who amidst great difficulties, search for a destiny that should be always worthier.

These are words and feelings that arise from a sincere and spontaneous admiration for this great country, land of the most populated democracy of the world.

TOWARDS GREATER COOPERATION

I have come to the Delhi, upon this first official visit by a Minister of Foreign Affairs of Venezuela to this country, to bear witness, through our presence, of the interest that the Venezuelan Government grants to its rapports with India, and the willingness that moves us to foment a stage of greater rapprochement and cooperation between our two countries.

India and Venezuela, although separated by large physical distance, become closer each day, due to the practice and development of representative democracy as the most suitable system for guaranteeing the basic rights of human beings; due to our perseverance in overcoming the pitfalls on our way towards the economic and social development of our people, and due to the determination we share, to contribute resolutely towards the achievement of a new world order, based on justice and equity.

In a spirit of solidarity, our countries have joined efforts and worked together at numerous international fora, mainly within the United Nations, for the defence and promotion of the common objectives of the developing world. While continuing the unceasing struggle to help bring about the rise of a better world for mankind, the fundamental coincidences between India and Venezuela have been emphasized, not only as regards many aspects of international economic relations, but also in connection with a wide range of world issues.

As an example of this same course of common struggle and replevy, I would like to remind you about the fact that Venezuela has just succeeded India for the Chair of the Group of 77 at New York, in September of last year.

Thus, there exist many significant motives and proofs of joint efforts, when looking for similar objectives in certain areas of common interest, that drive us towards a closer rapprochement, and which allow us to visualise encouraging expectations as to the possibilities of strengthening our bilateral links within a framework of friendly, as well as mutually beneficial relations.

FRIENDSHIP AND SOLIDARITY

I have come to India with this message of a desire to strengthen our friendship and solidarity, being fully convinced that each day a direct cooperation between developing countries becomes more necessary, as one more aspect of the solidarity action that must make a part of the relation be-

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tween states which present kindred problems.

Recently was held in Caracas the high-level conference for Economic Cooperation between developing countries, that was honoured by the presence of H.E. the Minister of Foreign Affairs

of India. There, important results were achieved to further the South-South cooperation and to contribute to the implementation of the structural changes needed for a balanced and fair economic world development.

INDIA'S ROLE

The Government of Venezuela highly appreciates the important role that India plays in the international scene, as a forerunner and influential member of the Non-Aligned Movement, and as an active participant of the measures destined to promote a New International Economic Order, mainly at the level of the Group of 77.

Venezuela, also, firmly supports that the true principles and ideas of non-alignment should be set forth and enforced. We stand for the ennobling ideals that drove and motivated outstanding leaders, such as Jawaharlal Nehru, to create the Non-aligned Movement as a binding alternative that would make valid the overwhelming hopes for peace and justice in international relation.

Venezuela is not a full member of the non-aligned countries. As an observer, it has participated in its conferences and meetings with great enthusiasm and interest. The international behaviour of Venezuela is inspired in an authentic and balanced non-alignment. The purposes and principles of non-alignment have been adopted by us, and we have made them the basis of our foreign policy.

The aspirations for greater self-reliance and independence of the developing countries, the demand for a larger participation in the world's system, the rejection of blocks and the militant solidarity in favour of all the people suffering under any kind of given subjection, the repudiation of any kind of racism or racial discrimination, are among others, the basic guidelines of our foreign policy.

PROMOTION OF PEACE

During these last years, the centres of conflict and perturbation have increased in the world, and violence and terrorism have risen anew. In these difficult and worrisome times, the postulates for peace are in vogue; those postulates that inspired the existence of men as outstanding as Mahatma Gandhi, whom we deeply admire in Venezuela, should be an inexhaustible source of inspiration in the efforts that continuously should be deployed for the promotion of peace and international security.

On behalf of the delegation that accompanies me and of myself, once again I thank you for the hospitality and the kind gestures of friendship that you bestowed upon us during this splendid evening.

Allow me, Your Excellency, to make a toast in your honour and to express my most fervent wishes for the happiness and prosperity of the people of India and for your own personal good fortune.

NEZUELA INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Jun 29, 1981

Volume No

1995

ZAMBIA

President N. Sanjiva Reddy's Speech at Banquet in His Honour by Zambian President

Following is the text of the speech by the President of India, Shri N. Sanjiva Reddy, at the banquet in his honour by the President of Zambia at Lusaka on Jun 15, 1981. Replying to the toast, the President, Shri N. Sanjiva Reddy said:

This is the last evening of what has been a memorable stay in Zambia. I have
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been here before, but on each visit it has been a moving experience to witness the spontaneous friendship, and regard which the people of Zambia and the leaders have for India. An ocean, and thousands of kilometers separate our two countries but in human terms there is a sense of closeness and brotherhood which defies description or explanation. During these past few days we have felt absolutely at home in your great country, just as, I hope, you and your fellow countrymen must have felt in ours during each of your visits to India.

We live in a world which becomes more complicated, more tense, and more difficult by the day. There are grave threats not only to regional stability in different parts of the world but also to global peace. Detente, instead of being a positive and dynamic process which should extend to every troubled region, has become a geostrategic concept which is switched on and off at the whims of the powerful. There is little understanding for the hopes, aspirations, fears and interests of the developing countries. Instead, it is assumed that the poor countries must be amenable to manipulation and pressure. Our determination not to get involved in great power rivalries is misunderstood or misinterpreted, perhaps not always innocently.

It is a world in which every voice of moderation, every constructive vision of peace and stability is all the more important.

COMMON PERCEPTIONS

India and Zambia share common perceptions of the dangers, choices and opportunities that face mankind. Our faith in the relevance and durability of the Nonaligned Movement has grown stronger with the years. We both reject any suggestion that bigger countries have a right to sort out their differences on other peoples' soils. Together we have been working in close cooperation within the Commonwealth, the United Nations, the Non-aligned Movement and other forums to contribute towards the defusing of world tensions and the resolution of the major economic, social and political problems of the day. I have no doubt that the months and years to come will witness a further intensification of that consultation and cooperation.

FREEDOM AND HUMAN RIGHTS

We have watched with sincere admiration the courage and sense of sacrifice that you and your people have repeatedly demonstrated so that your neighbours might also enjoy the fruits of independence. The fact that so many of them stand proud and unshackled today owes a great deal to you. It must be a matter of the deepest concern to the entire international community that even as the light of freedom burns at last in Zimbabwe, sinister, last-ditch efforts are under way to extinguish the hopes of liberation in the remaining bastions of the racist domination in Southern Africa. I would like to avail of this opportunity to reiterate in the most emphatic terms the resolve of the people and the Government of India to work by the side of Zambia and other Frontline States and the liberation movements so that freedom and human rights are not denied to the long-oppressed peoples of Namibia and South Africa.

Mr. President, as an independent nation, India is almost twice as old as Zambia. Yet in the history of the world, we are both infants. We have managed to improve the quality of life of our people, to reduce illiteracy, extend longevity, electrify and modernise our villages, become self-sufficient in food, and achieve something close to self-reliance in industry. We have still a long way to go, but it seems to us that we have walked a long distance from where we stood in 1947.

As your friends and brothers across the Indian Ocean, we have watched with sympathy and admiration your own efforts to overcome the social, economic and other challenges, which are partly colonial legacy, partly the byproducts of the escalating expectations of a liberated people. We applaud your success. We have every confidence that many more are around the corner. For our part, we will participate in your developmental effort with

goodwill and enthusiasm. Many hundreds of my countrymen
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are already working in almost every sector of national activity, side by side with their Zambian brethren, on the road towards progress. New possibilities of cooperation have opened up as a result of Your Excellency's memorable visit to my country in September last year, and now as a consequence of our discussions here. I would like to assure you of our readiness to share with you our experience and expertise in every field of interest to Zambia - training, industry, agriculture or education. We consider ourselves your partners in the common struggle against poverty, ignorance and disease and would hope that our joint effort could become a model of cooperation between developing countries.

MBIA INDIA USA TOTO ZIMBABWE NAMIBIA SOUTH AFRICA

Date : Jun 15, 1981

Volume No

1995

ZIMBABWE

Indo-Zimbabwean Protocol on Information

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Jun 08, 1981:

India and Zimbabwe today signed a protocol on cooperation in the field of information.

The protocol was signed on behalf of Zimbabwe by His Excellency Dr. Nathan Shamuyarira, Minister of Information and Tourism of Zimbabwe, and on behalf of India by Shri Vasant Sathe, Minister of Information and Broadcasting.

According to the protocol, both the countries will endeavour to promote and develop close relations and cooperation between press, radio, television and films of the two countries.

The protocol provides for interchange of journalists for study-visits and training.

The protocol provides for exchange of technicians and radio and television personnel for study-visits and training. It also says of regular consultations to exchange experience and information

as well as consult on common positions to be taken on international issues.

In the field of training, the protocol says that the competent bodies including the journalists' organisations in each country will promote the exchange of experience in the fields of schools of journalism and other forms of cooperation in the field of mass information.

According to the protocol, both the countries have agreed to cooperate in the sphere of films through exchange of newsreel items of mutual interest for distribution within their countries. It also envisages the exchange of technical personnel for study, tour and training in the sphere of film production. Interchange of production units after exploring schemes of production of short films that could be of mutual interest to both countries is also included in the protocol.

The protocol aims at developing and strengthening of cooperation in the sphere of information inspired by the desire to ensure a closer and more comprehensive
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mutual understanding between the two countries on the basis of reciprocity and in the spirit of respect for principles of national independence, sovereignty, equality and non-interference in internal affairs.

The exchange of programmes on commercial basis shall not be affected under this protocol but can be undertaken separately in mutual consultation between the two countries.
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MBABWE INDIA

Date : Jun 08, 1981

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NIGERIA

Date : Jul 01, 1981

Volume No

1995

ARGENTINA

India-Argentina Trade Agreement Signed

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Jul 28, 1981:

The first Trade Agreement between India and Argentina has been concluded at Buenos Aires today, according to the information received here. The Agreement was signed by Shri Pranab Mukherjee, Union Minister of Commerce, Steel and Mines, on behalf of India and Mr. Carlos Garcia Martinez, Minister of Commerce and Maritime Interests, on behalf of Argentina. India had concluded similar Agreements with other countries in Latin America such as Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Guatemala and Peru earlier.

The new Agreement takes due note of the newly emerging international trade policy with regard to a closer economic cooperation among the developing countries and aims at an efficient utilisation of their resources and at accelerating their economic growth rate.

The Agreement grants most favourable conditions to imports and exports of commodities to each other's country in terms of customs tariffs, any sort of duties, taxes or fiscal levies, as well as with regard to administrative formalities, licence granting or exemptions, prohibitions and restrictions on import and export of commodities, transference or payment of moneys, regulation of circulation, transportation and distribution of commodities. The Agreement also points out that the two countries would grant the most favourable treatment to each other's ships.

The Agreement also reflects the determination of the two Governments to exchange commercial and technical representatives, teams or delegations between the two countries and to hold trade fairs and exhibitions in each other's country.

JOINT COMMITTEE

The Agreement also constitutes a Joint Committee to promote trade and economic cooperation between the two countries. The Joint Committee will analyse the implementation of the provisions of the Agreement, review measures for solving the problems of trade, study proposals for increasing and diversify bilateral trade and identify areas for industrial cooperation. The Joint Committee is expected to meet yearly on an alternate basis in India and

Argentina.

The Agreement stipulates that all payments and commercial transactions between the two countries will be made in free convertible currency. It shall remain in force for an initial period of three years.

INDIAN EXPORTS

The Agreement lists a series of items which can be exported from India to Argentina. These include a number of engineering goods like railway equipment and rolling stock, iron and steel castings, transformers, textile, cement and sugar mill machineries, handtools, machine tools, sewing machines, bicycles and parts, electric fans, power generators and switch gears, several chemicals and allied products like dyes, photo-chemicals and agarbatties and several agricultural and allied products like HPS groundnut, tomatos, marine products, shellac spices and items like tea, coffee, leather goods handicrafts, sports goods, gems and jewellery, jute manufactures, coir and feature
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films. The list of products which can be imported from Argentina include agricultural equipment, fishing vessels, machinery for dairy, textile and leather industries, organic and inorganic chemicals, non-ferrous metals, zinc, lead ingots, nickel and tin.

An analysis of trade figures for the year 1978-79 and three year average of 1976-79, indicate that the major countries, Venezuela, Brazil, Argentina and Mexico together accounted for 70 percent of our exports and 88 percent of our imports, to and from Latin America, the two-way trade being 78 percent. In the Carribean region Trinidad & Tobago was our major trading partner followed by Netherlands, Antilles, Guyana and Suriname.

ARGENTINA INDIA UNITED KINGDOM CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC BRAZIL CHILE COLOMBIA
CUBA GUATEMALA PERU USA MALI RUSSIA VENEZUELA MEXICO GUYANA SURINAME

Date : Jul 28, 1981

Volume No

1995

CANADA

Warm Canadian Response to Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's Initiative

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on

Jul 02, 1981:

Canada has responded warmly to Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's initiative to ensure the success of the North-South summit conference scheduled to be held on October 22-23, 1981 in Cancun, Mexico. Canada's positive appreciation of the initiative taken by the Indian Prime Minister in sending Dr. L. K. Jha for talks with Canadian Government officials in Ottawa was conveyed to Dr. Jha by Prime Minister Trudeau of Canada in Ottawa.

In a fitting and warm gesture to Shrimati Gandhi's special envoy, Prime Minister 'Trudeau attended a lunch given by he Canadian External Affairs Ministry in honour of Dr. L. K. Jha. Responding to the letter of Smt. Indira Gandhi, handed over to the Prime Minister by Dr. Jha, Prime Minister Trudeau is reported to have said that Canada was committed to urgent attention being given to the problems of the developing countries and would do its best to ensure the success of the Mexico Summit.

Shri Jha, who is the Chairman of the Economic Administration Reforms Commission, arrived in Ottawa last week and held talks with other senior Ministers and officials of the Government of Canada. Dr. Jha is visiting several other countries and came to Ottawa from Tokyo and is proceeding to Washington for talks with U.S. Government officials.

NADA INDIA MEXICO JAPAN USA

Date : Jul 02, 1981

Volume No

1995

GHANA

Industrial Cooperation between Ghana and India Discussed

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Jan 02, 1981:

Wide ranging discussions on Indo-Ghanian industrial cooperation were held between Shri P. A. Sangma, Deputy Minister of Industry and Mr. M. P. Ansah, Minister of Industry, Science and Technology, Government of Ghana here yesterday.
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Mr. M. P. Ansah is leading a 4-member delegation in response to an invitation by the Minister - of State for Industry. The visit

has been undertaken with a view to expanding and strengthening the industrial cooperation between India and Ghana.

The Ghanaian delegation is visiting a number of industrial plants in various parts of the country. The sectors of cooperation identified include the tyre industry, heavy chemicals, machine tool, vehicles and ancillaries. in the automotive sector, synthetic fibre, power generation and transmission and the small scale sector.

The Ghanaian Minister sought Indian assistance in the establishment of small scale industries and industrial estates in Ghana. He also evinced keen interest in availing of Indian assistance for the development of iron and steel industry in Ghana based on the utilisation of the large iron ore deposits in that country. He expressed deep appreciation of the systematic and impressive industrial development of India and conveyed Ghana's deep interest in benefiting from the Indian experience for the industrial development of Ghana.

Shri P. A. Sangma gave a detailed account of the Indian industrial and engineering capabilities in specific sectors and proposed that cooperation between the two countries should be strengthened with a view to developing the basic and key industries in Ghana such as iron and steel, machine tool, chemical industries, commercial vehicles and automotive ancillaries and basic chemicals. He also referred to the facilities available in India for the training of technical personnel of various categories and in particular offered Indian assistance for the development of the small scale sector in Ghana covering software and hardware assistance as well as training of personnel.

The visiting Minister was deeply appreciative of the Indian offer and stated that India's approach to the development of other developing countries was most responsive and encouraging. India has committed itself to the transfer of technology to other developing countries at reasonable terms. He stated that based on his visit to various industrial units in India and his discussions with the Government officials, industrialists and others, he would hasten action to identify and pursue specific projects of industrial cooperation between the two countries.

ANA INDIA USA

Date : Jan 02, 1981

Volume No

1995

India and Ghana Finalise Trade Agreement

Following is the text Of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Jul 22, 1981:

India and Ghana have agreed to grant most-favoured-nation treatment to each other's trade and merchant vessels.

This is one of the outstanding features of a trade agreement finalised recently when a seven-member Indian delegation led by Shri K. P. Anand, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Commerce, visited Ghana.

The Agreement provides for establishment of a Joint Committee consisting of representatives of both countries to keep under review the implementation of the provisions of the Agreement and to examine proposals aimed at further expansion and diversification of trade between Ghana and India and identify proper areas for industrial co-operation. It also provides that the payment for goods would be effected in a convertible currency acceptable to both sides.

The Agreement will be of three years' duration in the first instance with provision for renewal for further periods. Under the Agreement Ghana will export to India diamonds, cocoa beans, cocoa products, railway sleepers and other timber and wood products etc. while India will export to

<pg-201>
Ghana tea, jute manufactures, light engineering and capital goods, tyres and tubes, pharmaceuticals and chemicals etc.

During the course of their stay in Ghana, the Indian delegation also had discussion with the Ministers of Finance and Economic Planning, Lands and Natural Resources and Industries, and Science and Technology. As a result of these discussions it was agreed that Ghana will sell diamonds direct to India at prices to be negotiated from time to time. It was further agreed that the Governments of Ghana and India would cooperate in the exploration and exploitation of Ghana's diamond resources. For this purpose, a technical team of experts from India will arrive in Ghana within the next three months. The Indian Delegation further assured to Ghana that the Government of India would consider any additional requests from the Government of Ghana for credits on soft terms for supply of machinery and equipments for mutually agreed projects.

Date : Jul 22, 1981

Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Prime Minister's Statement at Press Conference

Following are excerpts from the Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi's statement at a Press Conference held in New Delhi on Jul 10, 1981:

Now a few words about relations with our neighbours. Our Foreign Minister recently visited Pakistan and the Chinese Foreign Minister was here a short while ago. It is well known that it was I who took the first crucial and difficult initiatives for better relations with our neighbours. We believe in strengthening friendship with all so as to improve the climate for peace. As I have said the first victory is the avoidance of war.

I want the people of Pakistan to know that we wish them well and we want to live in peace with them, as indeed with our other neighbours. Our countries face similar economic problems ... and we should devote our energies towards development which can be possible only if there is tranquillity and mutual trust. That is the message I sent to President Zia.

We concede that every nation should be able to defend itself. However, as you all know, our entire country is deeply concerned that Pakistan is acquiring such sophisticated aircraft. The F-16 represents the induction into this region of a class of aircraft a generation ahead of anything operating with other air forces of the area. The other planes are all of the late 1960 or early 1970 technology. The F-16 on the other hand is an advanced aircraft of late 1970 technology and operational capability. In the offensive role it can go much farther and carry bigger bomb loads. The offensive strike capability of even one such aircraft is, I am told, at least three times that of MIG-21. The Pakistan Air Force, even without the F-16, already has, and will continue to have for some years, a deep strike force three times the size of our own. Thus the subcontinent is being willy-nilly pushed into an arms race increasing the financial burden on our people at a time when our limited resources should have been used entirely for the needs of our people and to make up for

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lost time in technological and scientific progress.

We cannot pretend that the bilateral relations between China and India have been good. But we do want to improve them and we have stretched out the hand of friendship. The issues between us are most difficult and even, I would say, emotional. But nothing can be solved without some basic goodwill and effort.

The shocking assassination of President Ziaur Rahman shows the instability which many developing countries are facing. We in India are vigilant and shall take all necessary steps to safeguard our interests. India cannot afford the emergence of parochial and sectarian groups or any slowing down of production. We must all stand united and disciplined, sharing the hardship so that should any external threat arise, we are able, to face it with the collective determination of the entire nation.

DIA PAKISTAN PERU USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC CHINA

Date : Jul 10, 1981

Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Indo-Bangladesh Relations: Verbatim Remarks of Official Spokesman

The following are verbatim remarks of the official spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs, at his press briefing at New Delhi on Jul 29, 1981:

Government has taken note of the Press Conference held by the Foreign Minister of Bangladesh and the Bangladesh Minister for Water Resources and Flood Control and their interviews as published in the press covering various aspects of Indo-Bangladesh relations.

They also made specific references to New Moore Island and the question of distribution of water resources between the two countries.

In one of the press conferences a reference was made to the Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi's remarks about the New Moore Island reportedly made in Kashmir. The Prime Minister of India had stated a known and established fact which need no further elaboration in response to reports of press conferences in Bangladesh.

As far as the general tenor of these press conferences given in Bangladesh on important and sensitive aspects of bilateral relations go, it is regretted that Indo-Bangladesh relations have been presented in such a contentious perspective. These press conferences might have their own motivations but they do affect the existing and assiduously nurtured good relations between the two countries.

The High Commissioner of India in Dacca has been given instructions to convey Government of India's views on these matters to Bangladesh Foreign Office.

INDIA BANGLADESH USA

Date : Jul 29, 1981

Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Indian Collusion with Israel to Attack Pak Nuclear Facilities Baseless

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Jul 29, 1981:

The attention of the Government of India has been drawn to a mischievous and false report datelined 'London' alleging that India has been in consultation with Israel, and was planning an attack on Pakistan's nuclear facilities. The report alleged that the Indian military establishment was in touch with their Israeli counterpart to get the details of their attack on Iraqi nuclear facilities.

The spokesman recalled his statement of June 9 wherein government of India expressed grave concern and deep indignation about the destruction of Iraqi nuclear facilities by Israeli planes. India condemned Israeli action as 'stark adventurism and a blatant act of intervention and aggression'.

In this context the report emanating from London is patently ridiculous. It is even more surprising and regrettable that this type of story should have been given wide publicity in Pakistani newspapers over the last two days. There is no truth whatsoever in this despatch from London. It is deplorable that the Pakistani

press has chosen to give currency to such a fantastic and tendentious and utterly baseless report. Or-e cannot but seriously question the motivation behind it.

DIA ISRAEL USA UNITED KINGDOM PAKISTAN IRAQ

Date : Jul 29, 1981

Volume No

1995

HUNGARY

Indo-Hungarian Memorandum of Understanding Signed

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Jul 13, 1981:

India and Hungary have agreed to promote and develop further cooperation in the field of water resources development. A Memorandum of Understanding to this effect was signed in Budapest on Friday., Shri Z. R. Ansari, Union Minister of State for Irrigation signed on behalf of India and H. E. Mr. Antal Kovacs, Secretary of State and President of the Hungarian National Water Authority signed, on behalf of his country.

The Memorandum envisages exchange of professional experiences, visits and publications and economic cooperation with particular reference to economic activities in third countries. Details will be worked out by fifth meeting of Joint Working Group on water resources development to be held in, New Delhi.

Earlier, the Minister of State was received by the Deputy Prime Minister, H.E. Mr. Borbandi who expressed appreciation for India's role in Non-aligned Movement and said that he would like to see traditionally close relations between Hungary and India enlarged and increased. He also noted that the Minister's visit constituted an important step in intensifying these links. The Minister also called on the Hungarian Finance Minister, H.E. Mr. Hetenyi, who is Co-Chairman of Indo-Hungarian Joint Commission. He emphasised his desire to see the Joint Commission functioning effectively and successfully for promotion of economic cooperation to mutual benefit. The Minister briefed both Hungarian dignitaries on progress made by India under the leadership of Smt. Indira Gandhi and reiterated Government of India's desire for close economic cooperation with Hungary.

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NGARY INDIA LATVIA

Date : Jul 13, 1981

Volume No

1995

JAPAN

Agreement on Japanese Assistance to India Signed

Following is the text of a Press Release issued M New Delhi on Jul 17, 1981:

Notes were exchanged here today between India and Japan whereby Japan will extend assistance equivalent to s. 68.5 crores to India. Shri S. V. S. Juneja, Additional Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, signed on behalf of the Government of India and MT. Takanori Kazuhara, Charge d'Affairs of Japan in New Delhi, signed on behalf of the Japanese Government.

The Japanese assistance will comprise Rs. 64.37 crores of project aid and Rs. 4.12 crores of grant aid. The project aid will cover (i) Telecommunication Expansion Project (Rs. 36.90 crores) and (ii) the, Nagarjunasagar Hydroelectric Power Station Expansion Project (Stage II) (Rs, 27.47 crores).

The grant aid will be utilised for (i) the porgamme for increase of food production (Rs. 3.92 crores) and (ii) the cultural and educational programme (Rs. 19.62 lakhs).

The loan assistance of Rs. 64.37 crores will be repayable over a period of 30 years, including a grace period of 10 years and will carry an interest of 2.75 per cent per annum. This constitutes over 50 per cent of the Japanese credit to India of 30 billion Yen pledged by the Government of Japan at the Aid India Consortium Meeting in July 1980.

The grant of Rs. 3.92 crores for the programme for the increase of Food Production will be used for the purchase of fertiliser from Japan. The grant of Rs. 19.62 lakhs for Culture and Education will be used for the purchase of sports and physical education equipment from Japan.

PAN INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC USA

Date : Jul 17, 1981

Volume No

1995

KENYA

India-Kenya Economic and Technical Cooperation

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Jul 24, 1981:

India and Kenya have identified machine tools, spare parts for defence, textile weaving and leather and tanning projects, to be taken up for early implementation under Kenya and India cooperation programme for industrial development in Kenya. In addition, the two countries have also formulated proposals with regard to survey for manufacturing of pesticides, perspective plan for development and setting up research and development facilities for electronic industry, assistance to Kenya industrial research and development institute, development of agricultural machinery and assistance to Kenya Bureau of Standards with regard to standardization and quality control. Broad parameters, scope and size of the projects have also been identified and time bound action plans agreed to.

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This was the outcome of detailed discussions between an Indian delegation led by Shri K. P. Anand, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Commerce, who recently visited Kenya and officials of the Kenyan Government. The visit of the Indian delegation was a follow-up on the decision taken during the visit to India of H.E. the President, Hon. D. T. Arap Moi, when it was agreed that such a delegation will visit Kenya to undertake identification of specific projects of collaboration between the two countries and to investigate further areas of cooperation in trade and industry.

The Indian delegation, during their stay in Kenya, also had detailed discussions on, soft-ware support of experts to that country and training in India. On training it was agreed that there was need for further consultation in respect of certain proposals made by the Government of Kenya. It was also recommended by the Indian delegation that a specialised team from India should visit Kenya to prepare a detailed project document on the establishment of a small industry Extension Training Institute.

Hundred million rupees line of credit between the Industrial Development Bank of India and the Industrial Development Bank of Kenya was also discussed by the officials of the two countries and it was agreed that the officials of the two Banks would meet to finalise the relevant details.

NYA INDIA USA RUSSIA

Date : Jul 24, 1981

Volume No

1995

NIGERIA

Indo-Nigerian Joint Commission Concludes

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Jul 30, 1981:

The first session of the Indo-Nigerian Joint Commission was held here for three days from July 28 to 30, 1981.

The Nigerian Delegation was led by Mrs. Adenika, Ebun Oyagbola, Minister of National Planning, Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and Indian Delegation was led by Shri R. Venkataraman, Minister of Finance. The two Ministers were assisted by teams of senior officers led by Mr. S. C. Nwokedi of the Ministry of National Planning and Shri N. R. Verma of the Ministry of External Affairs.

The discussions were held in a cordial atmosphere reflecting the relations which have traditionally prevailed between the two countries. The Joint Commission identified a number of areas for cooperation between the two countries.

AGRICULTURE

It was agreed that India would provide technical cooperation in the form of exchange of information, services of Indian experts, training of Nigerians in the agricultural and allied fields such as rice production, food processing plant protection, fertilizers, post-harvest technology and other subjects.

India would also provide to Nigeria such technical cooperation in the fields of rural development, live stock, fisheries and water resources development.

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INDUSTRIAL AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION

Both sides agreed to expand industrial and technical, cooperation between the two countries in sectors such as mining, small scale industries, tele-communications, electronics, machine-tools, transport, petrochemicals, power generation and distribution.

The Nigerian side desired services of Indian experts in several technical fields. The Indian side responded positively to this request.

TRADE

Both sides agreed that there was considerable scope for expansion of bilateral trade. A Trade Agreement and an agreement on avoidance of double taxation were being negotiated between the two countries. Discussions took place on various aspects of cooperation namely in railway transportation, merchant banking, Indian participation in Nigerian tenders and the progress of the Indo-Nigerian Joint Business Council.

The agreed minutes were signed on behalf of India by Shri R. Venkataraman, Minister of Finance and on behalf of Nigeria by Her Excellency Mrs. Adenike Egun Oyagbola, Minister of National Planning, Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

It has been decided that the second meeting of the Indo-Nigerian Joint Commission would be held in Nigeria.
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GER NIGERIA INDIA USA

Date : Jul 30, 1981

August

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STRALIA USA CHINA FRANCE INDIA SRI LANKA NAMIBIA

Date : Aug 01, 1981

Volume No

1995

AUSTRALIA

Indo-Australian Trade Promotion Discussed

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Aug 31, 1981:

Possibilities of Indo-Australian joint tendering for projects in third countries, market research to ascertain the consumer preference for products to promote India's exports to Australia, cooperation in the field of agricultural research, promotion of package tours to India to Australian tourists and development of India's woollen, engineering and sport goods industries for export purpose, were discussed here today, when a high level Trade Development Council Survey Mission from Australia led by Mr. J. B. Gough, called on the Union Commerce Minister, Shri Pranab Mukherjee. The Australian delegation is visiting India between August 22 - September 4, 1981. .

The visit of the Mission has been a follow-up of the meeting between the Deputy Prime Minister of Australia and the Commerce Minister here in June, 1981, when it was decided that a delegation from Australian trade and industry would visit India to identify themselves the possibilities of expanding bilateral trade and economic cooperation by establishing joint ventures in India, Australia or in third countries.

The mission's principal objective is to acquire a fuller understanding of agricultural, mining, manufacturing and commercial sectors of India, identification 'of specific opportunities for increasing two way trade in goods and services, examination of the scope for industrial cooperation between manufacturing industries of two countries so as to see the manner in which consultants, contractors and suppliers of two countries may collaborate in bidding for major projects in third countries.

During the discussion, the Commerce Minister pointed out that though bilateral trade had been expanding between Australia and India, yet India's share in Australian imports was only 0.7 percent in 1979-80. There was need, therefore, to identify items for which bilateral trade could grow; he added.

The Commerce Minister explained in detail India's policy regarding foreign investment and equity participation. He urged the Australian industrialists to consider investment in India, specially in export-oriented projects for which higher foreign equity could be allowed.

JOINT VENTURES

Shri Mukherjee said that India had already launched 210 joint ventures projects in 36 countries of which 124 were in production and 86 under various stages of implementation. Though most of these joint ventures were set up in developing countries of South Asia, West Asia and Africa, some of these had even been set up in advanced countries like the U.S.A., U.K., West Germany and Netherlands. The Minister pointed out that India and Australia could jointly tender for projects in third countries which could be competitive because of India's large reservoir of technical manpower, as well as availability of raw material and equipments.

The Australian delegation gave an account of their experience in India during the last one week and said that there was enormous scope for increasing trade between the two countries. He pointed out that if India could utilise its abundant cheap labour and technical manpower to produce quality goods for exports it would have enormous market abroad. In this connection they stressed the need for market research in Australia to ascertain consumers preference and production of export quality goods in India accordingly. The Commerce Minister welcomed the suggestion and said that India would strive to produce such goods, which would be competitive qualitywise and price-wise.

The Australian delegation expressed their admiration about the agricultural deve-
<pg-209>

lopment in India in the past few decades and stressed the need for Indo-Australian cooperation in agricultural research. They also pointed out that there was tremendous scope for promoting package tours to specific destinations in India to Australian tourists.

The Australian delegation also discussed about the possibilities of development of worsted wool, sport goods and readymade garments industry in India for export purposes. The Commerce Minister agreed with suggestions. He also stressed the necessity of removing restriction on imports of India's handloom and

handicrafts as these industries provided employment to a very large number of people in India.

India's main exports to Australia are textile fabrics, jute and jute products, leather and leather products, precious and semi-precious stones, footwear, cashew nuts, garments and apparels, tea, chemical and allied products, prawns and shrimps. India's imports from Australia are raw wool, iron and steel, zinc, lead and coking coal.

STRALIA USA INDIA UNITED KINGDOM RUSSIA GERMANY

Date : Aug 31, 1981

Volume No

1995

CHINA

Chinese Vice Premier's Statement at Press Conference

Following is the text of the statement made by the Chinese Vice Premier and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Huang Hua, at a Press Conference in New Delhi on Jun 28, 1981:

Ladies and Gentlemen, first of all I would like to greet you and thank you for coming to this press conference. On the eve of my departure from your beautiful capital New Delhi, I would like to express once again my thanks to the Indian Government and people for the warm reception extended to us.

I am very glad that our friends in the Indian mass media have attached due importance to my visit. Many of your reports and comments are objective, positive and constructive, and I am sure that this is in conformity with the wishes of our two peoples. Here I do not wish to exclude foreign journalists.

In the last few days, I have had the honour of meetings with Vice President Hidayatullah and Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. This afternoon I will have an opportunity of meeting with President Reddy. I have had several sessions of talks with Foreign Minister Rao. We have had wide ranging exchange of views on the international situation and our bilateral relations. Although there are differences between us, on the whole the talks have been beneficial. The talks have enhanced our mutual understanding and friendship. The two sides have agreed to have further exchanges of views in future; besides they have agreed on consultations and cooperation on the questions on which they have

common views.

With reference to Sino-Indian relations, as our friends in the mass media all know the main problem existing between China and India is the border. I am glad that both sides have adopted a forward looking attitude and agreed that differences over this question should not be allowed to stand in the way of the development of our bilateral relations.

Against the background, of a turbulent, tense, complex and volatile international situation in the nineteneighties obviously the exchanges of views between the leaders of our two Governments have major significance. They not only serve to promote Sino-Indian relations but are beneficial to the exchange of views on the international
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situation and to our better mutual understanding. They also facilitate cooperation between our two sides in the areas where we have common views. Here it gives me pleasure to tell you that I have invited Minister Rao to visit China and, on behalf of Premier Zhao Ziyang, invited Her Excellency Prime Minister Indira Gandhi to visit China. We hope that they will come to visit China at a time convenient to them. Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and Mr. Rao have accepted our invitations with pleasure.

Both China and India are big nations in Asia; they are developing countries. though we have different social systems, in the last three decades or more, we have each accumulated rich experiences, both positive and negative, in the course of building up our respective countries. We on our part are ready to have friendly contacts with our Indian friends in wide ranging areas and to learn from each other through visits.

In the course of the talks the two sides discussed questions relating to the further development of friendly cooperation between China and India. The two sides agreed to strengthen cultural, scientific and technological exchanges and cooperation between them, expand bilateral trade and increase the number of two-way visits. The two sides have also had an exchange of views on the programme of cultural, scientific and technological exchanges in the next one or two years.

The Chinese side has informed the Indian side that it will make temporary arrangements for a certain number of Indian pilgrims to go on pilgrimage to what the Indians call the Kailash Mountain and Mansarovar Lake. As for long term arrangements, we will discuss them with the, Indian side through diplomatic channels.

I am deeply convinced that through such friendly contacts and exchanges the traditional friendship between our two people will certainly grow in strength, and the contents of our relationship will be enriched and consolidated. This will also create a good

atmosphere for reducing our differences so that the boundary question can be settled.

The Sino-Indian boundary question is left over by history. It is a consequence of colonial and imperial policies of aggression and expansion; and the divisive tactics of imperialism have added to the complexity of the problem. We have consistently held the view that the border question should be settled by India and China as equals, through mutual accommodation and understanding and taking into account the historical background, the present situation as well as the national feelings of the two peoples. In this way we should seek a fair, reasonable and comprehensive settlement through negotiations.

We are convinced that the Sino-Indian boundary question can be solved on condition that both sides are sincere and strictly abide by the five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence which were jointly initiated by them. We have proposed that, pending the settlement of the boundary question, the two sides should maintain the status quo and tranquillity on the border. They should, on the one hand, actively develop their contacts and cooperation in various fields so as to enhance mutual understanding and friendship; on the other, continue to explore ways to settle the boundary question through appropriate channels. We are very glad that in this respect the two sides share the same view. During the talks they agreed that at an appropriate time the officials of the two countries will further explore ways to settle the boundary question and discuss specific measures to develop the relations between China and India in various areas.

Ladies and Gentlemen, the international situation in the 1980s will become more tense, turbulent, complex and volatile. There indeed exists the danger of war. In the face of this ever deteriorating situation the development of friendly relations between China and India not only accords with the desire of our two peoples but will also be beneficial to peace and stability in Asia and the world at large. Both our peoples need friendship and peace, so that we may concentrate our
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energies on developing our respective economies rapidly so as to meet our peoples' requirements for a higher standard of living and a better quality of life.

Though both China and India have differences over certain major international issues, they also share similar views on others. India is one of the founding members of the non-aligned movement. China has consistently supported and highly praised the non-aligned movement. Both sides are in favour of the constructive proposition on today's major issues contained in the declaration of the Foreign Ministers Conference of Non-aligned countries held in New Delhi last February. Both countries want the establishment

of a New International Economic Order and hope to see positive results emerge from the Summit Conference to be held in Mexico in October. Both sides hope that the Countries in South Asia will, on the basis of the five principles of peaceful coexistence, eliminate their differences, develop friendship, promote unity and cooperation so as to strengthen peace, security and stability in the South Asian region. This in turn would be conducive to the national development of the seven nations in South Asia.

China has always pursued a foreign policy of peace, and has been firm in its efforts to safeguard world peace, develop friendly cooperation among the peoples of various nations and promote the cause of human progress. China will never seek hegemony. China will always belong to the third world. Here I would like to reiterate that the Chinese Government and people will always firmly support all oppressed nations and peoples in their just struggle to safeguard independence, win independence and liberation, safeguard national independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity and resist imperialism, colonialism and hegemonist aggression and expansion. China is ready, on the basis of the five principles of peaceful co-existence, to strengthen its unity with all peoples and to establish and develop friendly relations and cooperation with all countries, and first and foremost with its neighbours.

Ladies and Gentlemen, thank you very much.

INA INDIA USA MEXICO

Date : Jun 28, 1981

Volume No

1995

FRANCE

External Affairs Minister P. V. Narasimha Rao's Speech at Dinner in Honour of French Foreign Minister

Following is the text of the speech by the Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, at the banquet, he hosted in honour of Mr. Claude Cheysson, Minister for External Relations of France in New Delhi on Aug 23, 1981:

Your Excellency, Mr. Foreign Minister, Excellencies Ladies and Gentlemen, it gives me great pleasure to welcome you. A French Foreign Minister is always a favourite guest in our country. You are all the more so, not only because you have been a friend and

well-wisher of our country over the years, but also because you have chosen India as the first Asian country for an official visit. We regard this as an important affirmation of Indo-French ties, which we are confident will continue to grow from strength to strength. Indeed, Indo-French relations which are today seeking expression in new domains of cooperation are poised for all round development. For us, our relations with France are a significant facet of our relations with the European Continent.

There are enhanced expectations now, in France, of an era of creativity, humanism and renewed emphasis on the value of cooperation in international relations. We have observed with deep interest the enun-

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ciation of these new directions. May I say, Mr. Minister, with great respect, that we in India are sympathetic to these vistas and goals which your Government have spelt out. Here in India, since our independence we too have pursued the goal of a socialist pattern of society based on the values of political freedom, social justice and equal economic opportunity. India and France have for long shared a commitment to democracy- at home and peace and cooperation in external relations. Our bilateral relations have always been friendly and cooperative. Your particular concern for the well being and uplift of the Third World constitutes an important additional bond between us.

NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER

Mr. Minister, through your advocacy of a "planetary new deal" the French Government has held before the world a new and dynamic aspect of global interdependence and global partnership. We in India share your idealism and your sense of commitment in this regard. In the bringing about of a new international economic order, France, among the highly advanced and prosperous countries of the west, has an especially important role. You will find in us a sincere ally in the tasks that lie ahead.

ARMS RACE

We live in difficult times. The revival of tensions, of the atmosphere of cold war and the growing threat to world peace cause us concern. The world stands at the threshold of a new and unprecedented arms race, which is bound to consume enormous resources - which were much better spent on global economic and social advancement. The voices of reason are being muted. Detente is yielding ground to confrontation. We are sliding back to the old days of bloc politics. And the attention of the countries of the developing world is being deflected from the primary tasks of development. Arming of fragile governments as potential defenders against Great Power adversaries, while making little or no difference to the East-West balance of power, only creates distortions in the evolution of regional relationships at the

expense of the much needed regional harmony and cooperation. This process indeed makes little sense.

Another alarming manifestation of the revival of inter-bloc confrontation in this part of the world is the growing militarisation of the Indian Ocean. The deterioration of the regional security environment is to a considerable extent owing to these increasing presences.

We regret these developments and we hope that your country and ours can combine their efforts to restore the spirit of detente not only in Europe but across troubled frontiers in the world. Since world peace is indivisible, detente becomes a planetary necessity.

FRENCH ROLE

Not so long ago, France had helped to arrest the drift of the world towards tensions, confrontation and cold war. We hope France will play that role once again. Because of the prevailing situation in our neighbourhood, great tensions have arisen at our door. This is a cause of great anxiety and concern to us. We hope France will join us in our efforts to persuade those concerned that political solutions alone are the need of the hour and that they could be brought about through dialogue and accommodation, rather than through an intensification and expansion of traditional rivalries.

A new international effort based on dialogue and a realistic perception of the sources of conflict is needed today whether it is the situation in South-West Asia or for that matter, the situation in Europe. India is willing to extend her cooperation to such an effort and particularly to any initiatives aimed at reducing conflicts and tensions in the region of South West Asia. We feel that such initiatives will have a greater possibility of originating from within the region and achieving significant results if there is a genuine attempt to return to the original processes of detente, with greater restraint in their relations between the great powers. This is an area where India and France could exert their moral influence.

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BILATERAL RELATIONS

We hope that Indo-French bilateral relations will continue to expand in accord with our shared perceptions. Your visit and the talks we have had greatly helped this process and I hope we will have more such occasions, besides the meetings we will have at Cancun and at the United Nations in the coming weeks. In course of time I would like to believe that Indo-French relations will go beyond their strictly bilateral significance and become an important element in the North-South relationship and also in the wider pattern of international relations.

Friends, may I now request you all to join me in a toast to the health and happiness of His Excellency Mr. Francois Mitterand, President of the Republic of France; to the health and happiness of our distinguished Guest of Honour this evening, His Excellency Mr. Claude Cbeysson, Foreign Minister of France; and to ever increasing cooperation and friendship between the peoples of our two countries.

ANCE INDIA USA

Date : Aug 23, 1981

Volume No

1995

FRANCE

French Minister for External Relations' Call on Commerce Minister

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Aug 24, 1981:

The visiting French Minister for External Relations, H.E. Mr. Claude Cheysson and Shri Pranab Mukherjee, Union Minister for Commerce, Steel and Mines, have expressed satisfaction at the growing cooperation between India and France in the fields of commerce and industry. But at the same time they felt that there were many more areas still unexplored where cooperation between the two countries could be developed to the advantage of both. Mr. Claude Cheysson, who called on Shri Pranab Mukherjee today evening, was of the opinion that the trade flow between India and France was not commensurate with the capabilities and potentials of the two countries. Shri Mukherjee expressed satisfaction at the progress achieved so far towards the setting-up of the Alumina plant and felt that similar cooperation could be secured in other areas like steel, the production capacity of which India envisages to expand substantially in the near future. He also drew attention of the visiting dignitary to the difficulties being faced by the developing countries due to protectionist tendencies followed by the developed countries and towards reaching the Multi Fibre Agreement and stressed that the developed countries should adopt a more flexible attitude in this regard.

ANCE INDIA UNITED KINGDOM USA

Date : Aug 24, 1981

Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Foreign Minister's Secret Meeting with Afghan President Baseless

The Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs made the following statement in New Delhi on Aug 03, 1981:

Attention of the Government has been drawn to news items appearing in newspapers of Pakistan of August 2 alleging that the Foreign Minister of India, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, had a secret meeting with Mr. Babrak Karmal, President of Afghanistan during his recent visit to the Soviet Union.

The reports talked about Mr. Karmal reaching Moscow secretly from Czechoslo-
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vakia to have these talks with Shri Rao. The report also gives a number of subjects that were discussed between Shri Rao and Air. Karmal which included evolving a common attitude towards Pakistan.. It also alleged an agreement that in case of a world conference held on Afghanistan the Mujahdin would be kept away.

The spokesman stated that the report was figment of imagination. He termed it as baseless and totally incorrect.

Government of India is concerned that over the last 2-3 weeks the censored Pakistani Press is giving currency to such misinformation on different issues. , Another example of such blatant and. mischievous misinformation given out a few days back was about India's consultation with Israel to plan an attack by India on Pakistani nuclear facilities which had to be promptly denied by India.

Dissemination of such incorrect and unfounded information can affect the process of normalisation of relations between the two countries. It is also contrary to Simla Agreement, the Spokesman added.

DIA PAKISTAN USA AFGHANISTAN RUSSIA NORWAY ISRAEL MALI

Date : Aug 03, 1981

Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

President N. Sanjiva Reddy's Independence Day Broadcast

The following is the text of the message broadcast on the eve of Independence Day by the President of India, Shri N. Sanjiva Reddy on Aug 14, 1981:

Tomorrow we celebrate the thirty-fourth Independence Day anniversary. This is a day of national rejoicing. For those of us who took part in the freedom struggle the occasion has a special significance. Thousands of our countrymen joined in the fight for freedom from foreign rule under the inspiring leadership of Mahatma Gandhi. They could not be certain that the country would become free in their life time and that they would live to enjoy the fruits of freedom; they fought selflessly, guided solely by the desire that the country should rid itself of foreign rule and should be free to shape its own destiny. The spirit of selflessness, displayed by thousands and thousands of our people - young and old, men and women - gained admiration the world over.

After the attainment of independence, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, as the first Prime Minister of the country, dreamt of building up a modern nation, taking full advantage of scientific and technological progress and thus raise the standard of living of the mass of our people. With his vision, he not only laid the foundation for a modern industrial state but had the satisfaction of seeing some of the mighty schemes he had conceived bear fruit.

SPIRIT OF DEDICATION

Today while we rightly celebrate the anniversary of our independence, we would do well to recall the spirit of sacrifice that had enthused our people during our freedom struggle and the vision that inspired our leaders in the earlier years of our independence, so that, from the example of those days, we may rekindle in ourselves a spirit of dedication and selflessness and reinforce our determination to deal with our problems, not only with courage but with a sense of direction.

We cannot but view with concern the frequent and violent manifestation of divisive forces in the country which brought about the loss of several lives and caused avoidable suffering in

diverse ways to large number of innocent) persons. Regional and linguistic differences, religious, caste and communal differences were allowed to gain the upper hand and to spread disorder and violence. I would appeal to all of you not to be swayed by such disruptive forces, but to think of the common history and culture of all of us and to remember the feeling of oneness with which our elders fought for freedom only a few decades ago.

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IMPROVED AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION

It is a matter of, gratification that over the years there has been an increase in the output of foodgrains. Given the necessary inputs and incentives, our farmers will, I am sure, be able to increase further the country's agricultural production. But that is not enough, the benefit of larger production should go to the consumer who should have an, assured supply of his requirement at reasonable prices. It is my earnest hope that it will be possible to evolve a system which will ensure a remunerative price to the producer and also make available essential foodstuffs at reasonable prices to the consumer, eliminating the huge profits of the greedy middleman.

The rising prices of foodstuffs and consumer goods, and the hardship which the poor and the fixed income groups are being put to have been a cause of concern to all of us. While imports may be resorted to for meeting immediate needs, the ultimate, long term remedy is to increase production both agricultural and industrial. I have already talked of agricultural output. I wish to add that large sums of money have been spent since independence on many river valley and other projects, we must without delay take all steps necessary to get full benefit from this investment. In industries too, capacity already created with heavy financial outlays is not fully utilised. Difficulties which have stood in the way of making full use of installed capacity must be overcome and supplies and services necessary for industrial production must be efficiently maintained.

FRIENDSHIP WITH NEIGHBOURS

No country, least of all a developing country like ours can achieve progress, except in a climate of peace. We have always desired friendly relations with our neighbours and have steadfastly worked for the promotion of peace everywhere. It has always been our wish to apply our resources to the promotion of the economic well-being of our people and not dissipate them in wasteful conflict. At the same time, we cannot remain indifferent to the events and developments around us and it is our duty to be on our guard and be prepared to meet any threat to our security.

The problems of poverty, unemployment and population growth are causing concern to all of us. It is the aim of all of us to make conditions of life easier for the great majority of our people.

It is only through a united, dedicated effort that we can bring about an improvement in their standard of living. Narrow sectarian and other interests must yield to the greater good of the nation. I appeal to all sections of our countrymen to work together to bring about a more rapid economic development and to spread the benefits of such development more equitably. Let us address ourselves to the task ahead unitedly without wasting our effort in sterile debate.

DIA USA PERU

Date : Aug 14, 1981

Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's Independence Day Message to Indians Abroad

The following is the text of the Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi's Independence Day message to Indians abroad released in New Delhi on Aug 14, 1981:

The fifteenth of August marks India's tryst with destiny. That event signalled the end of the age of imperial dominance and the dawn of the age of equality among nations. Thus it is a milestone in the history of the human spirit.

To us in India the battle for freedom continues. From self-rule we have progressed to self-reliance. But we have still to make economic opportunity a reality for all our masses. For freedom to be fulfilled, social injustice and economic disparity must end, there must be freedom from want and from fear.

Misconceptions about India abound. Some are deliberately created. Our evident
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shortcomings are played up, our achievements are ignored. Indians abroad should present a picture of a nation which is continuously gaining strength to meet massive challenges. Every nation looks at the world from its own view-point. India's objective is to lessen confrontation between nations, so that the disadvantaged of the world have a better chance of prosperity.

I give my greetings to Indians living in various parts of the world and wish success to their Independence Day functions.

DIA USA

Date : Aug 14, 1981

Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

External Affairs Minister P. V. Narasimha Rao's Statement in Lok Sabha on Communal Violence in Sri Lanka

Following is the text of the statement in Lok Sabha on Aug 19, 1981 by the Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, in response to a Calling Attention motion regarding "the reported racial violence and attacks on Tamils in different parts of Sri Lanka and the reaction of the Government thereto by Shri Ram Vilas Paswan and four others:

During the election campaign for the District Development Councils in Sri Lanka in May-June 1981, Communal violence broke out in the Jaffna area leading to a number of casualties and considerable destruction of property. A state of emergency was declared and the situation was eventually brought under control with the help of the armed forces.

There has been a recurrence of Communal violence in the last few days. This has been concentrated around Colombo and in the estate areas in the Centre of the island. The main victims are Tamils, the majority of whom are workers in the estates. There have been a number of deaths and numerous incidents of arson, looting and violence. Several thousand estate workers have been forced to abandon their homes. The Government of Sri Lanka has again declared an emergency and the armed forces have once more been called in to control the situation.

The Government of Sri Lanka have also set up a machinery for the rehabilitation of those affected in the recent events. Due to the confused situation, we have not yet been able to obtain detailed information as to how many Indian nationals have been affected.

The Government of India have been in constant touch with the Government of Sri Lanka since these developments began and expressed our concern to them. They have kept us informed of the turn of the events and the steps taken by them stating that they view these events with the utmost seriousness and are determined to restore normalcy.

These events are essentially an internal affair of Sri Lanka. Nevertheless, I am sure that Members of the House do share the concern of the Government of India over these developments since they affect a large number of persons of Indian origin and possibly some Indian citizens.

It is, therefore, our hope that the Government of Sri Lanka will succeed in its efforts to put an end to the present violence and to restore confidence, so that the present difficulties would be soon resolved and no shadows are cast on the traditional close relations which exist between India and Sri Lanka.
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I LANKA VANUATU USA INDIA

Date : Aug 19, 1981

Volume No

1995

KAMPUCHEA

External Affairs Minister P. V. Narasimha Rao's Speech at Banquet in Honour of Kampuchean Foreign Minister

Following is the text of the speech by the Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, at the banquet he hosted in honour of Mr. Hun Sen, Vice-President of the Council of Ministers and Foreign Minister of the Peoples' Republic of Kampuchea in New Delhi on Aug 27, 1981:

Your Excellency, Mr. Minister, Distinguished members of the Kampuchean delegation, Ladies and Gentlemen, it gives me great pleasure to extend a warm welcome to His Excellency Mr. Hun Sen, Vice-President of the Council of Ministers and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Peoples' Republic of Kampuchea, and distinguished members of the Kampuchean delegation. Relations between our two countries go back into history and cover all fields of human endeavour. Our ties were not merely material, but were much more significant in the spheres of intellect and spirit. The temples of Angkor Wat are a vivid testimony of this interaction between the cultures of our two countries.

It is our fond wish that in these troubled modern times we keep this historical connection alive. We are, therefore, very pleased that our two countries are taking measures to cooperate in the repair and reconstruction of the temples of Angkor Wat. We shall also continue to do whatever we can within the limits of our capability to assist in the reconstruction of your country.

COOPERATION

Kampuchea and India are both developing countries. We can cooperate to stimulate each other's development. But it is essential that there should be an environment of peace and tranquillity to permit us to attain our objectives of development. Unfortunately, the international environment has deteriorated in the recent months and more so in our immediate neighbourhood.

It is our earnest desire that whether in South Asia or South East Asia, the states of the region should establish a region of cooperation and try to resolve the outstanding problems by peaceful discussions among themselves and thus establish an atmosphere in which they could concentrate on the pressing domestic problems which face them. In working in this direction it is becoming more and more evident that we need to ensure the exclusion of great powers presence, rivalries and interference and the establishment of strong independent sovereign national States free from all forms of outside interference.

Excellency, words cannot be found to describe the untold rigours and travail which the people of Kampuchea have faced in the last decade. Even today, the Kampuchean people still face manifold problems. Nevertheless, we admire the varied efforts made by your Government to rebuild your country. We would only wish to express the hope that your efforts will meet with success they deserve and that your people may look forward to a better life hereafter.

Ladies and Gentlemen, may I have the honour to request you all to raise your glasses and join me in a toast to the health of His Excellency Mr. Heng Samrin, President of the Council of State of the Peoples' Republic of Kampuchea; to the health of His Excellency Mr. Pen Sovann, President of the Council of Ministers of the Peoples' Republic of Kampuchea; to the health of Your Excellency Mr. Hun Sen, Vice-President of the Council of Ministers and the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Peoples' Republic of Kampuchea; to the progress and prosperity of the friendly people of Kampuchea; and to the everlasting friendship between peoples of Kampuchea and India.

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DIA USA

Date : Aug 27, 1981

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Indo-kampuchean Cooperation in Commerce and Industry

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Aug 27, 1981:

Areas of co-operation between India and Kampuchea in the fields of commerce and industry will be identified when an Indian delegation visits that country next month. This was agreed to when H.E. Mr. Hun Sen, Vice President of the Council of Ministers and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of Kampuchea called on Shri Pranab Mukherjee, Union Minister of Commerce, Steel and Mines, this morning.

The visiting dignitary indicated various commodities which are in short supply in Kampuchea and in particular referred to shortage of technical personnel being faced by them, and sought India's assistance to overcome these difficulties. It was agreed that the Indian delegation scheduled to visit Kampuchea will, in consultation with its counterparts there, identify areas and commodities in which India's assistance would be needed.

Shri Mukherjee assured Mr. Hun Sen India's all possible assistance to help Kampuchea re-build its economy. He said that the possibilities of India providing training facilities to Kampuchean technicians could also be explored during the course of the visit of Indian delegation there.

A INDIA UNITED KINGDOM

Date : Aug 27, 1981

Volume No

1995

India's Assistance for Kampuchean Economy

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Aug 31, 1981:

India has offered all possible assistance for strengthening and reviving the economy of Kampuchea. This assurance was extended by Dr. Charanjit Chanana, Union Minister of State for Industry

during his meeting with the Kampuchean Vice Premier and Foreign Minister, H.E. Mr. Hun Sen here this morning.

The Kampuchean Foreign Minister said that he was deeply impressed by his visit to the Okhla Industrial Estate. He sought India's assistance for development of Small and Medium scale industries in his country. He also requested for arrangements for training of Kampuchean technicians in India and for setting up training facilities in Kampuchea. Dr. Chanana assured him of India's assistance in this regard. The Kampuchean Vice Premier also requested for spare parts for textile plants, automobiles, locomotives, agricultural implements, etc. He also made enquiries about setting up a fertilizer plant in Kampuchea and modernisation and improvement of their Ceramic Industry.

Dr. Chanana requested him to have details of their requirement worked out. These could be discussed by the Indian interministerial team which is likely to visit Kampuchea shortly.

DIA USA

Date : Aug 31, 1981

Volume No

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KAMPUCHEA

Kampuchean Foreign Minister's Statement at Press Conference

Following is the text of statement made by Mr. Hun Sen, Foreign Minister of the, People's Republic of Kampuchea at the Press Conference in New Delhi on Aug 31, 1981:

Ladies and Gentlemen, At first, I would like to extend my sentiment of great joy for having this opportunity to visit the Republic of India, a country that is well known the world over for its loving peace and justice. Our visit in India at this very moment is like a re-encounter of two brothers, who were separated for a long time. This history has reflected the long-standing <pg-219>

and close relations between Indian and Kampuchean peoples. Culture and civilization are tangible proofs. We are convinced that the relation and cooperation between the two countries, India and Kampuchea, keep on improving and no enemy can stand in our way toward prosperity.

Ladies and Gentlemen, we are overwhelmed with joy to see you, Ladies and Gentlemen, here so as to enable me to give you information about the real situation in our country. I believe that you have already got some news about the situation in Kampuchea. On this occasion, I would like to give you some additional news as follows: nobody ignores that Hitler was a great hangman (butcher) in the World War II, who has been condemned and hated by the people of all generations. We can't think that in this progressive era, there still exists another Hitler: "Pol Pot" who was more cruel than the former Hitler.

After the historical victorious day of April 17, 1975 that Kampuchean revolution won the war over US imperialists and their hirelings, our Kampuchean people ought to have enjoyed their living in peace, have mobilized all their physical and mental forces to reconstruct their ruined country and have built up solidarity and friendly bonds with peace, independence, freedom loving countries the world over; but on the contrary Kampuchea was isolated, and under the orders of Peking, Pol Pot, Ieng Sary, Khieu Samphan reactionary clique usurped all powers, betrayed the nation, destroyed culture, civilization, prosperous Angkorian traditions, massacred more than 3 million people and caused innumerable sufferings to our fellow-countrymen till they were at the point of death by this terrible destruction that we are unable to describe all.

Ladies and Gentlemen, would you like to ponder over a society completely in upheaval, without currency, markets; all towns were deserted, various roads had no names, schools, 'cultural institutes, pagodas were metamorphosed into pigsties, poultry yards, warehouses and places for torture and slaughter. The people were driven from urban to rural areas, to remote areas, to work as slaves in their so-called "cooperative". Families, husbands and wives were separated, marriages were held in collectivity with force without the consent of the couples. Almost all the intelligentsia such as professors, engineers, doctors, technicians, specialized workers were despised and massacred. Graves full of victims "corpses were found everywhere throughout the country. Economic bases were destroyed completely during the three years, eight months and twenty days. By applying fanatical Maoism, Pol Pot, Ieng Sary, Khieu Samphan clique threw Kampuchea into an era of ancient's slavery society. A great part of national wealth was used to foster twenty three divisions of armed forces. In parallel with this, under the incitations of Peking expansionists, those revolutionary traitors turned Kampuchea into a factor of instability in South East Asia by their aggressive war with neighbouring countries especially with the Socialist Republic of Vietnam: their comrade in-arms in the struggle against the common enemy with aim to turn Vietnam into their personal enemy so as to help China to compel Vietnam to be under the sway of Maoism. In face of such an oppressing regime, our revolutionary armed forces, with a genuine patriotism and burning anger with their barbarous policy took the opportunity

that they invaded Vietnam, to liberate the whole country on January 7th, 1979 with the support of the whole Kampuchean people who rose up under the leadership of the National United Front for the Salvation of Kampuchea and with the assistance of fraternal Vietnamese people's armed forces.

Immediately after the liberation of the country, our people tried hard to reconstruct the country from scratch in every field.

The output of 1980 was better than that of 1979. The harvest on the acreage of 1,500,000 hectares got satisfactory result.

With the good harvest, the friendly countries' aids especially Vietnam, the Soviet Union, other socialist countries, India and various international organisations, we could avert the danger of starvation. On this basis, in 1981 we are determined to bring 1,800,000 hectares of farmland under cultivation and
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to increase livestocks tremendously. Rubber plantation forestry are under way strikingly. In industrial field, more than sixty factories, petty industries, handicraft have been set going steadily. Communications and postal services, by land, by railways and by waterway have been put back into operation. Home and foreign trades have been reorganized. Financial activities, banking, markets are going on successfully.

Culturally, Health and Social spheres have yielded also good results. During the school year of 1980-81, we have 1,300,000 pupils and 13,600 children attending nursery schools. Thousands of illiterates have followed "illiteracy courses". We sent students to continue their studies in foreign countries among them there are some who will come to India.

In Phnom Penh, the medical college has opened its doors. Health networks have been set up from the capital to the outlying parts of the country. We have six central hospitals. Every province has its own medical centre. Culture, art, religious beliefs have been rehabilitated in people's livelihood. In political field, our revolutionary powers have been strengthened from the central to the "Grass-root" levels. Recently, we held the municipal and commune elections, the general election to choose 117 members of Parliament. Particularly the national constitution has been passed and promulgated. We have Parliament and the State Council. In short, State institutions were democratically organized by the people.

The People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea which follows the genuine and correct Marxist-Leninist path, was made public on the occasion of the recent 4th Congress. Militarily, the armed forces, the security forces and the revolutionary cadres developing in quantity and quality.

We have defeated all the Khmer traitor's intentions to occupy some regions along the borders with Thailand despite the fact that they are supported by Peking, American imperialists and Thailand with arms, provisions and diplomacy. These successes make the Kampuchean people proud and have confidence in the future and the correct characteristics of the political line of the Kampuchea's Motherland Edification Front and their government. Up to now, there are thirty countries and two liberation movements which have recognised the People's Republic of Kampuchea.

Along with the Kampuchea's solidarity with Vietnam, Laos, the Soviet Union and all the socialist countries, the bond of relations of ours with India has incessantly and satisfactorily developed. Besides, we have strengthened and expanded the relations with the resistance movements all over the world for national independence, peace, democracy and social progress against imperialism and Peking hegemonism and every form of oppression. The principles of our foreign policy are based on peace, friendship and international co-operation, respect of independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, non-interference in the internal affairs of one another, equality and mutual interests. We would always like to have good relations with all countries in the world especially South East Asian countries in order to transform this region into a zone of peace and stability according to our aspirations as expressed to Thailand in our proposals at the Conference of Foreign Ministers of the three Indochinese countries in Vientiane, Ho Chi Minh city and recently in Phnom-Penh.

But our enemy is disgruntled very much towards these successes and good will of ours. In particular, the Chinese expansionists in collusion with the American imperialists and every kind of international reactionaries have continued their criminal manoeuvres through Pol Pot, Ieng Sary, Khieu Samphan remnants and various other Khmer reactionaries in order to destroy the Kampuchean Revolutionary achievements. In the international arena, their gangs make every effort to keep the seat of the genocidal clique at the UNO in order to hide their defeat in the country. Besides, they stubbornly and flagrantly interfere in the internal affairs of Kampuchea and try every means to compel us to accept an international conference on Kampuchea which they shamelessly opened on 13th July, 1981 and which was concretely interfering in the in-

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ternal affairs of the People's Republic of Kampuchea,

Recently, they tried to set up the so-called "United Front" by using Sihanouk, Son San and Khieu Samphan to replace Pol Pot. In fact, this new manoeuvre was merely a change of shroud for the political corpse, Pol Pot, because they can never use the name Pol Pot again. In this sense, they try to collect and feed the

remnants of Pol Pot and other treacherous Khmer reactionaries along the borders by making use of refugees as a screen in order to infiltrate those traitors to render insecurity in the country. But this manoeuvre has already been defeated by our Kampuchea.

We would like to confirm once again that the situation in Kampuchea is irreversible. The Kampuchean people have the right to live as human beings and as a people, as the people of various countries. They will absolutely not tolerate any interference in the internal affairs of theirs. And international conference, which was held without the approval and participation of the Government of the People's Republic of Kampuchea will be regarded as null and void and it is totally valueless. It will be regarded as a flagrant interference in the internal affairs of Kampuchea.

In face of this dangerous threat, militant solidarity among Laos, Vietnam and Kampuchea in accordance with the treaty of peace, friendship and co-operation between Kampuchea and Vietnam to oppose the Chinese threat must be continued further more, and this presence is not a threat to any one. As from now on, if Thailand ceases to allow the Pol Pot remnants and mercenaries of other Khmer reactionaries to use its territory, ceases to supply them with provisions and arms, disarms them and confines them to a separate camp far from the borders, Kampuchea and Vietnam will agreeably withdraw a part of the Vietnamese forces from Kampuchea.

Thailand must understand that the revival of the Kampuchean people, the developments in every sphere and the peaceful living, in our Kampuchea are not a threat to Thailand. In fact, this situation is a peaceful factor which enables the two peoples, Thai - Kampuchean to build up their lives peacefully. We would like to confirm that we are not alone because there are, progressive, peace and justice loving people who are with us for ever.

The People's Republic of Kampuchea always advances forwards.

I would like to thank you, Ladies and Gentlemen for your attention. Then I would like to happily answer any question which you, Ladies and Gentlemen, will ask.

DIA USA VIETNAM CHINA CAMBODIA THAILAND LAOS UNITED KINGDOM

Date : Aug 31, 1981

Volume No

1995

Tenth Anniversary of the Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation: President, Prime Minister and Foreign Minister's Messages of Greetings

The President of India, Shri N. Sanjiva Reddy and the Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi, have sent the ' following messages of greetings to Mr. L. I. Brezhnev, Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU and Mr. N. A. Tikhanov, Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, on the occasion of the Tenth Anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation between India and USSR:

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

On behalf of the Government and the people of India, and on our own behalf, we
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extend to your Excellencies, and through you to the Government and the friendly people of the USSR, greetings on the occasion of the Tenth Anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation between our two countries. Indo-Soviet friendship derives its strength from a common commitment to world peace, and international understanding. Our cooperation in science, culture and commerce, has become more diversified in the decade since the signing of the Treaty. We are confident that in the years to come the multifaceted relationship between our countries will be further consolidated to the mutual interest of our two peoples and will make a positive contribution to strengthen international peace and security.

Excellencies, we avail ourselves of this occasion to convey to you our personal good wishes for health and happiness and for the continued well-being and prosperity of the people of the Soviet Union.

PRIME MINISTER'S MESSAGE

I am glad that a public meeting is being organised by the Friends of the Soviet Union to mark the 10th anniversary of the Indo-Soviet Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation.

In the decade that has passed since the Treaty was concluded, our friendship has become closer and our cooperation in the realms of science, culture and commerce more diversified without in any way conflicting with our independent stand on various issues.

The relations between our two peoples have long been marked by mutual regard. The October Revolution almost coincided with the

advent of Mahatma Gandhi on the political scene of India to lead our final battle against imperialism. Ever since India's independence 34 years ago our two countries have worked together against colonialism and racialism. The Soviet Union has recognised our policy of non-alignment. Indo-Soviet friendship is indeed an example of how two countries following different systems can fruitfully work together in the cause of world peace and make a contribution to enlargement of international understanding.

In the coming years, Indo-Soviet friendship will continue to be close and beneficial to both of us and also to the entire world community.

FOREIGN MINISTER'S MESSAGE TO GROMYKO

On the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the Indo-Soviet Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation, I have great pleasure in extending to Your Excellency my cordial greetings.

The signing of this Treaty ten years ago marked an important stage in the development of Indo-Soviet relations. This treaty contributed greatly to the consolidation of peace and stability not only in our region but also in the world. Needless to say, it is as relevant today as it was ten years ago.

Excellency, the roots of Indo-Soviet friendship go back to the days when India's freedom fighters derived courage from the struggle of the Soviet people for their own emancipation. The friendship between our two peoples has matured and grown stronger over the years and has found concrete expression in our cooperation in diverse fields. Our two countries have worked closely in the interest of world peace and international cooperation, to the mutual benefit of our peoples. We, in India, are confident that the coming years will see a further strengthening of Indo-Soviet friendship and deepening of bilateral cooperation.

Excellency, I take this opportunity to extend to you my good wishes for your personal health and success.
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DIA USA

Date : Aug 31, 1981

Volume No

1995

Indo-UN Council for Namibia Joint Communique

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Aug 05, 1981:

At the invitation of the Government of India, a Mission of Consultation of the United Nations Council for Namibia, composed of the following members, visited India from 2 to 6 August 1981.: H.E. Mr. Michael E. Sherifis, Chairman (Cyprus), Mr. T. P. Sreenivasan (India), Mr. Semiou Aleksandrovich Dzakhayev (USSR), Mr. Tommo Monthe (United Republic of Cameroon), Mr. Tuli Hiveluah (SWAPO), and Mr. John F. Robson (United Nations).

During its stay in India, the Mission was received by Mrs. Indira Gandhi, Prime Minister of India. The Mission held substantive discussions in the Ministry of External Affairs with an Indian delegation consisting of the following: Shri S. K. Singh, Additional Secretary, Shri Ramesh Mulye, Joint Secretary, Shri Susheel Dube, Director and Shri Gurcharan Singh, Director.

The Mission held consultations with the Government of India and examined ways and means of strengthening the cooperation between the Government of India and of the United Nations Council for Namibia during the forthcoming emergency special session of the General Assembly on the question of Namibia.

The Government of India reaffirms its wellknown support for the Council as the only legal Administering Authority for Namibia, until its independence.

The Government of India and the Mission declare that South Africa's policies of repression of the people of Namibia, militarization of the Territory, use of the Territory as a springboard for repeated acts of aggression against neighbouring African States, possession and exploitation of massive reserves of uranium in Namibia, and efforts towards development of nuclear weapons with the assistance and collaboration of certain countries, constitute a threat to international peace and security within the meaning of Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter.

The Government of India and the Mission consider that the strong political, economic, diplomatic and military support which South Africa receives from certain Western permanent members of the Security Council encourages South Africa to refuse to comply with United Nations resolutions and decisions on Namibia. This stand by certain Western countries has prevented the Security Council from imposing mandatory sanction (s) against South Africa. This encouragement confirmed existing doubts about the real intentions of the five Western Powers which had been the authors of the

United Nations Plan for Namibia.

The Mission welcomes the paramount role played by the Movement of Nonaligned Countries in seeking a solution to the problem of Namibia and expresses appreciation for the policies advocated for Namibia by India, a founder member of the Movement of Non-aligned Countries.

The Government of India and the Mission are opposed to any attempt at distorting the nature of the question of Namibia which is specifically a problem of decolonization and of illegal occupation.

The Government of India and the Mission reject any attempt to present the Namibia issue as a regional conflict, with the aim of depriving it of its universal dimensions and underplaying the degree of defiance by South Africa of the decisions of the United Nations as a whole.

At the same time, the Government of India and the Mission denounce attempts by South Africa and its allies to characterize the liberation struggle in Namibia as part of
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an East-West confrontation, thus distorting and undermining the purpose of the struggle of the Namibian people against the illegal occupation of their country and for genuine independence.

The Government of India expresses support for the peaceful resolution of the problem of Namibia on the basis of Security Council resolutions 385(1976), 431(1978) 435 (1978) and 439 (1978). It also reaffirms its principled position of total support for the legitimate struggle of the Namibian people for self-determination, freedom and genuine independence, in a United Namibia, under the leadership of SWAPO, which is the sole and authentic representative of the Namibian people. The legitimacy of the armed struggle by the Namibian people led by SWAPO has been solemnly proclaimed by resolutions of the General Assembly of the United Nations.

The Government of India and the Mission denounce efforts by South Africa and certain of the Western Powers to elevate the so-called internal parties to equal 'status with SWAPO and any moves to revise or modify Security Council resolution 435 (1978) which provides the only universally acceptable basis for a settlement. It also denounces any manoeuvres by South Africa to impose a neo-colonial regime upon Namibian people through a so-called internal settlement.

The Government of India and the Mission express their support for the imposition of mandatory comprehensive economic sanctions against South Africa under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations as called for by the General Assembly, the Non-

Aligned Movement and the Organization of African Unity as one of the most effective ways to obtain South Africa's compliance with the relevant Security Council resolutions.

The Government of India supports the early convening of an emergency special session of the General Assembly to review the question of Namibia and take measures as appropriate under the Charter of the United Nations. The Government also supports the intention of the Council to recommend for adoption by the General Assembly, at the emergency special session, of resolutions that would provide for measures to be taken by Members of the United Nations, in accordance with the Charter, to ensure the complete economic and political isolation of South Africa.

The Government of India and the Mission reiterate that Namibia's accession to independence must be with its territorial integrity intact, including Walvis Bay and the offshore islands, and that any action by South Africa to fragment the Territory would be illegal and null and void.

The Government of India reaffirm its position that Namibia is the direct responsibility of the United Nations and rejects any attempts at reaching a settlement without the direct participation of the United Nations.

The Government of India and the Mission strongly condemn the activities of all foreign corporations operating in Namibia under the illegal administration of South Africa. These activities constitute a major obstacle to the genuine independence of Namibia.

The Government of India and the Mission consider that in the light of the failure of the Geneva pre-implementation meeting in January 1981 and the subsequent failure of the Security Council to act, the efforts for the implementation of the United Nations Plan have reached an impasse. The two sides commend the positive attitude of SWAPO which has worked for the implementation of the United Nations Plan and condemn the persistent refusal of South Africa to comply with United Nations resolutions and its rejection of the United Nations Plan.

The Government of India and the Mission consider that in these circumstances, it is necessary for the international community to prepare for an active and concerted political campaign in support of the struggle of the Namibian people.

The Government of India and the Mission consider that it is essential to en-
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sure the non-recognition, as called for by the Security Council, of any fraudulent entities which may be established by South Africa in Namibia.

The Government of India and the Mission consider that it is essential to seek the full implementation of Security Council resolutions on the question of Namibia all of which are binding on all Member States.

The Government of India and the Mission consider that programmes of assistance to the Namibian people should be strengthened. In this connection, the United Nations should consolidate all activities which are directed toward support of the Namibian people.

The Government of India and the Mission consider that the programme for a voluntary boycott of South Africa embodied in the Panama Declaration of the United Nations Council for Namibia should be adopted by the General Assembly at its forthcoming emergency special session. In this context, the Mission notes with appreciation that, as far back as in 1946, India was among the first countries to impose comprehensive voluntary sanctions against South Africa by appropriate legislation.

The Government of India and the Mission consider that in order to ensure the effectiveness of a boycott it is necessary to increase the assistance to neighbouring African States. Such assistance should envisage not merely the overcoming of shortterm difficulties but should be designed to enable these States to move towards selfreliance.

The Government of India and the Mission reiterate the importance of the implementation of Decree No. I for the Protection of the Natural Resources of Namibia. In this connection, the two sides express support for the development of a comprehensive programme to enforce the implementation of the Decree consisting interalia of exertion of pressure on governments which have not yet done all in their power to carry out their obligations, institution of effective legal action in appropriate courts and action by non-governmental organizations.

The Mission, on behalf of the Council, expresses its appreciation to the Government of India for the moral and material support which it has extended to SWAPO, the sole and authentic representative of the Namibian people, and welcomes the recent decision of the Government of India to receive a resident mission of SWAPO in New Delhi.

The Mission, on behalf of the Council, expresses its appreciation to the Government of India for its contribution to the United Nations Fund for Namibia and for the scholarships which it has awarded to Namibian students.

The Mission expresses its gratitude for the firm and consistent position taken by the Government of India with respect to the efforts of the Council in support of genuine independence for the

Namibian people and expresses its sincere thanks to the Government and people of India for the warm welcome extended to it and for their generous hospitality.

MIBIA INDIA USA CYPRUS CAMEROON SOUTH AFRICA SWITZERLAND PANAMA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Aug 05, 1981

Volume No

1995

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

US Aid to India

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Aug 31, 1981:

India and the USA signed today a grant agreement. for rupee equivalent of US \$ 20 million. The agreement was signed by Shri Yogesh Chandra, Joint Secretary in the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance and by Mrs. Priscilla
<pg-226>

M. Bolghton, Director, US AID, New Delhi on behalf of their respective Governments.

The above grant will be used to finance sub-grants to be made to private voluntary health organisations for implementation of projects designed to expand and improve basic and special preventive health, family planning and nutrition services for the poor, with special attention to less well served areas and deprived populations. Indian contribution to these activities will amount to 25 per cent of the total project costs. Eighty per cent of project funds will be spent in rural and small town settings.

The grant will be made available in rupees out of the US held rupees in India and the funds are expected to be utilised to meet mainly rupee expenditure involved in the projects. The grant will be administered by the Ministry of Heath & Family Welfare and the institutions or projects to be allotted the grant funds will be determined by the Government of India.
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A INDIA

Date : Aug 31, 1981

September

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JAPAN KENYA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC MADAGASCAR

Date : Sep 01, 1981

Volume No

1995

AUSTRIA

Austrian Assistance to India

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on
Sep 09, 1981:

An Agreement was signed here today between Austria and India for a loan amounting to A. Sch. 52.541 million (Rs. 20-76 million). This loan would be used by India for import of capital goods of Austrian origin.

The Agreement was signed by Dr. Georg Hennig, Austrian Ambassador in India and Shri B. M. Oza, Joint Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, on behalf of their respective Governments.

The credits extended by Austria have been in the nature of Government credits and suppliers' credits. The major items of equipment imported under Austrian credits include iron and steel items, equipment for power projects, gas cylinders, railway equipment, chemical plants and coal mining equipment, roller and ball bearings.

As a member of the Aid-India Consortium, Austria has been extending assistance to India since 1962-63.

The loan is to be repaid over a period of 30 years including a ten year grace period and carries an annual interest rate of 2 per cent.

STRIA USA INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Sep 09, 1981

Volume No

1995

BANGLADESH

Indo-Bangladesh Joint Press Statement

Following is the text of Indo-Bangladesh Joint Press Statement issued in New Delhi on Sep 13, 1981:

At the invitation of Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, Minister of External Affairs of India, His Excellency Professor Muhammad Shamsul Huq, Foreign Minister of Bangladesh, paid a visit to India from September 1. 1-13, 1981.

During his stay, H.E. Foreign Minister of Bangladesh called on Shri Neelam Sanjiva Reddy, the President, Shri M. Hidayatullah, the Vice-President and Shrimati Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister of India. He also called on Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, Minister of External Affairs.

The two Foreign Ministers assisted by their respective sides held several rounds of talks in resumption of their earlier talks held during the visit of His Excellency the External Affairs Minister of India to Bangladesh in August 1980. These talks <pg-229>

were held in a cordial and friendly atmosphere. During the talks, the two sides reviewed bilateral relations and also discussed regional and international matters of mutual interest.

The two Ministers recognised that friendly and good neighbourly relations between Bangladesh and India were clearly in the larger interests of the peoples of the two countries and also of peace and stability in the region. The two Ministers also expressed their firm belief that the foundation for building good neighbourly relations lay in mutual respect, trust and goodwill. The two Ministers agreed that some of the unresolved problems between Bangladesh and India were acting as a source of irritation and strain on the relations between them and that an early and peaceful resolution of these problems was clearly dictated by the larger interests of the peoples of the two countries. They, therefore, agreed that both sides would constantly endeavour to resolve any outstanding problems between them, peacefully in a spirit of mutual understanding and good neighbourliness.

Both sides agreed to intensify efforts for completion of steps already agreed upon at the Indo-Bangladesh Secretary-level talks at New Delhi in October, 1980 towards early implementation of the 1974 Land Boundary Agreement. The two sides confirmed their respective Government's acceptance of the delineation on map, by their survey officials, of the territory to be leased at Tin Bigha. It was agreed that a meeting at the level of Foreign Secretaries would be held in October, 1981 to resolve all outstanding problems related to the Land Boundary, including finalisation of the terms and conditions of the lease-in-perpetuity of the Tin Bigha Corridor. Pending finalisation of the terms of lease, conditions would be created to ensure that necessary facilities of access which have been provided in the past would continue to remain available.

The two Foreign Ministers reviewed the progress achieved in the resumed talks on the delimitation of the Maritime Boundary between Bangladesh and India in Dacca from December 2-5, 1980 held in pursuance of the decision taken at their meeting in August 1980. They reiterated that the question of delimitation of the Maritime Boundary should be resolved by mutual agreement in a spirit of understanding and good neighbourliness and that another meeting be convened at a mutually convenient and early date.

The two Foreign Ministers took note of the understanding reached between them at their meeting in August 1980 and of the report of

the first Governmental Review Meeting and the Farakka Agreement concluded in April 1981. They agreed that efforts should be intensified to find a solution to the long-term problem of augmenting the dry season flows of the Ganges to the mutual satisfaction of both the countries. The two Foreign Ministers agreed to discuss at an early date further measures to be taken in this connection.

The two sides re-affirmed that efforts should be made to ensure that peace and tranquility are maintained on the border. It was agreed that each side would take effective measures to ensure that their respective territories were not used for hostile activities directed against the other.

Both sides re-emphasised the need to stop illegal movement of people across the border and to strengthen existing arrangements and cooperation in this regard.

A free and frank discussion was held on the question of the newly emerged New Moor/South Talpatty Island at the estuary of the border river Hariabhanga. The two Foreign Ministers reviewed implementation of steps in defusing the tension over this problem. They reiterated their agreement to take further necessary steps to remove the remaining causes of tension and resolve the issue. For this purpose the two sides agreed to early talks at the level of Foreign Secretaries to examine all available data and report to the Foreign Ministers for further necessary steps to be taken with a view to an early and peaceful resolution of this problem.

The two sides reiterated their willingness to pursue positively all efforts for in-

creasing cooperation in various fields of mutual interest. They noted with satisfaction the signing of the new Trade Agreement in October, 1980, the Protocol on cultural and academic exchanges in December, 1980 and the new Telecommunications Agreement in May 1981. As regards the establishment of railway links between the two countries, both sides agreed to take further positive steps to advance progress on the basis of the talks that have been held between the two Railways in October 1980.

The two sides also agreed that the momentum of progress in the implementation of the proposal for regional cooperation among the South Asian Countries should be maintained and all necessary steps for this purpose should be undertaken in concert with other neighbouring countries in the South Asian region.

The two countries noted with satisfaction the similarity in their views on many of the international issues and agreed to cooperate closely in the various international forums in upholding the principles of the UN Charter and the Non-aligned Movement.

The Foreign Minister of Bangladesh expressed his warm appreciation to the Minister of External Affairs of India for the generous hospitality extended to him and to the members of his delegation. He extended an invitation to him to pay an official visit to Bangladesh which the Indian External Affairs Minister accepted with pleasure.

INDIA BANGLADESH USA

Date : Sep 13, 1981

Volume No

1995

BOTSWANA

President N. Sanjiva Reddy's Speech at Banquet in Honour of President of Botswana

Following is the text of the speech of the President of India, Shri N. Sanjiva Reddy, at the banquet he hosted in honour of H.E. Dr. Quett K. J. Masire, President of the Republic of Botswana in New Delhi on Sep 29, 1981. Proposing the toast the President said:

It gives me great pleasure to have amidst us tonight His Excellency President Masire, Madam Masire, as well as the distinguished members of the Botswana delegation.

India has had traditional links of friendship with Africa. Our support for African causes is rooted in our conviction that our own independence from colonial rule was somehow incomplete so long as other countries continued to suffer under foreign domination or from racial discrimination. Mahatma Gandhi started his experiment of non-violent political struggle in South Africa. Our opposition to apartheid is anchored in our political culture and history. We are happy to see that your Government, under your enlightened leadership, supports the freedom movements in Southern Africa and assists them in opposing apartheid. Your support is all the more courageous and admirable because of the difficult geographic situation in which Botswana finds itself. And yet you are fighting shoulder to shoulder with others in your region in your opposition to the policy of racial discrimination. We join you in deploring the actions taken by some countries which have resulted in delaying the independence of Namibia as envisaged in Security Council Resolution 435. We also deplore the continuing aggression against Angola and other frontline

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states by the apartheid regime of South Africa. The recent decision to make your capital city the headquarters of the Southern African Development Coordination Conference poses a fresh challenge and opportunity for your country which we are sure Botswana will face with fortitude and imagination.

INDIA'S COOPERATION ASSURED

Mr. President, we have noted with admiration the rapid economic progress made by your country in recent years. Much more remains to be done. In your march towards economic development, you have had to face many problems because of the proximity of the apartheid regime of South Africa. I would like to assure you of our fullest cooperation in sharing with you the experience we have gathered over the last thirty years in tackling the onerous tasks of socio-economic development. During this period India has made tremendous progress in agriculture, industry, education and other fields. We are convinced that in this difficult phase of human history, when the great and super powers are ranged against one another in a posture of mutual suspicion and confrontation, the best hope for the Third World lies in collective self-reliance. India will do whatever it can to make a useful contribution to this common task.

Mr. President, your visit to India is a brief one. Nevertheless, we will endeavour to show you a representative glimpse of this country, both modern and ancient. I have no doubt that your visit will further strengthen our bilateral relations. From here you will be going to Melbourne to attend the Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting. There will thus be another opportunity for our two countries to forge their efforts together in giving a collective call for a saner and more cooperative world and for a return ' to the path of peaceful negotiations in resolving the disputes between states.

TSWANA INDIA USA SOUTH AFRICA NAMIBIA ANGOLA

Date : Sep 29, 1981

Volume No

1995

BOTSWANA

Dr. Masire's Speech

Replying to the toast, Dr. Q.K.J. Masire, President of the

Republic of Botswana, said:

I wish to express, on behalf of my wife and myself and my entire party our deep appreciation for the very warm welcome that has been extended to us on our arrival in your country. For this, we are all grateful to you Mr. President and Mrs. Reddy, and to the Government and the people of India. We have been here for hardly a day and yet we already feel very much at home. This should be expected given the natural warmth and friendship you and your fellow countrymen have shown us since our arrival. We therefore look forward to the rest of our stay in India with great expectation.

I am of course, not the first President of Botswana to come on a State Visit to India. As you will recall, the late President Sir Seretse Khama was in India on a State Visit in April 1976. You will no doubt agree with me that his visit to your country gave concrete expression to the very friendly and cordial relations that exist between the people of Botswana and the people of India. I regard our presence in your midst here tonight as a clear indication of our earnest desire to maintain and further strengthen these relations.

INDIA'S ASSISTANCE LAUDED

In this regard, I should like to take this opportunity to express our sincere gratitude to you Mr. President, your government and the people of India, for the aid we receive from your country in the fields of technical assistance and manpower development. As a matter of fact, I have the pleasure of conveying to you greetings from the many men and women you have been kind enough to send to our country for the purpose of making a contribution to our development programmes through their expertise. I

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know that both our countries are regarded as developing countries, but we are at different levels of development. Our presence here should therefore enable us not only to promote our friendship but also to learn much from your experience in the development process. I have no doubt that this will prove very relevant to the economic circumstances of Botswana.

In my own part of the world, Botswana has, in concert with eight other majority-ruled countries of the region formed the Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference, or SADCC in brief. Apart from my own country, the other countries are Angola, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe. We are anxious for independent Namibia and apartheid-free South Africa to join the group as soon as possible.

The SADCC grouping has, as its major goals, the task of reducing our economic dependence on South Africa or any other country and the promotion of economic links amongst ourselves. These goals

developed naturally from our common realisation that our political independence was meaningless without the concomitant economic independence. It is granted that no single country can be completely self-sufficient economically, but it is unacceptable for a country to be unduly dependent on another.

DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

We have accordingly drawn up a Programme of Action which we seek to implement in collaboration with other countries that can provide the expertise and the funds in those areas where local inputs are deficient. Each member-state has been given an assignment in fields such as transport and communications, industrialisation, food security, control of animal diseases and manpower development with a view to rationalising and co-ordinating these in the context of our developing programmes.

Botswana has been honoured with the duty of chairing SADCC for the next three years in addition to the responsibility of co-ordinating and servicing all the activities of SADCC from its beginning up to now. We need all the practical or moral support we can get from our friends for this initiative to succeed.

SITUATION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

Mr. President, the political situation in Southern Africa remains as volatile as ever. If anything, it has taken a turn for the worse. I should concede, however, that the achievement of independence in Zimbabwe early last year was warmly welcomed by all mankind committed to the principles of peace, freedom, equality and justice. For Southern Africa, in particular, the independence of Zimbabwe gives us reason to hope that some day, the occupied territory of Namibia will achieve self-determination and that the oppressed people of South Africa will be free from the scourge of apartheid and achieve majority rule.

The continued denial of self-determination for the people of Namibia and the continued oppression of the people of South Africa is the root cause of the despair and the inevitable resort to armed struggle in Southern Africa. My country does not propagate violence, nor do the other majority-ruled countries of Southern Africa, but we understand the desperate situation and the cul-de-sac that political persuasion has reached in our region. And, we understand the resultant decision by the oppressed people of our region to resort to arms. The situation has recently been exacerbated by the South African invasion of Angola in violation of the national sovereignty and the territorial integrity of that country. We condemn this action in the strongest possible terms. This act of aggression impinges upon the security of all the countries of the region and can only serve to delay further the achievement of self-determination in Namibia.

I should, at this juncture, pay tribute to the people of India for their internationally acclaimed role as strong supporters of the struggle for self-determination and human dignity by all the people of the world. Your contribution in this regard is <pg-233>

highly appreciated in Southern Africa. You have indeed followed in the footsteps of your great heroes - Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru - who inspired nationalist movements in the erstwhile occupied territories of the former colonial powers.

India is a founder-member of the Nonaligned Movement of which we are proud to be a member. Our non-alignment is positive and therefore enables us to play an active role in international affairs. Our purpose is to promote international peace and security without fear or favour.

I have no doubt Mr. President, that the views, I have expressed and the hopes and aspirations I have entertained during my short address will be regarded as a contribution to the on-going dialogue between friends concerning our bilateral relations as well as international issues of mutual concern.

I now propose a toast to the health of His Excellency President Neelam Sanjiva Reddy and for the continued excellent relations between the people of Botswana and the people of India.

TSWANA USA INDIA ANGOLA LESOTHO MALAWI MOZAMBIQUE SWAZILAND TANZANIA
ZAMBIA NAMIBIA ZIMBABWE SOUTH AFRICA

Date : Sep 29, 1981

Volume No

1995

BOTSWANA

Memoranda of Understanding between India and Botswana on Industry

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Sep 21, 1981:

A Memoranda of Understanding was signed here today between India and Botswana in the field of economic development, particularly the development of small scale industries. The Memoranda was signed on behalf of India by Shri S. M. Ghosh, Secretary, Ministry of Industry and on behalf Of the Republic of Botswana by Mr. L. M. Mpotokwane, Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs.

Both sides agreed that the people of Botswana and India have a common interest in economic development, and in the development of small scale industries in particular, and they expressed their ready desire to cooperate in sharing of their technical knowledge as well as expertise for mutual benefits.

Recognising that increased exchanges and cooperation would be appropriate and desirable in particular in the field of small scale industries, discussions were held by both sides in New Delhi on September 20, 1981.

Based on the discussions held by the members of the delegations with Indian authorities and subject to the final approval of the competent authorities on both sides, the following understanding has been reached:

SMALL INDUSTRIES DEVELOPMENT ORGANISATION

India would assist Botswana in the establishment of a comprehensive structure for the development of small scale industries in Botswana. An expert team from the Organisation of Development Commissioner, Small Scale Industries, India would visit Botswana at a date mutually settled in order to prepare a detailed plan of action including the organisational arrangement for the establishment of Botswana Small Industries Development Organisation. India would also assist in the selection and training of Botswana personnel in the field of industrial development.

INDUSTRIAL ESTATES

It was agreed that a separate team of Indian experts from the Organisation of Development Commissioner, Small Scale Industries and National Small Industries Corporation would visit Botswana to assist Government of Botswana in establishing a model Industrial Estate.

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The team would prepare a detailed report and plans for the establishment of Industrial Estates including Common Facility Centres, maintenance and service shops, training of entrepreneurs and personnel, equipment supply and commissioning of the projects. The Indian side would consider favourably to equip one such model estate in Botswana.

TRAINING BOTSWANA NATIONALS

Small Industries Development Organisation would assist Government of Botswana in providing training facilities in the managerial as well as technical fields in India.

FEASIBILITY STUDY

Small Industries Development Organisation, India, would also prepare detailed feasibility studies on the following industries already identified:

- 1) Soap from animal fat
- 2) Footwear
- 3) Bio-gas
- 4) Bone meal and milk products
- 5) Hardware (including nuts and bolts)
- 6) School furniture
- 7) Bath room Fittings
- 8) Simple Agricultural Implements
- 9) Bicycle Parts
- 10) Foundry supply to Mining Industries.

The two sides will decide upon the terms and modalities of assistance involved in regard to these proposals separately after due negotiations. The Indian side agreed to consider, in accordance with its existing guidelines, Botswana's request for further credit support, including Government to Government credit, for these projects after the utilisation of the existing credits.

This Memoranda of Understanding shall come into force upon the compliance with procedures required by the Laws of the respective countries.

TSWANA INDIA USA

Date : Sep 21, 1981

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1995

BOTSWANA

Agreement on Secondment of Personnel between India and Botswana

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Sep 21, 1981:

An agreement on Secondment (Deputation) of personnel between India and Botswana was signed here today. It was signed on behalf of India by Shri R. D. Sathe, Foreign Secretary and on behalf of Botswana by Mr. L. M. Mpotokwane, Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs.

The Government of the Republic of India ("the Government of India") and the Government of the Republic of Botswana ("the Government of Botswana").

Having regard to close and friendly relations existing between the two countries; and

Desirous of continuing their fruitful cooperation in the field of supply of Indian manpower to Botswana;

Have agreed as follows:

ARTICLE 1

This Agreement sets forth procedures for the provision of personnel for long and short terms by the Government of India to the Government of Botswana. It also indicates the general terms to be offered by the Government of Botswana to the personnel recruited from India. These terms shall supplement the provisions made in the specific contracts to be signed between the designated agency in the Government of Botswana and the individuals recruited.

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ARTICLE 2

The Government of Botswana shall inform the Ministry of External Affairs, India, in writing, through the High Commission of India in Lusaka (Zambia), of its requirements for experts, technicians and other personnel in various fields. Each request shall contain the following essential information: .

- (a) the job specification pertaining to each post;
- (b) the qualifications, and professional experience looked for;
- (c) the duration of assignment;
- (d) the place of work;
- (e) the salary scale and grade offered against each post;
- (f) other terms such as expatriate allowance, service gratuity and children's education; and

(g) other relevant information regarding the nature of the job.

ARTICLE 3

The Ministry of External Affairs, India, shall furnish to the Government of Botswana through the High Commission of India in Lusaka, within a period of two months of receipt of the information as contained in Article 2, a list of nominations for the post specified, accompanied by the Curriculum Vitae, of the nominees.

On specific request from the Government of Botswana, the Government of India shall supply dossiers of the nominees containing the Curriculum Vitae, copies of diplomas or certificates and other credentials indication of marital status and any other information. These documents shall be in the English language.

ARTICLE 4

The Government of Botswana shall inform the Ministry of External Affairs, India, within a period of one month of receipt of the documents as indicated in Article 3, of its decision on a short list of candidates it would like to interview for the final selection. The Government of Botswana shall simultaneously indicate the dates and venues of the interviews to be conducted by the recruitment delegation from Botswana.

The Government of Botswana shall undertake to reimburse the interviews the cost of travelling to the place of interview (at least first class rail fare within India) and a daily allowance for up to a maximum of two days on the latter's production of satisfactory documents.

If in some cases the Government of Botswana feels that it can select the candidates on the basis of the Curriculum Vitae/dossier only or that it may authorise the Government of India to select the candidates on its behalf, it shall inform the Ministry of External Affairs, India, shall then take action as would be necessary. In the latter case, it shall effect the selections in consultation with the concerned authorities in the Government of India and Present to the Government of Botswana a list of selected candidates for acceptance.

ARTICLE 5

After the selection process has been completed, the Government of Botswana shall submit to the Ministry of External Affairs, India, consolidated list of selected candidates. The Ministry of External Affairs, India shall then ensure that the candidates are relieved from their assignments in India and are ready to depart to Botswana on short notice.

The Government of Botswana shall in the meantime, arrange to send economy class air tickets for the selected candidates and their families, and the contracts direct to the selected candidates. Travel from India to Botswana shall be by the shortest air route.
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ARTICLE 6

Any change in the terms offered, shall be carried out only with the consent of the Government of India and the concerned expert. The expert concerned shall satisfy himself that all terms offered to him initially have been included in the contract. He shall sign the contract and send a copy to the Government of Botswana for its record.

ARTICLE 7

The period of service of the expert shall commence from the date of his assumption of duty in Botswana. However, the expert shall be paid an equivalent of half his prospective daily pay from the date of departure to the date of assumption of duty.

ARTICLE 8

The expert shall be placed at the disposal of the Government of Botswana. He shall not seek or receive instructions from any other entities. The expert shall be subject to all the laws regulating his functions and shall be obliged, during his service and thereafter to maintain absolute secrecy in respect of facts, information or documents which may come to his knowledge in the exercise of his functions. The expert is forbidden to take up any other remunerative employment during his term of service.

ARTICLE 9

In the event of any third party claiming damages against the expert in connection with any professional errors committed in the exercise of his official functions, the concerned Department/Organisation of the Government of Botswana to which the expert is attached shall assist the expert in his defence except where the claim is founded on gross negligence or wilful misconduct on the part of the expert.

The expert shall be indemnified by the Government of Botswana or the employing institution against any claims by third parties for damage or injury caused in the exercise of the expert's official functions except where damage or injury results from gross negligence or wilful misconduct.

ARTICLE 10

The expert shall earn leave at the rate of 30 days per annum for

each completed twelve months of service. In case of certain categories of experts of higher status longer vacations but not exceeding 35 days shall be granted on case by case basis. The amount of leave to be earned by each expert shall be determined by reference of the rules and regulations of the employing-institution. All the experts shall be required to take at least ten days of their leave in each year of service.

ARTICLE 11

In the case of officially certified illness disabling the expert from performing his functions he shall be deemed to continue in service with full rights and benefits up to a limit of 60 days. Thereafter, the Government of Botswana may terminate the services of the expert but without prejudice to his entitlement to return passage in respect of himself and his family.

ARTICLE 12

The duration of the first contract of the expert, unless otherwise specified, shall be 24 to 36 months. The contract shall be renewable by a period of another two years if the Government of Botswana needs the services of the expert. The renewal shall, however, be subject to the approval of the employers of the expert in India. The process for seeking approval shall commence from the Botswana and at least six months prior to the expiry of the first contract.

ARTICLE 13

Each expert shall have the right of opening a bank account in Botswana for his personal needs and to be treated as a Contract Temporary Resident for Exchange Control purposes. The remittance allowed for each expert shall be subject to the Exchange Control Regulations prevailing from time to time. Under current Exchange

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Control practice the expert would then be entitled to remit, in any convertible currency, up to 50 per cent of gross annual salary paid in Botswana or P 6 000, whichever is the greater, together with 100 per cent of any gratuity and a terminal allowance of P 6 000 on final departure.

ARTICLE 14

The Government of Botswana shall provide each expert and his family with accommodation and hard furnishing. The expert shall pay the applicable rental for his accommodation as well as electricity and water fees.

ARTICLE 15

In the event of incapacity or death caused by accident in the

course of duty and without negligence or wilful misconduct on the part of the expert, he shall be entitled to compensation in terms of the laws of Botswana according to his status and category.

ARTICLE 16

The expert shall be entitled to the cost of transporting 30 kg. of baggage by air, including the amount of baggage that may be carried on each ticket.

Any expert travelling by sea shall be entitled to the cost of transport by sea of the amount of baggage that may be carried free on each sea passage ticket.

ARTICLE 17

In the event of the death of the expert the Government of Botswana shall guarantee transport of the body to India and the return passage of the family. In case the expert does not have a family, one person who may be a relative or friend, may be allowed to accompany the body at the expense of Government of Botswana. In the event of the death of a member of the family only the transport of the body of the deceased shall be provided. Travel expenses by air shall be by the shortest route and by economy class.

ARTICLE 18

Every expert may within six months of his first arrival in Botswana import free of customs duty:

(A) New and used personal and household effects, and

(B) One motor vehicle for personal use provided that:

i) Such motor vehicle shall have been used for a period of not less than 12 months prior to departure to Botswana or such shorter period as the Director of customs and excise may allow; and

ii) Such motor vehicle and household effects may not be disposed of within two years of the date of importation without prior authority of the Director of Customs and Excise.

The term "personal and household effects" shall include for each household a set of furniture, one radio, one record player, one tape recorder, one washing machine, one refrigerator, one deep freezer, one stove, one air condition unit for their housing, minor electrical appliances and one set of photographic and cine equipment."

ARTICLE 19

Cases not foreseen in the present Agreement shall be resolved in an amicable manner between the two countries. In the event of divergences in regard to the implementation of the contract, the Government of Botswana and the Ministry of External Affairs, India shall seek ways of resolving them. If no agreement can be reached, any dispute shall be submitted to arbitration by the country concerned.

ARTICLE 20

The present Agreement shall remain in force for a period of two years and shall take effect from the date of its ratification by the two Governments. It shall be automatically extended for a period of one year each time unless either party proposes its reissuance or alteration, giving notice by registered post before the expiry of the concerned term. The termination of this agreement shall not effect obligations or rights already incurred, or acquired under this Agreement.

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TSWANA INDIA USA ZAMBIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Sep 21, 1981

Volume No

1995

BOTSWANA

India-Botswana Joint Communique

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Sep 23, 1981:

His Excellency Dr. Quett Masire, President of the Republic of Botswana and Mrs. Masire, paid a State visit to India from 19th to 28th September, 1981 at the invitation of the President of India Shri Neelam Sanjiva Reddy and Smt. Reddy.

The President of the Republic of Botswana and Mrs. Masire were received with great warmth and cordiality by the Government and people of India, reflecting the very friendly relations existing between the two countries.

The President of the Republic of Botswana had wide ranging talks with the Prime Minister of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, on major international issues as well as on the question of further strengthening the bilateral relations between India and Botswana.

These talks were held in an atmosphere of cordiality, mutual trust and understanding.

During his stay in India, the President of Botswana visited the Haryana Agricultural University, Hissar, the Locomotive Plant in Varanasi, the Hindustan Machine Tools and the Bharat Heavy Electricals at Bangalore, the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre at Trombay and the Tata Engineering and Locomotive Company in Bombay. The President also visited the historic city of Agra.

The two leaders reviewed the problems and challenges by Botswana's geo-political situation in Africa. The Prime Minister of India expressed deep admiration for Botswana's efforts to a prosperous society in which people of all races can live in peace and harmony with one another in a genuinely democratic framework.

The Prime Minister also expressed appreciation of the role which Botswana, together with other Frontline States, has been playing in the promotion of majority rule in Southern Africa. She reiterated India's support for the heroic struggle of the South West African people's Organisation (SWAPO) to liberate Namibia and also its sympathy and solidarity with the Frontline States who have been defending and consolidating their independence and territorial integrity. The two leaders strongly condemned apartheid and racial discrimination. They deplored all efforts to dilute or subvert the U.N. Plan for a peaceful settlement in Namibia as contained in Security Council Resolution 435 (1968).

They expressed their support for the liberation movements in Southern Africa in their struggle against apartheid, racialism and minority rule. They reiterated their condemnation of the aggression and pressure tactics practised by the Government of South Africa against the Frontline States. President Masire expressed his appreciation for India's unwavering and principled support for the cause of liberation of Southern Africa.

The Prime Minister of India noted with satisfaction the efforts being made by the leaders of the countries of Southern Africa to promote inter se economic cooperation and reduce their dependence on South Africa, through the framework of the Southern African Development Coordination Conference (SADCC). The Prime Minister expressed India's appreciation and admiration for the leadership and dynamism demonstrated by Botswana in working for this objective.

The two leaders reiterated their support for the declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace, as contained in the 1971 United Nations General Assembly Resolution on the subject, free from foreign military bases and great power rivalry and tension. They called on the great powers and major maritime users to cooperate fully with the littoral and hinterland States in achieving this objective. They expressed concern at the continued escalation of great

power military presence and rivalry in the Indian Ocean.

The Prime Minister of India outlined the recent developments and initiatives taken by India for the normalisation of relations amongst the countries of the subcontinent. She reiterated India's resolve to create a climate of understanding and co-operation 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. He expressed his admiration for the remarkable progress and development made by India under the leadership of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.

Both sides expressed concern at the large scale induction of sophisticated weapons systems into the sub-continent and agreed that this could upset the existing balance, trigger off an arms race and have adverse consequences for the process of confidence building and normalisation of relations amongst the countries of this region.

The two sides noted with grave concern the situation in South West Asia and agreed that it carries dangerous implications for the peace and stability of the region. In this context, the situation in Afghanistan was reviewed with particular concern. The two sides called for an urgent political solution of the problem based on respect for the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Afghanistan, and also free from all forms of foreign interference or intervention.

India and Botswana expressed concern and distress at the continuation of the Iran-Iraq conflict which has gravely affected the climate of regional and global peace and security. They called upon the two countries to resolve their differences in accordance with the principles of the United Nations Charter and the Non-aligned Movement.

Both sides noted with grave concern the situation in West Asia. They called for immediate withdrawal by Israel from all Arab territories occupied by it since June 1967, including Jerusalem. They reiterated their support for the inalienable right of the Palestinian people to a homeland and to a sovereign state of their own. The two sides deplored the continuing actions by Israel to alter the status of the holy city of Jerusalem in defiance of the United Nations Security Council Resolutions 476 (1980) and 478 (1980).

The Prime Minister of India and the President of Botswana reviewed the present situation in South East Asia. They expressed concern over the continuing tensions in the region. They gave their support to the stand taken on this subject by the Ministerial Conference of Non-aligned countries in New Delhi from

9th to 13th February 1981. They shared the hope that through a process of constructive dialogue, the countries of the region, would be able to find a political solution to the problems in the region which would ensure full respect for the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of all States in the region.

The two leaders reviewed the development of bilateral relations between their two countries. Both sides expressed satisfaction at the progress in bilateral cooperation during recent years and expressed their desire further to strengthen this cooperation in commercial, economic, scientific and technical fields. An Agreement was signed setting out procedures and guidelines for the future recruitment of experts from India. A second Agreement was signed specifying areas in which India could participate in Botswana's programme of developing small scale industries. The Government of Botswana noted with appreciation India's readiness to assist Botswana in these and other fields.

The two sides expressed their deep concern at the current deadlock in the multilateral economic negotiations. They noted that though the New International Development Strategy for the Third Development Decade was adopted by the General Assembly last year, the international community has so far failed to agree on the launching of the global round of negotiations which would contribute to the implementation of the strategy and has at the same time, not fo-
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cussed its attention on critical issues that require urgent consideration such as food security, energy including development of indigenous energy resources of developing countries and financial flows. They agreed that the developing countries should continue to make efforts at all levels to overcome the current deadlock through the generation of the requisite political will.

The two leaders welcomed with satisfaction the Caracas Programme of Economic Cooperation among developing countries and called for its early implementation. They expressed the hope that concrete decisions would be taken in regard to cooperation in the field of development finance in accordance with the recommendations of Resolution No.7 of the 6th Summit of Nonaligned countries on "Policy Guidelines of Reinforcing Collective Self-reliance among Non-aligned and Developing Countries."

During the talks the President of Botswana was assisted by Mr. A. M. Mogwe, Minister of External Affairs, Mr. P. L. Steenhamp, Secretary to Cabinet, Mr. L. M. Mpotokwane, Secretary for External Affairs, Major-General M. Merafne, Commander, Botswana Defence Forces, Mr. S. Bingana, Deputy Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Mr. M. L. Selepeng, Senior Private Secretary to the President, Mr. E. Maphanyana, Principal Planning Officer, Ministry of Finance and Development Planning. Mr. O. P.

Nayar, Railway Adviser to the Government of Botswana, and Mr. M. Mahloane, Acting Chief Estate Manager Bedu.

The Prime Minister of India was assisted by Shri Rao Birendra Singh, Agriculture Minister, Shri R. D. Sathe, Foreign Secretary, Shri S. P. Mukerji, Agriculture Secretary, Shri S. K. Ghose, Communication Secretary, Shri S. M. Ghosh, Secretary, Department of Industrial Development, Shri M. S. Gujral, Chairman, Railway Board, Shri J. R. Hiremath, Additional Secretary (PP&Afr.), Ministry of External Affairs, and Shri K. V. Rajan, Acting High Commissioner of India to Botswana.

The President of Botswana expressed his deep appreciation to the President of India, the Government and the people of India for the warm hospitality extended to him and his delegation during the stay in India. He extended an invitation to the President and the Prime Minister of India to visit Botswana. The invitations were accepted with pleasure.

TSWANA INDIA USA NAMIBIA SOUTH AFRICA MALI PERU CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC
AFGHANISTAN IRAN IRAQ ISRAEL VENEZUELA UNITED KINGDOM

Date : Sep 23, 1981

Volume No

1995

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

Meeting of Indo-German Joint Commission

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Sep 02, 1981:

The Indo-German Joint Commission for Economic and Industrial Cooperation met here on August 31 and September 1, 1981. The Indian side was led by Shri R. N. Malhotra, Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance and the German side by Mrs. Helga Steeg, Head, Department of Foreign Economic Policy, in the Ministry of Economics of the Federal Republic of Germany. Representatives of business and industrial interests were present on both sides.

Measures taken by the Government of India to streamline procedures with the object of creating an increasingly favourable climate for foreign investment in India were explained by the Indian Delegation. A number of important sectors like coal, machine tools, and construction of specialised ships, were

identified for exploring the possibilities of further collaboration between
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Indo-German parties. Views were also exchanged regarding measures to narrow the trade gap between the two countries. Government of India's policy regarding drug pricing and the proposal of marketing drugs under their generic names was also discussed.

Both sides discussed other matters of mutual interest which will lead to further strengthening of the ties between the two countries in industrial and technical collaborations, smoothening and widening of trade flows and exchange of personnel engaged in projects.

RMANY INDIA USA PERU

Date : Sep 02, 1981

Volume No

1995

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

West German Assistance for Development Projects Agreement Signed

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Sep 23, 1981:

India will receive DM 360 million (equivalent of Rs. 133.92 crores) as financial assistance for the year 1981-82 from the Federal Republic of Germany under an agreement signed between the two governments here today.

The agreement was preceded by negotiations on economic cooperation which began on September 21, in a friendly atmosphere of mutual trust. Shri M. R. Sivaraman, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Finance led the Indian delegation in the negotiations with the FRG delegation led by Dr. Franz Klamser, Ministerial dirigent in the Ministry for Economic Cooperation.

Out of the assistance provided by the Federal Republic of Germany DM 235 million (Rs. 87.42 crores) is earmarked for projects. The project aid will be used to part finance Agricultural Refinance and Development Corporation's Credit Project IV, Korba 500 MW Turbo-generator set, Singrauli 500 MW Turbo-generator set, the Neyveli Lignite Corporation's second mine cut and power station's expansion project.

The remainder of the assistance will go for import of capital goods, DM 40 million (Rs. 14.88 crores), for the Industrial development banks, DM 40 million (Rs. 14.88 crores) and for commodity aid, DM 45 million (Rs. 16.74 crores).

In addition, technical assistance in the form of equipment, services of experts and training facilities amounting to approximately DM 36 million (Rs. 13.39 crores) will also be made available to India in the current year for the Indo-German Technical Cooperation projects.

During the negotiations between the two governments, it was agreed that greater attention should be paid to rural development, including agriculture and water supply, development of energy resources and elimination of bottlenecks in the economy while selecting projects for Indo-German cooperation.

RMANY INDIA USA

Date : Sep 23, 1981

Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Statement by Minister of External Affairs P. V. Narasimha Rao in Lok Sabha regarding "Reported Indo-United states differences over the posting of diplomats in India and Washington"

Statement by Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, Minister of External Affairs, in the Lok Sabha on Sep 08, 1981, in response to Calling Attention regarding "Reported Indo-United States differences over the Posting of diplomats in India and Washington respectively".

Mr. Speaker Sir, a few months back the Government of India became aware of
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the intention of the US Department of State to assign Mr. George Griffin as Political Counsellor in the US Embassy in New Delhi. Mr. Griffin was till recently the Deputy Chief of Mission in the US Embassy in Kabul.

After a careful evaluation of Mr. Griffin's activities during his earlier posting in India, the Government of India requested the United States to reassign him to another post. Government's

intention was to avoid the likelihood of friction being introduced into our bilateral relations with the U.S. which we value and have always sought to strengthen.

On being so informed, the Government of the United States requested us to reconsider our decision and to permit Mr. Griffin to take up his assignment in the U.S. Embassy in New Delhi.

The U.S. authorities also informed us that in case we did not find it possible to reverse our decision on Mr. Griffin's case, the United States would also ask us to withdraw the proposed assignment of a senior Foreign Service Officer, Shri T. Prabhakar Menon. We informed the United States that we would consider this unprecedented retaliatory step on their part as unwarranted and unjustified.

The U.S. State Department stated inter alia "That this action was taken at a time when Griffin was a target of a Soviet disinformation campaign makes it particularly regrettable." Our official spokesman has responded as follows: "It is incorrect to suggest that views, information and pronouncements made by any other country played part in India's decision. Any such conclusion or insinuation is resented by the Government of India."

DIA USA AFGHANISTAN CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Sep 08, 1981

Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Official Spokesman's Statement on Pakistan's Admission in Commonwealth

Following is the statement of the Official Spokesman on Pakistan's admission in the Commonwealth made in New Delhi on Sep 18, 1981:

As far as the question of Pakistan's readmission in the Commonwealth is concerned I can do no better than mention what the Prime Minister stated on September 17 in an interview to Mr. Michael Richardson, an Australian journalist representing the newspaper, "The Age". The Prime Minister had emphasised that there has to be certain criteria with regard to membership of the Commonwealth and certain objective considerations for any country wishing to reenter the Commonwealth after leaving it on its own.

The Prime Minister stressed that the question of entry or admission of any country into the Commonwealth has to be on the basis of unanimity. Secondly membership of the Commonwealth is based on an expression of public opinion. There is no forum in Pakistan which can express itself on this question. The Prime Minister further mentioned that it has been India's experience that Pakistan has used all such international forums repeatedly to raise bilateral issues, She stressed that these are the considerations which should affect the question of Pakistan's reported desire to rejoin the Commonwealth. The Prime Minister also added that in India's assessment no new development has taken place since Pakistan opted out of the Commonwealth which could be the basis for that country's wishing to re-enter the Commonwealth.

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KISTAN INDIA AUSTRALIA USA

Date : Sep 18, 1981

Volume No

1995

INDIA IN UNITED NATIONS ORGANISATION

South African Aggression in Angola Condemned

Following is the text of the statement made by India's Permanent Representative to U.N., Ambassador N. Krishnan, in the U.N. Security Council on Aug 29, 1981:

Mr. President, I am grateful to you and to the other members of the Council for affording my delegation this opportunity to make a statement on the grave situation affecting international peace and security arising out of the latest round of aggression and terrorist acts, committed by the racist regime of South Africa, amounting to a massive invasion, against the People's Republic of Angola. The Council is singularly fortunate to have the distinguished Foreign Minister of Panama to preside over its deliberations. While congratulating you on your assumption of this onerous responsibility for the month of August, we are confident that your stature, wisdom and diplomatic skill would serve to guide the Council to meaningful and resolute action, when it is seized with such a serious matter. I would also like to pay tribute to the Ambassador of Niger for his contribution during his presidency last month.

The council is meeting today at the request of the People's

Republic of Angola in order to consider the situation resulting from South Africa's latest and most serious acts of aggression against a neighbouring front-line state in South Africa. In unleashing aggression against the People's Republic of Angola, the Pretoria Regime has not only ignored the previous dictates of this Council, but has in fact given further proof of its total and callous disregard of world opinion. The Permanent Representative of the People's Republic of Angola has in his moving statement yesterday, given details of the escalation of events culminating in the present situation. The brutality indulged in by the South African army and its mercenaries and the wanton destruction of life and property perpetrated by them are clearly contrary to all norms of civilised behaviour.

ILLEGAL OCCUPATION

The ostensible pretext for the latest series of deliberate attacks by the apartheid regime has once again been that of "Hot Pursuit" of SWAPO'S freedom fighters. In fact, South Africa has brazenly utilised the territory of Namibia still held under its illegal occupation as a spring-board to launch a campaign of terrorism and intimidation and de-stabilization against Namibia's neighbours in a vain effort to strengthen its hold over Namibia and its exploitation of the people and resources of that territory. South Africa does not seem to have realised, even now, that the struggle for independence of Namibia led by the sole and authentic representative of its people, SWAPO, cannot be contained any longer. South Africa's withdrawal from Namibia is inevitable and cannot be prevented or delayed by these desperate attempts.

The Government and people of India reiterate their full solidarity with the People's Republic of Angola and commend the Angolan people for their brave resistance in countenancing these sustained attacks by South African forces. The fact is that South Africa's Military might together with its nuclear capability poses a threat not only to the people of Africa but to the entire world. These aggressive policies and actions of South Africa could not have continued so blatantly but for the support and encouragement they have received from certain western quarters for economic and even, so called, strategic reasons.

RESOLUTE ACTION DEMANDED

The world may little note nor long remember what we say here, but it will not forget what the Security Council does here, and now. The Security Council should forthwith condemn South Africa in the strongest
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terms for its aggression against Angola and the violation of its sovereignty and territorial integrity. It should demand the immediate complete and unconditional withdrawal of all South

African troops, auxiliaries and surrogates from the territory of Angola. The Council should also take serious note of this latest action in the context of South Africa's plan to perpetuate its illegal occupation of Namibia and to sabotage the implementation of the U.N. Plan for Namibia contained in the Security Council resolution 435. It is the policy of apartheid and racial discrimination which is at the root of Pretoria's belligerence and this should be condemned once more. The international community should also not fail to express its support for and solidarity with the people of Angola in their hour of ordeal.

It was not very long ago last year that in the face of a similar grave situation that the Security Council made such a condemnation and demand for compliance by South Africa. Now, when South Africa, in defiance of the Security Council, has engaged in action, far greater in dimension and brutality, can the Council afford to do less? This is no time for vacillation or equivocation prevarication. We urge the members of the Security Council to be alive to their responsibility under the Charter and call on them to take appropriate and resolute action, including implementation of provisions under Chapter VII. There is no other way by which compliance of South Africa can be secured.

DIA ANGOLA SOUTH AFRICA PANAMA USA NIGER NAMIBIA

Date : Aug 29, 1981

Volume No

1995

INDIA IN UNITED NATIONS ORGANISATION

South African Aggression on Frontline States

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Sep 09, 1981:

Ambassador N. Krishnan, India's Permanent Representative to the United Nations, has expressed India's strong condemnation of the acts of aggression committed by South Africa "to intensify its attempts to intimidate the neighbouring African Countries with a view to weakening the support they extend to SWAPO".

Ambassador Krishnan, who was speaking at the U.N. Emergency Special Session on the question of Namibia, on September 8, said: "We stand shoulder to shoulder with Angola and other frontline states in their determination to assist in the liberation of Namibia, however arduous the struggle and however the sacrifices

may be.

The Ambassador said that the credibility of U.N. itself stood eroded because it had so far been unable to secure freedom and justice for the people of Namibia and it had shown no willingness to act on the basis of its Charter. The sovereignty and territorial integrity of the frontline African States stood violated as a result of aggressive acts by South Africa in gross violation of the fundamental principles of international law. International peace and security itself stood threatened as a consequence of South Africa's menacing attitude, combined with its military might and possible clandestine acquisition of nuclear weapons.

The Ambassador added that the current emergency in Southern Africa could be ended only through the immediate liberation of Namibia. The only way that the United Nations could assist in the liberation of Namibia was by taking collective measure to implement the United Nations plan without modification, dilution, prevarication or delay. The present Emergency Special Session should, therefore, resolve that the Member States shall cease forthwith every kind of dealing with South Africa with a view to isolating it politically, militarily, economically and culturally.

The total isolation of South Africa secured by action which we ourselves are capable of taking will ensure South Africa's compliance with the decisions of the United Nations, the Ambassador said.

The Government of India, the Ambassador went on, having imposed sanctions
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against South Africa by appropriate legislation several years ago, stood ready to join in any action that the Emergency Special Session will take to liberate Namibia. India had extended moral and material support to SWAPO in the past and shall continue to do so as long it is necessary.

Referring to the recent visit to India of a delegation of the Council for Namibia, the Ambassador recalled, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's assurance to the Council that India would continue to champion the cause of Namibia because it believed that its own freedom was incomplete till colonialism was totally eliminated.

DIA SOUTH AFRICA NAMIBIA ANGOLA USA

Date : Sep 09, 1981

Volume No

1995

INDIA IN UNITED NATIONS ORGANISATION

XXV Session of International Atomic Energy Agency: Dr. H. N. Sethna's Statement

Following is the text of the statement of the Chairman, Indian Atomic Energy Commission, Dr. H. N. Sethna at the Twentyfifth Regular Session of the International Atomic Energy Agency at Vienna on Sep 23, 1981:

Mr. President, at the very outset on behalf of my Delegation I would like to offer you our heartiest felicitations on your election as President of Twentyfifth Regular Session of ISIAAH. Your election to this high office is of particular pleasure to us, as not only do you represent a developing country but a country from our neighbourhood with whom we have age-old cultural links. I would like to assure you of my Delegation's fullest cooperation in discharging your responsibilities and we are confident that under your guidance this Session would prove successful.

It is a matter of pride and pleasure to welcome amongst us a delegation from Zimbabwe. This new emerging nation in Africa has undergone years of turmoil and is now engaged in re-building and bettering its economic conditions. We wish them all success in their endeavour.

It is heartening to note that with the admission of Zimbabwe, the membership of the Agency has now risen to 111 and amongst these the majority are from the developing world. This further highlights the need for an equitable representation on the Board of Governors, which at present is not in conformity with the increasing membership from developing countries. We would, therefore, like to express our support to the proposal before this Conference for an amendment of Article VI A.2 of the Statute.

Mr. President, my Delegation, would also like to express its appreciation of the exemplary manner in which the Director General, Dr. Sigvard Eklund has conducted the Agency's affairs during the year. He has brought to this Agency, farsightedness and experience which stems from his long dedicated service. I would like to assure the Director General that India would continue to support the Agency's activities of relevance to the developing countries. We particularly welcome his statement to this session regarding the proper representation of the developing countries on the staff of the Agency.

We are at the commencement of the Agency's twentyfifth year of activities. I can think of no better or more appropriate way of commemorating the silver jubilee of the agency than by reminding ourselves of the objectives enshrined in its statute - objectives that have in recent years been sought to be eroded through totally extraneous issues some of which are in clear violation of the provisions of the statute.

PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES

Unfortunately the growth in the Agency's promotional activities has not matched the growth in its regulatory activities. In fact, the proposed concept of 'zero growth' will widen the gap further. Furthermore, the promotional activities have been and continue to be subject to extraneous and restrictive considerations, as reflected in the Revised Guiding Principles,
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thereby hindering the promotion of atomic energy on a universal basis to all its members states. For this reason India has renounced the Agency's technical assistance but in view of the considerable importance we attach to the Agency's promotional activities, continue to participate as a donor only. Here we wish to reiterate our continuing assistance to other developing nations in their quest to utilise atomic, energy for peaceful purposes. The question of financing of technical assistance is receiving continuing attention. Till such time as a permanent solution emerges, we support the target of US \$ 16 million agreed upon for 1982. Considering the importance we attach to this programme, we wish to continue to pledge our share of the voluntary contribution, which this year amounts to an equivalent of US \$ 97,600. In addition, we will continue to make available 12 fellowships for the benefit of developing countries.

ISRAELI ATTACK ON IRAQI REACTOR

Mr. President, the agenda before us has, an item relating to the highly reprehensible act of unprovoked and unjustified military attack by Israel on the Iraqi Nuclear Research Centre. My Government has condemned this brutal aggression as stark adventurism and blatant intervention.

The basic point at issue is the Act of aggression which has threatened the maintenance of international peace and security in clear violation of the U.N. Charter. This also constitutes an act of aggression by one Member of the Agency on another Member and therefore deserves strong action at this session of the General Conference. Whilst considering this issue, a reference to NPT or fullscope safeguards will only tend to divert attention from this unprovoked act of aggression.

Mr. President, whilst during 1980 the need for nuclear power both

in industrialised and developing countries was amply reaffirmed, the opposition to nuclear power increased on account of environmental and safety concerns. The fact that no radiation induced death and no serious radiation induced injury took place at any nuclear plant in 1980, for that matter in any year since the first nuclear power reactor went critical in 1956, needs to be given widespread publicity in all countries to dispel the fears in the mind of the public. In view of the rapidly depleting reserves of fossil fuels, nuclear power is the only viable alternative conventional source of energy to meet the bulk of the increasing demand for electricity in a number of developing countries.

We warmly welcome the proposed International Conference on Nuclear Power and Experience, scheduled to be held in 1982, which we believe will essentially be technical in nature and provide an useful input to the United Nations Conference for the Promotion of International Cooperation in the Peaceful Utilisation of Atomic Energy for Economic and Social Development to be held in 1983.

INDIA'S COOPERATION

India continues to actively support the activities of the Regional Cooperation Agreement of the Agency in the field of grain mutation, medical supply sterilisation, maintenance of nuclear instruments etc. We have recently acceded to the agreement on the Regional Project on Food Irradiation as a participant, and have extended our full support to the project on Industrial Applications of Isotopes. It is heartening to learn that this project is due to be initiated shortly. We in India have always been aware of the immense socio-economic benefits from the use of isotopes in agriculture, medicine and industry. We find that many of the RCA research projects have been underway for several years. Perhaps a stage has been reached when a fresh look needs to be given on how the objectives of regional cooperation can best be fulfilled, given the limited financial and manpower resources that may be collectively available.

PLEA AGAINST DISCRIMINATORY PROCEDURES

My country continues to view with concern the increasing emphasis being given to the Agency's regulatory activities. As if this were not enough, the Agency is mobilising itself to implement safeguards in certain nuclear weapon states. We wish to reiterate our firm belief that such limited

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safeguards applied on few non-military nuclear facilities in some nuclear weapons states is pointless and in no way contributes to non-proliferation as it amounts to verifying the fulfilment of non-existing obligations. The production, stockpiling, continued refinement and deployment of nuclear weapons in various

geographic locations, including those in non-nuclear weapons states, continues unabated. As the Secretary General of the United Nations has mentioned in his message to this session of the General Conference any non-proliferation regime should involve a truly worldwide system which would be generally accepted and uniformly and fairly administered. It has thus to be universal and non-discriminatory and cover all nuclear activities. It is also not proper for the Agency to introduce a distinction in its documents, such as the Annual Report and the Safeguards Implementation Report, when reporting on nuclear facilities in weapons States and those in non-weapon States. Under its Statute, the Agency should not make any distinction between its members, all of whom have equal rights and obligations without discrimination.

We have been participating, with an open mind, in some of the deliberations connected with the proposed International Plutonium Storage. It may be recalled that Article XII A.5 which is being invoked as the legal basis, was subject to considerable debate and the finally accepted text was a result of a compromise. The Indian view point on the sovereign rights of member countries to decide on their own programme was also clearly stated at the time of our accession to the Statute. We find that the present discussions are proceeding in a direction that may infringe on the sovereign rights of members, as enshrined in Article XII A.5 of the Statute. Our participation in these discussions is, therefore, without prejudice to our rights as a sovereign nation.

We are all aware that a Committee on Assurance of Supply has been established to enable multilateral dialogue to take place between suppliers and consumers. Assurance of supply is a matter of some importance to my country at the present time and to look forward to some positive suggestions emerging from the deliberations Of this Committee. Whilst discussion on this subject should certainly take place at the multilateral level, we believe the crux of the problem affecting many of the members today is at the bilateral level. It must be emphasised that any multilateral solution for assurances of supply has to unequivocally take into account the existing bilateral rights and obligations.

Finally, Mr. President, I would once again like to express our best wishes to you for the successful conclusion of the year's General Conference.

DIA AUSTRIA USA ZIMBABWE IRAQ ISRAEL

Date : Sep 23, 1981

Volume No

INDIA IN UNITED NATIONS ORGANISATION

Minister of External Affairs, P. V. Narasimha Rao's Address to UN General Assembly

Following is the text of the Address of the Minister of External Affairs, Shri p. V. Narasimha Rao, at the General Debate of the United Nations General Assembly in New York on Sep 28, 1981

Mr. President, I convey to you the warm felicitations of my delegation on your assumption of the Presidentship of the General Assembly. It was a memorable election, not without its drama; we have every confidence that under your dynamic and competent leadership, the General Assembly will be able to deal effectively and comprehensively with the many tasks before it.

I would also like to take this opportunity to express our appreciation of the resolute and efficient leadership provided to the Assembly during its 35th Session by your predecessor, Ambassador Baron Rudiger Von Wechmar.

Tolerant and patient diplomacy of our distinguished Secretary General, H.E. Dr. Kurt Waldheim, are well known. I would like to place on record our sincere appre-
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ciation of the statesmanlike manner in which he has carried the awesome responsibility of his post.

On behalf of the people and Government of India, I have great pleasure in welcoming Vanuatu and Belize who have recently achieved their Independence and joined the United Nations.

INTERNATIONAL SITUATION

Mr. President, the contours of the world landscape have indeed changed, within the past one year, to such an extent that the shifts and turns make some of us wonder whether international peace and security can at all be preserved intact, if the present slide continues. The tension around us is very palpable. Confrontation has become acceptable for bolstering up otherwise sagging egos. Meanwhile those who are weak and small, in terms of defence capability and economic muscle worry for their very survival as free nations. Additional weapons on a large scale are being injected into fragile regimes and areas where tension is already high. There is a conscious and declared attempt to make relations with the developing countries a function of the east-west variable and to evaluate these relations in terms of the utility factor in the East-West game. Considerations of the material well-being, peace or stability of a country are being

subordinated to those of strategic superiority and containment.

The grim international situation is perhaps both the cause and consequence of the vast inequities and disequilibria of the world economy. The present structure is so designed and managed as to preserve and perpetuate its oases of the privilege and affluence amidst a desert of dearth and deprivation. There is a strange scenario consisting of the economic problems of the developed world caused by what has, been called a "system overload" arising from the divergent pulls of economic surplus, deceleration of demand, inflationary spirals and exiguous unemployment on the one hand and the grim problem of diminishing economic opportunities faced by the developing countries on the other. It is this dramatic contract which is in part responsible for the mood of frustration and desperation in the world today. But what is most surprising is that there is an increasing tendency to tackle economic problems through political means. Obviously, this will not work, in the new context of a world composed of states having sovereign equality but steeped in gaping economic inequalities. No, Sir, it is time to realise that there could be no political solutions to economic problems. Not any longer.

The pursuit of such a strategy for development can at best be described as misguided and unfortunate. Mr. President, we do not presume to prescribe panaceas to others. But we cannot accept a denial of our own experience, namely that an unbridled play of the forces of profit and acquisition can lead to confusion and anarchy in economic relations. In structurally weaker economies it leads inevitably to an unbalanced allocation of priorities distorting the social fabric by widening disparities, heightening tensions and leading ultimately to destabilisation. Particularly in the developing countries, the state is the main instrument of change and almost the sole repository of power. Mr. President, it would be very unfortunate indeed if state power is employed to support those who are already powerful in the society, resulting in a disequilibrium which inevitably generates centrifugal forces that tend to destroy the society itself; this is already threatening a number of recently emancipated societies. Such societies therefore need a structure wherein state power uncompromisingly stands by the powerless and maintains a balance between the underdog and those who have long and strong enough hands to help themselves, no matter what, within this overall structure, there ought to be full scope for individual initiative, entrepreneurship and a civilised, as, opposed to anarchic interaction of market forces. I have no doubt that this logic holds good in international economic relations as well.

CRUMBLING OF DETENTE

The U.N. Charter is based upon the yearning of mankind for peace and prosperity, peace which is not merely the ab-

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sense of shooting war and prosperity that is not the enrichment of one at the expense of others. We cannot remain indifferent witnesses to the crumbling of detente. The powers have long sought security through a balance of mutual vulnerability. Raising the level of deterrence is not going to add any further, to their sense of security. Hence a search is on for new strategic partners and allies.' I would like to be optimistic, but true optimism has invariably to be based on a realistic and objective assessment. The determined quest for new political and strategic arrangements on a global scale, with an almost callous disregard for the long term interests of mankind, do not really leave much room for optimism.

THE AGE OF CRISIS

We in India have asked ourselves some basic questions and found some answers for them. The philosophy behind the answers is a simple one, and was beautifully articulated by Jawaharlal Nehru in a broadcast he made to the United States of America on April 3, 1948, from New Delhi. It was entitled "The age of crisis". He said, and I quote today, fear consumes us all - fear of the future, fear of war, fear of the peoples of the nations we dislike and those who dislike us... but fear is an ignoble emotion, and leads to blind strife. Let us try to get rid of this fear... and then gradually the crisis of the spirit will be resolved, the dark clouds that surround us may lift, and the way to the evolution of the world based on freedom will be clear."

INDIA'S SELF-RELIANCE

It is against this background that we see the destiny of India, both within, and in the world, more specially in our own region. Within India, the reaffirmation of the policies set out by Prime Minister, Indira Gandhi, has been accompanied by a renewed dedication to national reconstruction, and the consolidation of a secular and pluralistic political system. The stresses and strains of the international economy have impinged upon various aspects of our own economic growth, but have not shaken the self-confidence of our people. Our dedication to our chosen objectives, especially to self-reliance, remains undiminished. If the successful inauguration of the Apple geostationary satellite by our scientists represents one frontier of India's effort and achievement, the harnessing of animal power through redesigning the bullock cart or the grinding wheel, is symbolic of another equally relevant application of technology.

Our self-reliance consists in trying to find solutions to our problems primarily according to our own genius. Mr. President, our problems are basically simple - food, clothing, shelter, health and education. It is their sheer magnitude that is baffling, not their complexity. There are no psychosomatic ailments, or paranoias of any kind afflicting us. We will therefore persevere in our massive effort to lift ourselves up,

as a whole mass and not piecemeal, using methods and technology most relevant to Our situation, ranging from the most sophisticated to the most simple, leaving nothing useful for its plainness, taking nothing irrelevant for its dazzle. I am sure, Mr. President, that many more developing countries now accept this pattern, some of whom have arrived at it by the circuitous and hard route of disillusionment from inappropriate models.

INDIA AND NEIGHBOURS

India's relations with her neighbours are based on a recognition of the fact that the interests of the countries are so linked that there is no reason for us to be on any terms other than friendly these relations are based on sovereign equality, a recognition of mutuality of interests, and a mutuality of perceptions to the extent possible, where this mutuality does not obtain, there is no undue keenness whatsoever to impose unwanted identities on one another. Whatever the depth of relationship at a given time, our sole interest is in promoting an environment of peace and stability that would enable all countries of the region to engage in fruitful development endeavour, avoiding outside influences.

REGIONAL COOPERATION

Some constructive steps have been considered in the direction of strengthening
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regional cooperation among the states of South Asia. - We are confident that given a sense of realism and the requisite political will, such cooperation would be feasible in advancing the development of the countries in this region. I would like to pay a special tribute to the wisdom and foresight of the late President Zia-Ur-Rehman for his dedicated effort in this direction.

All countries in our region face similar economic problems and we should devote our energies towards development and development alone. India wants to have strong and self-reliant neighbours, since we are convinced that his alone is in our interest.

We are, however, gravely concerned by the deteriorating security environment in our region. While India does not find itself helpless in any way, we view with deep concern the possibility of the strategic calculations of outside powers engulfing countries in our region,

COMMITMENT To NON-ALIGNMENT

We are committed to the principles of U.N. Charter and are committed to the principles of non-alignment. Our twin commitments, in the field of foreign policy, are based on the

objective necessity to contribute in a positive manner towards the creation of a peaceful and cooperative world. In India today, I am glad to say, there is complete unanimity regarding the content and relevance of the policy of non-alignment, and the principles of Panchasheel. The commitment to non-alignment has made us unafraid to stand by ourselves, if need be, on our own conviction, wherever a point of principle is involved.

More than two decades ago, the late Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru spoke of the threat of the cold war coming to our doorsteps. After a slight let up, this threat, seems, once again, to have come back today. Twenty years since its inception, the nonaligned movement once again faces a situation which calls for the utmost ingenuity and purposefulness. However, despite the changes in the environment tending to exert pressure on the movement itself, the nonaligned countries can still bring a semblance of sanity in international relations, Mr, President, no one has claimed, nor should ever claim, that the non-aligned movement is a monolith. Its resilience and effectiveness, which unfortunately seem to be lost on some are being recognised by more and more countries. It is not for nothing that every new independent nation promptly joins the non-aligned, the delicate plant of nascent freedom needs a non-aligned climate in order to grow and find its identity; alignment saps it, alliances spell blight for it. It is a happy augury, both of the movement and for humanity as a whole, that on an increasingly large number of issues such as decolonisation, rejection of apartheid, the Middle East question, more equitable international economic relations, global interdependence and, hopefully, many others that will emerge in due course, there has come about an identity of views between the nonaligned on the one hand and several nonaligned countries on the other. We fervently hope that both the trend and the tribe will increase, to a point where alignment ceases to be either fashionable or profitable.

Mr. President, I shall now briefly refer to some of the world's unresolved problems, whose number unfortunately tends only to increase with each succeeding session of the U.N. General Assembly. The most important of the problems is, of course, the very survival of mankind.

ARMS RACE

Mr. President, nothing proves the unreality and mockery of international politics today so much as the failure of all attempts at disarmament. Despite this unreality, the world cannot afford to ignore the fateful implications of the arms race, particularly in its nuclear aspects, upon the very future of life in this planet. Along with increasing levels of sophistication, new claims are being made on the possibility of waging winnable wars. On top of everything, we now have the neutron weapons. This development will set the stage for a qualitative jump in the nuclear arms race. While the Governments of the nuclear weapons

states ostensibly practice deterrence, the choice which they are presenting their own people with, seems to be one of death by their own bombs on
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the one hand and those of the enemy on the other most certainly; it is not a choice between death and survival. I have no doubt that in spite of the intense psychosis created by these Governments in a variety of ways, the people of the nuclear weapons states feel disaster in their bones all the time. It is time that this feeling finds increasing articulation and active opposition before it is too late. It goes without saying that for the rest of mankind this is a matter of the greatest concern. The world cannot afford to permit a state or states to endanger the survival of the entire mankind. Peace loving states should assume, in a more strident manner, the moral responsibility to urge nuclear disarmament on a high priority basis.

The non-aligned countries have clearly and consistently stressed the primacy of their concern on nuclear issues. We are aware that each time there is a move to modernise a weapon system on one side a corresponding "mirror-imaging" action is taken by the other, resulting in the escalation of fear, anxiety and suspicion in the whole world. Each upward spiral in the arms race becomes a self-fulfilling prophecy. It is our sincere belief that this vicious cycle of action and response can be broken. We hope that the dialogue between the United States and the USSR which has just started, will result in genuine and practical measures to give a fresh start in this respect. Meanwhile, the world waits with bated breath, teetering on the brink of disaster.

INDIAN OCEAN

The Indian Ocean is another theatre witnessing great accumulation of sophisticated military hardware. This is in flagrant violation of the 1971 U.N. Declaration on the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace, expressing opposition to the military presence of the great powers in the contest of their rivalry and called for its elimination. There is an effort to divide the littoral and interland states. Arguments are being improvised to justify great power presences in the Indian Ocean area. There is need for determined efforts to stop these moves which ruin our security environment. Further, it needs to be reiterated that great power presences in the Indian Ocean are unacceptable not only in the context of their rivalry, but under any circumstances whatsoever. Were they to agree among themselves to stay put in this ocean, they would still be equally unwelcome. Together or separately, we want them out.

AFGHANISTAN

India has consistently expressed her disapproval of all kinds of outside intervention and interference in any country. We have

unequivocally opposed the presence of foreign troops in any country and all countries. For us this includes Afghanistan whereas presumably to some other countries, this should apply only to Afghanistan. A running argument has ensued on this question and those who had started with condemnatory polemics have now come round to prefer a political solution on the lines of the New Delhi Declaration of Non-aligned Foreign Ministers. The Secretary General is now seized of the question and is currently engaged in removing the cobwebs to enable a dialogue between the countries concerned. We wish him well in this quest. Meanwhile, the people of Afghanistan can only hope devoutly that The Secretary General's efforts may succeed, they have such a big stake in his success.

IRAN AND IRAQ CONFLICT

The people and Government of India are saddened by the continuation of the conflict between Iran and Iraq. This conflict has taken a heavy toll in life and property, leading inevitably to the retardation of developmental activities of both these non-aligned countries. On their part, the non-aligned have attempted and will continue their efforts in consonance with the mandate of the New Delhi Declaration, to find an acceptable solution to the conflict.

KAMPUCHEA

India's ties with the countries of South East Asia are based upon the closest social, cultural and intellectual links developed over the centuries. Having supported them in their struggle for independence, we cannot but be deeply interested in the developments
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in this region, particularly those affecting international peace and security in our own neighbourhood. We continue to be prepared to join in all constructive efforts aimed at seeking a peaceful solution of the problems of the region, The people of Kampuchea have only just begun to emerge from the holocaust visited upon them by the Pol Pot Regime in addition to the privations they had had to endure earlier during the struggle of the peoples of Indo-China for National liberation, independence and sovereignty. They have just begun to look to the future with a semblance of hope and expectation. The prospects of famine and disease have receded. At this stage, the effort of the outside world should be to reassure the Kampuchean people that the process they have embarked upon will not be reversed and that their erstwhile persecutors will never be allowed to return and unleash once again a reign of terror upon them.

It is, therefore, a great irony of the times that the same despotic regime should bring the stench of their genocidal acts into this august Chamber and to represent, as it were their own

victims, in a bizarre inversion of the principles of the Charter. We still hope that before long, wiser counsels will prevail. Indeed, at the conference of Non-Aligned Foreign Ministers in New Delhi in February this year, it was clearly underlined that a comprehensive political solution should be found providing for the withdrawal of all foreign forces and ensuring full respect for the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of all States in the region, including Kampuchea. The interference and intervention of outside powers in the region has exacerbated tensions and must be eliminated. We are convinced that this can only be achieved through a dialogue between the countries of the region.

WEST ASIA

The political situation in West Asia continues to smoulder as a result of Israel's adventurism and intransigence. If anything, it has been rendered more serious by Israel's arrogation to itself of the right to launch "preemptive" attacks against its neighbours, as happened recently in Southern Lebanon, on the spurious pretext of safeguarding its own security. Similarly, the attack and destruction on June 7 by Israeli F-16 Aircrafts of the Osirak Atomic Reactor, known to have been intended entirely for peaceful purposes, was an example of blatant aggression.

A just and comprehensive solution of the West Asian problem can be achieved only by ensuring the total unconditional Withdrawal by Israel from Arab Territories occupied since 1967 including the Holy City of Jerusalem and to enable the exercise by the Palestinian people of their inalienable national rights to self determination, including the establishment of an independent Palestinian State as well as the recognition of the right of all States in the area to live within recognised and secure boundaries. Such a peaceful solution cannot be attained without the full and equal participation of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, the sole and authentic representative of the Palestinian people, in any settlement or negotiating process. We have already seen convincing evidence of the failure of a partial solution undertaken without the participation of the PLO.

SITUATION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

Mr. President, the recent emergency special session of Namibia has served to focus the attention of the international community on the grave situation in Southern Africa. Mr. President, the credibility of the UN will be seriously eroded if it is unable to secure freedom and justice for the people of Namibia. Only through an early implementation of Security Council Resolution 435 could the peaceful decolonisation of Namibia be achieved. All attempts to dilute, modify or attenuate the details of the UN Plan for any further purpose are unacceptable to the overwhelming majority of world opinion. The Government of India reiterates their full solidarity with SWAPO as the authentic representative

of the Namibian people and will continue to extend moral and material support to SWAPO in its struggle for national liberation.

LAW OF THE SEA

Mr. President, we had all hoped last year that the UN Conference on the Law
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of the Sea would successfully finalise a comprehensive convention. However, the conference has since met twice but our hope has not yet been fulfilled. Mr. President, the Government of India is deeply concerned that the efforts of the Conference have been frustrated, creating uncertainty about its future. Some 150 countries, have laboured hard for over 8 years to arrive at an acceptable compromise package relating to the law of the sea which in our opinion, serves the best interests of the community of nations as a whole. In this era of multilateral inter-dependence, national interests of one country cannot override the overwhelming interests of the entire international community. The resources of the international seabed area have been proclaimed as "The Common Heritage of Mankind". An orderly and safe development and rational management of these resources for the benefit of mankind as a whole is an imperative necessity. We do hope, Mr. President, that the Conference will successfully complete its task at Caracas in September 1982, without re-opening any Of the settled issues.

GLOBAL ECONOMIC CRISIS

All of us, each in a different way, have found that peace is stable only when prosperity is equitably shared. Mutatis Mutandis the same is equally true in the context of our global village, this little earth of ours. What are the mechanisms to be evolved so that the worthwhile things in life are within everyone's reach? That is what all of us are striving for, in building a new international economic order in which production expands, labour is shared and the products of labour available to all without pockets of misery as well as wasteful pocket of surpluses.

While there may be no simple solution to the global economic crisis, the erosion of a multilateral framework will certainly make the situation much worse. A withdrawal from the process of international cooperation is bound to lead to increasing recourse to bilateralism. This was not the vision of the founding fathers of the UN Charter, to which every speaker before me has expressed an unqualified commitment. Total bilateralism at the expense of multilateral cooperation would run into alliances that may not be in the interest of harmonious relations and relaxation of tension.

Mr. President, the attempts to erode the multilateral framework of economic cooperation appear even more indefensible in view of

the rapid and continuing aggravation of the economic situation of most developing countries. Their terms of trade have further declined, their exports have faced the rising walls of protectionism erected by several powerful industrialised countries. Food and energy have become more scarce. Balance of payments deficits are growing alarmingly and external debt assuming unmanageable proportions.

PROTECTIONISM

Developing countries are unable to improve their terms of trade when the wall of protectionism keeps rising in one form or another in response to every innovation that they make. Access to capital markets is practically blocked through artificially inflated interest rates. The result of all these phenomena which are manipulated by a few centres of economic power and on which the developing countries have no control, becomes manifest in sluggish economic activity at home and further aggravates balance of payments and debt burdens.

Closely linked to this process is the role of the international financial institutions. Only a few months ago, at the second regular session of the Economic and Social Council, we had welcomed the many innovative mechanisms evolved by these institutions, making it possible for larger financial resources to become available to developing countries. I must note with some regret, however, that even while more rigorous conditionality has been maintained some of the progressive mechanisms of lending by these institutions have come under question in recent months. After a tremendous effort during the past decade to impart a greater and more effective developmental role to these institutions this retrograde trend is most unfortunate. I would like to express my strong conviction that the achievements of the past decade and the

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progress made in making these institutions more responsive to the needs of the developing countries should not be reversed or eroded.

I would also hope that the UN system will sincerely take measures to implement the policy measures defined in the international development strategy so that the goals and objectives for development for the current decade are attained. The strategy was adopted by consensus and its goals and objectives are modest. If there is sincerity about inter-dependence, these modest goals should not be difficult to achieve.

GROUP OF 77

Caracas high level Conference of the Group of 77 made progress in a pragmatic manner, in the field of economic cooperation amongst the developing countries. The attitude of the developed countries

towards technical cooperation amongst the developing countries has not been negative, though not exactly enthusiastic both in the South-South and the North-South context, a number of proposals designed to alleviate the burden of oil importing developing countries, have been under consideration. It is necessary to devise an early action-oriented programme to solve this important problem in its various aspects. This has perhaps been delayed because of the failure to launch the global negotiations. The energy resources of the developing countries can be developed on the basis of a definitive expansion of multilateral flow of public finances, about which interesting ideas have been adumbrated, including that of an energy affiliate of the IBRD. Both the objective and urgency of these steps need to be understood.

NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE

One of the major obstacles to a meaningful North-South Dialogue so far is the wide spread impression that on issues of resources and technology transfer, it is the South that needs the North without having much to offer in return. This is not a correct reflection of the situation. The intimate dependence of the economies of the North on World markets makes it impossible for them, as the Brandt Commission notes even to put their own house in order if they forget the rest of the world. This is the lesson of the eighties which the North could ignore only at its own peril.

We would like to reiterate therefore that the international community should face squarely the reality of inter-dependence among nations. The benefits of strengthened international economic cooperation and the dangers inherent in the growing tendency towards isolation and protectionism need to be realised more in practice. This should be reflected in the full participation by all developed countries in the process of solving international economic issues in the context of North-South cooperation. There would be no exception or reservations to this process, or any ground whatsoever - historical, ideological or merely rhetorical. While the task of apportioning blame should now appropriately belong to academic endeavour, all developed countries should put their shoulders to the wheel.

CONCEPT OF INTERDEPENDENCE

While saying this, I am not underestimating the difficulties that willing governments of the North would face in convincing their own people about the fact of interdependence in terms intelligible to the members of a self-sollicitous affluent society. The realisation that the purchase of the next automobile by one family in a developed country would be truly dependent on the availability of the next meal to another starving family in a developing country - This realisation, Mr. President, is not easy to induce. Yet this is precisely the core of the concept of

interdependence. The ancient Indian dictum which treats the whole world as one family seems to be on the verge of complete vindication in a very different context which none of the ancient sages had perhaps anticipated. Ancient intuition and modern scientific experience find a strange coincidence at this point.

Let there be no mistake Mr. President. The largest multilateral system being the United Nations, it must have the capacity to provide the umbrella under which the
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urgent and complex task of restructuring international economic relations could be undertaken from an almost purely political institution, the system has gradually come to grapple with complex economic issues lying in the bowels of international relations today. A successful launching of the global negotiations on major economic issues in a coherent and integrated framework in the spirit of mutual benefit will constitute the real success of the UN system. We reiterate, therefore, that this process be started without further delay.

We are today on the eve of the Cancun Summit which will bring together leaders of some developed and developing countries to enable a better understanding of each other's perceptions, achieve a real meeting of minds and hopefully, to generate the requisite political impetus to make a determined assault on all questions concerning international economic relations. The growing frustration and cynicism generated over the years due to frequent setbacks to every North-South exercise represents a dangerous trend. We, for our part, will continue our serious commitment to work tirelessly and ceaselessly to reverse this trend. We wish godspeed to the Cancun conclave.

Mr. President, in the course of the general debate so far we have heard several statements which rekindle one's faith in the desire of the North to engage in a mutually advantageous dialogue with South. I was particularly heartened by the question posed by H. E. the Minister of External Relations of France in his statement before the General Assembly on September 23 and I quote: "Do you often hear it acknowledged that North-South progress is the very condition for world progress and perhaps, for world peace?" he himself provided the answer with characteristic finesse and I quote: "The South has entered the life of the North." I would like to join whole-heartedly in this statement, as well as in similar inspiring statements made by several colleagues from other developed countries. These pronouncements are indeed refreshing trend setters in as much as they seek to demolish the hitherto impregnable North-South divide. North and South must, therefore, share the same objectives as their destinies are inter-twined together. Together we can make sure that while following our paths, we can contribute to each other's prosperity as well as security, provided we follow the logic of peaceful cooperation and steer clear of the twin mistakes of isolation and

confrontation.

DIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC BELIZE VANUATU PERU AFGHANISTAN IRAN IRAQ
CHINA ISRAEL LEBANON NAMIBIA VENEZUELA FRANCE

Date : Sep 28, 1981

Volume No

1995

JAPAN

Japanese Assistance to India

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Sep 03, 1981:

Notes were exchanged here today between Shri B. M. Oza, Joint Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance and Mr. Takanori Kazuhara, Charge'd Affairs a.i. of Japan in New Delhi for Japanese assistance of Yen 30.8 billion (equivalent to Rs. 120.87 crores*) to India for the following projects:

(1)Thal Vaishet Fertilizer Project (Yen 20.0 Billion or Rs. 78.50 crores)

(2)Lower Mettur Hydroelectric Project (Yen 7.6 Billion or Rs. 29.82 crores)

*One crore is equal to 10 million.
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(3)Lower Borpani Hydroelectric Project (Yen 1.7 Billion or Rs. 6.67 crores)

(4)Hirakud Hydroelectric Project (Yen 1.5 Billion or Rs. 5.88 crores)

The loan assistance of Yen 30.8 billion (Rs. 120.87 crores) comprises Yen 28 billions pledged by the government of Japan at the Aid India Consortium Meeting in June, 1981 and Yen 2.8 billions out of the loan assistance of Yen 30 billion pledged for the year 1980-81 at the Aid India Consortium Meeting in Paris in July, 1980.

It will be repayable over a period of 30 years including a grace period of 10 years carrying an interest rate of 2.75 per cent per annum.

Date : Sep 03, 1981

Volume No

1995

KENYA

Loan Agreement Signed Between India and Kenya

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Sep 14, 1981:

During the visit of Prime Minister of India to Kenya in August 1981, Smt. Indira Gandhi made an announcement of 100 million rupees I.D.B.I. credit for Kenya. At a function on 11th September, 1981 in Nairobi, agreement for the 100 million rupees credit from Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) to Industrial Development Bank (Kenya) was signed by the Indian High Commissioner, Shri V. K. Grover on behalf of I.D.B.I. and Doctor J. G. Kiano, Managing Director of I.D.B. (K) on behalf of Kenyan Bank.

This is the second line of credit from I.D.B.I. to Kenya. The first line of credit Rs. 20 million was signed in 1978. Approximately 10 million rupees have been utilised out of the previous line of credit.

On the occasion of signing this agreement Dr. J. G. Kiano paid tribute to great achievements made by India in all fields of development and especially in developing appropriate technology. He further stated, "It is heartening to see that India as developing country can sacrifice part of her own resources towards helping Industrial Development of another developing country. This is kind of economic cooperation that should be constantly promoted among developing countries."

The Indian High Commissioner underlined growing close ties and multifaceted cooperation between Kenya and India and stated that India believed and sincerely pursued policy of sharing her technology and expertise with other developing countries.

It may be noted Indo-Kenyan relations have acquired new dimension in 1981 as a result of the visit of President of Kenya to India and subsequent visits by President of India and Prime Minister of India to Kenya. Much closer understanding has developed between

the leaders of the two countries. Three agreements were signed during the visit of President Moi to India: (1) Cultural Agreement, (2) Trade Agreement, and (3) Economic and Technical Cooperation Agreement. During the visit of Indian Prime Minister to Kenya in August 1981, Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement was finalised. This has been pending since 1974 and will affect the well-being of between 7,000 to 10,000 Indian nationals working in Kenya. India has also increased number of scholarships for Kenya and nearly 700 Kenyan students have gone to India for Academic Year 1981-82. It is estimated there are about 1,500 Kenyan students already pursuing their studies in India.

A 50 million rupee Government to Government credit is also under negotiation and is likely to be finalised shortly.
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NYA INDIA USA

Date : Sep 14, 1981

Volume No

1995

MADAGASCAR

President N. Sanjiva Reddy's Speech at Banquet in Honour of President of Madagascar

Following is the text of the speech of the President of India, Shri N. Sanjiva Reddy, at the banquet hosted in honour of the President of Madagascar and Madame Ratsiraka in New Delhi on Sep 28, 1981. Proposing the toast on the occasion Shri Reddy said:

It gives me great pleasure once more to welcome to India President and Madam Ratsiraka, as well as the distinguished members of the Malagasy delegation. This is the first time that we have had the pleasure of greeting the Head of State of Madagascar in our country. We are confident that your visit will provide us with a unique opportunity to strengthen further our bilateral relations.

Madagascar and India are both washed by the waters of the Indian Ocean. Since historic times, our two peoples have known each other and lived in the peaceful atmosphere of this great ocean. As non-aligned countries, Madagascar and India have, striven hard for world peace and security. We are both aware that peace is essential to the completion of our plans for the economic well-being of our peoples. Unfortunately, of late, there has been a

sharp increase in the tensions and rivalries between the great powers in various regions of the world. The Indian Ocean too has had its share of such competitive presence and confrontation. The indiscriminate induction of sophisticated arms into our region, and the establishment and strengthening of military bases and influence in disregard of the 1971 UN Declaration on the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace, has exacerbated the security environment for the island and littoral states of the Indian Ocean. Madagascar, India and other non-aligned nations have to work hard to reverse the present trend in order to see that our region can truly become a haven of peace. Your own deep interest in this matter has been a source of strength to all of us.

GREAT POWER RIVALRY

Mr. President, recent developments in our region have caused us deep concern. We have no doubt that our economic development and our security environment would be gravely affected if outside powers induct their rivalries into our region as an extension of their global security concerns. The supply of arms out of all proportion to legitimate defence requirements is not in the interests of general peace; nor even the security of the recipient country. We have always opposed all forms of interference or intervention in the internal affairs of other countries. At the same time, we remain convinced that peace and stability can only be restored through a political dialogue among the parties directly involved and not through military means or the imposition of solutions proposed by outside powers.

ANGOLA

There have been grave developments during recent weeks in Southern Africa. The apartheid regime of South Africa has launched an unprovoked and unjustified attack against the peaceful Front Line State of Angola. We cannot accept the excuse trotted out by South Africa of having merely resorted to "hot pursuit" of the valiant freedom fighters of the South West African Peoples' Organisation. Mr. President, I would like to reiterate my government's full moral, material and diplomatic support to the liberation movements of Southern Africa and to the brave freedom fighters of SWAPO, who are fighting for the liberation of Namibia. We also strongly deplore and condemn South Africa's aggression against Angola, which has endangered peace in the area and bodes ill also for international

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peace. The South African government has unfortunately received comfort and encouragement from the words and actions of certain powers and vested interests, who have opposed the application of mandatory sanctions against it. This has made it difficult for the United Nations to discharge its obligation of bringing independence to Namibia.

ECONOMIC SELF-RELIANCE

Mr. President, political independence without economic self-reliance is a shadow without substance. We have, during 34 years of our independence, worked for the economic development of our country. In terms of economic strength and industrial capacity, India is today among the first ten industrialised countries of the world. In the field of agriculture our scientists have made invaluable contributions and achieved a green revolution for India. We would be happy to share our experiences with your country.

Self-reliance is not in conflict with cooperation; nor independence with interdependence. We, therefore, support the creation of a New International Economic Order. The increasingly protectionist practices of the industrially developed countries are detrimental to the interests of the developing countries. It is only through closer cooperation among ourselves that we can begin to overcome the problems confronting us. We hope that the forthcoming Cancun Summit will provide the necessary impetus for the start of a global effort to tackle the complex issues, of international cooperation.

NTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC MADAGASCAR INDIA USA ANGOLA SOUTH AFRICA NAMIBIA

Date : Sep 28, 1981

Volume No

1995

MADAGASCAR

India-Madagascar Joint Communique

Following is the text of India-Madagascar Joint Communique issued in New Delhi on Sep 11, 1981:

At the invitation of the President of India Shri Neelam Sanjiva Reddy, the President of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar, His Excellency Mr. Didier Ratsiraka, accompanied by Madame Celine Ratsiraka, paid a State visit to India from 8th September to 11th September, 1981. The visit took place in a warm, friendly and cordial atmosphere.

2. The President of Madagascar held extensive discussions on international issues with the Prime Minister of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi. The two leaders also reviewed the bilateral relations between their countries and discussed ways and means of

further developing and consolidating them. The talks were held in an atmosphere of cordiality, mutual trust and understanding.

3. The Malagasy President was assisted by the following:

Lt. Col. Jaotombo Ferdinand, Member of the Supreme Revolutionary Council; Mr. Christian Remi Richard, Foreign Minister; Mr. Solofoson Georges, Director, President's Civil Cabinet; Mr. Rokotosihanaka Moise, Chief of Protocol; and Dr. Lt. Col. Razanamparany Jeannot, Personal Doctor of the President.

4. The Prime Minister of India was assisted by the following:

Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, Minister of External Affairs; Shri N. D. Tiwari, Minister of Industry; Shri R. Bhandari, Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs; Shri R. N. Malhotra, Secretary, Deptt. of Economic Affairs; Shri Abid Hussain, Secretary, Ministry of Commerce; Shri S. M. Ghosh, Secretary, Ministry of Industry (Department of Industrial Development); Shri J. R. Hiremath, Additional Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs; and Shri S. N. Puri, Ambassador of India in Madagascar.

5. During his stay the President of Madagascar visited the Indian Agricultural Research Institute.

6. The President of Madagascar and the Prime Minister of India agreed that tension and confrontation in Southern Africa could
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not be eradicated and peace established until the liberation of Namibia from the illegal occupation of South Africa and the dismantling of the structure of apartheid in South Africa are achieved. They reaffirmed their total support for the Namibian people's inalienable right to peace and freedom and their solidarity with the struggle being waged by the South West African People's Organisation (SWAPO), the sole and legitimate representative of the Namibian people. Both leaders condemned all attempts by South Africa to subvert the UN Plan for Namibia, as contained in Security Council Resolution 435 (1978), and deplored the actions of certain states which had resulted in the apartheid regime of South Africa feeling encouraged to persist in its recalcitrance and arrogant defiance of world opinion. The President of Madagascar and the Prime Minister of India expressed their strong condemnation of the recent acts of unprovoked armed aggression by the South African Regime against the People's Republic of Angola and called for an immediate and unconditional withdrawal of South African forces from the territory of Angola. They also noted with concern the attempts by South Africa to destabilise some of the independent States on Southern Africa. President Ratsiraka expressed his appreciation of India's unwavering support for the cause of liberation in Southern Africa.

7. On the question of Western Sahara, the two leaders reaffirmed their support for the relevant OAU and UN Resolutions on this subject.

8. The President of Madagascar and the Prime Minister of India expressed their grave concern over the increasing escalation of Great Power military presence in the Indian Ocean area notwithstanding the express wishes of the littoral and hinterland states of the Indian Ocean. They noted with serious concern the expansion of the Diego Garcia military base and all other manifestations of intensified military presence in the Indian Ocean by the Great Powers and called on these powers progressively to reduce and eventually eliminate their military presence from the Indian Ocean. They reiterated their desire to redouble their efforts for a speedy implementation of the Declaration for making the Indian Ocean a Zone of Peace. To this end, they expressed full support for holding a U.N. Conference at Colombo (Sri Lanka). In this context, the President of Madagascar reiterated his proposal to convene in Antananarivo a Summit meeting of the Heads of State and Government on the theme of Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace. The Prime Minister of India recalled that the New Delhi Conference of Foreign Ministers of the Non-Aligned countries had already, inter alia, welcomed favourably in principle the initiative of the President of Madagascar.

9. Both sides expressed concern at the large scale induction of sophisticated weapons systems into India's neighbourhood and agreed that this could upset the existing balance, trigger off an arms race and have an adverse effect on the process of confidence building and normalisation of relations amongst the countries of this region.

10. The two sides noted with grave concern the situation in South West Asia and agreed that it carries dangerous consequences for the peace and stability of the region. In this context, the situation in Afghanistan was analysed with particular attention. The two parties called for an urgent political solution of the problem based on respect for the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Afghanistan.

11. India and Madagascar expressed deep concern and distress on the continuation of the Iraq-Iran conflict which has grave repercussions for regional and global peace and security. They called upon the two countries to resolve their differences in accordance with the principles of the United Nations Charter and the Non-Aligned Movement.

12. Noting with concern the deterioration in the situation in West Asia, the two countries called for immediate withdrawal by Israel from all Arab territories occupied by it since June 1967, including Jerusalem. Both sides stressed that the Palestine question is the core of the problem and that unless it is

resolved satisfactorily with the PLO as an equal partner in negotiations,
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no attempt towards a settlement can succeed. The inalienable right of the Palestinian Arab people to their homeland and to a sovereign State of their own should be recognised and restored. The two sides denounced the continuing actions by Israel to alter the status of the holy city of Jerusalem in defiance of the United Nations Security Council Resolutions 476 (1980) and 478 (1980).

13. The Prime Minister of India and the President of Madagascar reviewed the present situation in South East Asia. They expressed concern over the continuing tensions in the region. They gave their support for the stand taken on this subject by the Ministerial Conference of Non-aligned Countries in New Delhi, from 9th to 13th February, 1981. They shared the hope that through a process of constructive dialogue, the countries of the region would be able to find a political solution to the problems in the region which would ensure full respect for the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of all states in the region.

14. The two leaders expressed the hope for an early peaceful reunification of Korea.

15. The President of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar and the Prime Minister of the Republic of India reaffirmed their faith in the principles and objectives of non-alignment and noted that the Nonaligned Movement represents the hopes and aspirations of the majority of mankind and has become an independent and positive force for world peace. They expressed the hope that through strict adherence to the principles of non-alignment and by stressing the common bonds which untie the non-aligned countries, the Movement would continue to subscribe to a common strategy and consensus which would reflect the real essence of non-alignment. In this connection, the two sides noted with satisfaction the success of the Conference of Foreign Ministers of the Non-aligned countries held earlier this year in New Delhi, which also commemorated the 20th Anniversary of the first Summit Conference.

16. The two leaders reviewed the economic cooperation between the two countries. It was agreed that efforts should be made to strengthen this cooperation further. The President of Madagascar recalled the proposal made by him at Havana in 1979 for the establishment of 3 Non-Aligned Funds. The Prime Minister of India warmly welcomed the initiative and agreed that all possible efforts should be made to augment the availability of resources for the use of the developing countries.

17. The two countries expressed their deep concern at the current

deadlock in the multilateral economic negotiations. They noted that though the new International Development Strategy for the Third Development Decade was adopted by the General Assembly last year, the international community has failed to agree on the launching of the Global Round of Negotiations which would contribute to the implementation of the strategy and has, at the same time, not focussed its attention on critical issues that require urgent consideration such as food security, energy including development of indigenous energy resources of developing countries, and financial flows. They agreed that the developing countries should continue to make efforts at all levels to overcome the current deadlock through generation of the requisite political will.

18. The two leaders welcomed with satisfaction the Caracas Programme of Economic Cooperation among Developing Countries and called for its early implementation. They expressed the hope that concrete decisions would be taken in regard to cooperation in the field of development finance in accordance with the recommendations of Resolution No. 7 of the 6th Summit of Non-aligned countries on "Policy Guidelines of Reinforcing Collective Self-reliance among Non-aligned and Developing Countries."

19. The President of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar expressed his deep ap-
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preciation to the President of India, the Government and the people of India for the warm hospitality extended to him and his delegation during his visit to India.

20. The President of Madagascar extended an invitation to the President and the Prime Minister of India to visit Madagascar. The invitations were accepted with pleasure.

NTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC MADAGASCAR INDIA USA NAMIBIA SOUTH AFRICA ANGOLA SRI LANKA MALI AFGHANISTAN IRAN IRAQ ISRAEL KOREA CUBA VENEZUELA

Date : Sep 11, 1981

Volume No

1995

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

US Development Assistance Agreements Signed

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on

Sep 30, 1981:

India and the United States today signed two agreements totalling \$ 4.5 million approx. (Rs. 40 million) as part of US development assistance to India for the US Fiscal Year 1981.

The first agreement is for an amount of \$ 4 million (about Rs. 35.50 million) comprising \$ 1 million as Grant and \$ 3 million as Loan for the Madhya Pradesh Social Forestry Project. The Project is designed to increase the supply of fuelwood, fodder, small timber and other forest products on land adjacent to villages in Madhya Pradesh for the benefit of their inhabitants.

Approximately 63,450 hectares of mixed plantations on wasteland will be planted. The total cost of the Project, which is expected to be completed by 31.3.1987, is estimated at \$ 50 million of which US AID assistance will be of the order of \$ 25 million, to be made available in three instalments, the present agreement being the first one. The Grant will be used primarily to support scholarships, training, consultancies, research and studies under the Programme. The Loan is repayable in 40 years, including a grace period of 10 years and carries interest rate of 2 per cent for the first ten years and 3 per cent thereafter.

The second agreement is for a Grant amount of \$ 498,500 (about Rs. 4.5 million) to the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) for conducting a Rural Household Survey. Both the survey and subsequent analytical work will be undertaken by the Council, which is an independent autonomous research institution.

The agreements were signed by Shri Purshottam Lal, Director in the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance and Mr. John R. Westley, Acting Director, United States Agency for International Development, American Embassy on behalf of their respective governments.

With the signing of these two agreements, the total US development assistance, for the US Fiscal Year 1981 amounts to \$104.6 million (\$93.6 million Loan and \$11 million Grant). In addition, the US has also extended a grant equivalent to \$ 20 million out of the US held rupees for meeting the requirement of private health institutions.

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A INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Sep 30, 1981

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Date : Oct 01, 1981

Volume No

1995

CANCUN SUMMIT

Prime Minister's Speech at Cancun Conference

Following is the text of the speech made by the Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi, at the first session of the Cancun Summit conference on Oct 22, 1981:

Mr. Chairman, it is indeed a privilege to form part of this distinguished group. Mexican hospitality is proverbial. The beauty and harmony of surroundings are an added bonus to create the proper atmosphere. I thank you sincerely, Mr. President, for your warm reception and the personal consideration given to our well-being. But above all I thank you for the initiative which you and Chancellor Kreisky have taken in bringing us all together.

We greatly miss our absent friend Chancellor Kreisky, who persevered so much for so long for this meeting, and Chancellor Schmidt as well as the President of Brazil and the Ivory Coast. I am sure I echo your sentiments in wishing them speedy and complete recovery.

I welcome Mr. Trudeau as Co-chairman, not only because of his known competence in such a role but because of the special concern he has shown in the matter as under discussion.

OUR COMMITMENT To BETTER FUTURE

Around the table here we have different points of view, coming as we do from various parts of the globe and entirely disparate

circumstances; some are old friends. We now have the opportunity of getting acquainted with others. All, I believe, are committed to a better future. We represent our own nations and peoples. I do not claim to speak for others. I speak for the ideals for which India has struggled, for the cause of peace, the cause of a more egalitarian society, for the easing of the burdens of under privileged sections and under developed countries.

Here in Cancun we have come to try for understanding and, if it is possible, our attention should be devoted to finding ways of cooperation between developed and developing countries.

Thoughtful contributions have been made to the problems which we all face. Obviously there are differences of approach and of emphasis. I hope that in such a gathering the spirit of conciliation will prevail and will enable us to reach a mutually satisfactory consensus.

INTER-DEPENDENCE OF WORLD ECONOMY

Way back in 1955, my father spoke of the inter-dependence of continents and of our desire to be friends with, and to cooperate with Europe and America, along with others. Friendships cannot be meaningful without equality. I believe this is the mood today all over the world, in Africa, in Asia, and in Latin America. There has always been inter-dependence of some kind but today it is between nations who are politically independent, conscious of their rights and of their legitimate place in the international community. The advance of technology, transport and communication, has made such interdependence more relevant and even inescapable.

Development cannot be imported. Nor can it conform to a given pattern. It has to come through our own determined efforts, tailored to our peculiar conditions and ethos. We, the developing countries, are working for economic cooperation amongst ourselves and for collective self-reliance. But we

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cannot avoid being affected adversely by outside events. This calls for international understanding and structural adjustments in the world economy itself. That is why we are meeting for a dialogue on major issues of international cooperation 'for development.

INEQUALITY AND POVERTY

Some of the issues before us are highly technical, and we are not a body of experts. In many areas there are differences of perception as well as of interest which will need negotiating and we are not a negotiating forum. Perhaps all we can do is to agree to discuss them and to assure to those who are not present, but are equally concerned, that there will emerge from this meeting

political support for early resumption of negotiations on a global basis after due preparations.

In other forums we have discussed how vital it is to increase levels of production in poorer countries, and to accelerate their rates of growth. Trade and financial flows are the only means of rectifying existing imbalances in the global economy. It is tragic that in an age of growing knowledge and capacity, income disparities between developed and developing countries are widening, and vast numbers in some countries are denied their basic needs.

We are told that the world economy is in a bad shape, that even the most prosperous, of nations have inflation and unemployment, and suffer from recessionary condition and a slowing down of growth. Half century ago, industrialised nations found themselves in a somewhat similar predicament. Their attempt to solve these problems by inward-looking policies and through protectionism, preferential blocks, currency depression and similar devices, plunged the world in the worst ever depreciation, culminating in world war II.

Productive capacity has grown tremendously, so have human problems. It is just not possible for the international community to contain the prevailing levels of inequality and poverty which threaten peace and stability, in which we all have a stake.

PROGRESS THROUGH COOPERATION

I think you will agree that the contribution of science and technology to human welfare would be more significant, if scientific research were not misdirected and scarce raw materials diverted to military purposes.

The complex problems of developed as well as developing countries can be solved better by cooperation than confrontation. We all stand to benefit from the prosperity of our trading partner. Stagnation in industrialised economy lowers the export earnings of developing countries. A rise in income levels of developing countries generates growth in undeveloped countries, increasing their exports and creating employment.

GLOBAL NEGOTIATIONS

Global negotiations do have urgency. We are not wedded to certain phrases. We are most interested in the results and the substance. While preparing for them, other pressing problems brook no delay. Problems have been identified and solutions suggested. In its proposals for a summit the Brandt Commission urged world leaders to address themselves to an emergency programme to deal with the problems of food, energy and financial flows.

FREEDOM FROM HUNGER

Freedom from hunger must be at the top of our priorities. Millions of people remain undernourished and cannot afford the food they need. Without purchasing power, they are ignored by the market forces which are supposed to balance demand and supply. Outlines of a food security programme have been drawn up. The storing of emergency reserves is an essential measure.

In the long run world food production must be augmented. The developing countries have a potential for doing so, but their productivity is low and irrigation woefully inadequate. The supply of fertilizers, better techniques and improved seeds can lead to what in India has come to be known as the green revolution. But the efforts to raise output needs the, support of an inflow of
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resources from those countries which can provide finance, technical knowhow and other inputs.

Successive adjustments of oil prices, which has a rationale for historic reasons, have nevertheless seriously worsened the balance of payments positions of oil importing developing countries. By cutting back on imports, they will not attain their targets of growth, thus causing an overall decline in world trade. Should there not be a determined effort to help them to tide over the crisis. Developing countries also have possibilities for new energy resources. There is increasing consensus for an energy affiliate. Call it what you will additional resources should be found for this purposes

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE NEEDED

Whether we focus on food or on energy or survey the problems of development as a whole, it is crucial for developing countries to have increased financial flows. The deficits in balance of payments and the resources wanted for development are enormous. There are warnings of disaster if resources are denied. Bilaterally, and through international financial institutions, official development assistance has been extended to developing countries. At different times and in various forums, the need for increased assistance has been acknowledged. We hope the expectations aroused will not be belied.

INDIA'S EFFORTS

India is no longer among the weakest or poorest nations. It has been able to move out of that situation only through the most strenuous efforts at development, by increasing agricultural production so that we are now self-sufficient in food grains and have helped our neighbours and other countries. We have also greatly augmented and diversified our industry. We can justly

claim that we have made good and full use of aid and credit from outside, and have repaid our debts in full and on time. Today the component of foreign credits is only nine percent of the total resources needed for our sixth plan for development. And this we have done in conditions of democracy, of full freedom of the individual and press. We have reached a level when the help from outside will make all the difference in terms of attaining the take-off stage in development. Far from being a burden, we can be a source of strength to others.

With the practical experience gained over the years, existing multilateral financial institutions can swing into action and produce more effective results at lower costs. However, we are perturbed at what seem like pressures which might limit their efficacy. We should like to see acceptance of the Melbourne Declaration that international institutions should rise above a particular ideology.

Apparently there is a belief that private capital flows can channel resources to developing countries more effectively than multilateral public flows. Private investment can be quite useful in certain areas. However it is hardly likely to provide resources for long term development which has large social benefits, but low market profits. Nor can it help in alleviating the balance of payment problems of most developing countries. Each country's policy towards private foreign investment is entitled to respect. In India we have what is called a 'mixed' economy. There is considerable scope for private sector. There is also an important role for the public or state sector. There is no conflict between the two.

NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER

We in the developing world have a long, hard path to climb. We shall persevere in our struggle to build modern economies and to ensure higher standards of living to our peoples.

International cooperation and the assistance of developed countries are pivotal in quickening this process. We are not supplicants, nor are we confrontationists. It is our experience that the interest of the developed and developing countries are so intertwined that we can all survive in harmony only in conditions of true interdependence.

That mutuality of interest between different nations and peoples can be served only by the establishment of a new international economic order, based on justice

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and equality. We earnestly seek a global compact which will ensure the development of the poorer countries along with the prosperity of the developed nations, in circumstances of international peace and security.

Seldom has a gathering attracted such attention or raised such hopes. Yet we have come with some apprehension regarding the outcome of our meeting. We cannot afford to be defeatist. The goodwill we witnessed yesterday in various informal gatherings and in this morning's speech is a sign of hope. The mind has to put aside the fragmentary utilitarian approach and to look anew at the earth, the matrix of human heritage. Its problems are global and have to be so viewed. This is possible only when man symbolically opens his hands in a gesture of fearlessness and sharing. The leaf bud that cleaves the earth is tender. There is 'fragility in all beginnings.' Yet a beginning has to be made. Let us atleast initiate a process of action.

A BRAZIL INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC LATVIA

Date : Oct 22, 1981

Volume No

1995

DENMARK

Agreement on Danish Loan to India

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Oct 28, 1981:

An agreement for Danish Credit of Dkr. 150 million (about Rs. 190 million) was signed here today by H.E. Mr. Biorn Oslen, Ambassador for Denmark in India and Shri S. V. S. Juneja, Additional Secretary, Union Ministry of Finance.

The new Loan will finance the consultancy services of M/s Haldor Topsoe for Thal Fertilizer Project and part of the cost of a Fisheries Oceanographic Research vessel contemplated to be procured from Denmark.

As in the past, the new credit is interest-free and is repayable over 35 years including a grace period of 10 years.

Denmark has been providing assistance to India since 1963. Together with the loan signed today, the total loan assistance by Denmark to India amounts to Dkr 455 million (approximately Rs. 578 million).

In addition, Denmark has been providing grants on an annual basis. The major projects recently agreed to be funded from such

grant funds are the health care programme in seven districts of Madhya Pradesh and two districts of Tamil Nadu involving Dkr. 254 million (about Rs. 300 million). A major rural water supply project in Orrisa is also under consideration for use of Danish grant funds.

NMARK INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC USA

Date : Oct 28, 1981

Volume No

1995

GHANA

President N. Sanjiva Reddy's Speech at Banquet in Honour of President of Ghana

Following is the text of the speech by the President of India, Shri N. Sanjiva Reddy at the banquet he hosted in honour of President Dr. Hilla Limann of the Republic of Ghana, in New Delhi on Oct 10, 1981:

It is a pleasure and privilege having you and the distinguished members of your dele-
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gation with us here tonight. You combine in yourself the triple distinction of being a highly trained economist, a seasoned diplomat and an outstanding political personality. Ghana has chosen well in electing you Head of State at this important juncture of its history.

India and Ghana have much in common. Like India, Ghana is heir to a glorious culture and civilization dating back many thousand years. We went through a similar colonial experience and therefore have similar institutions and problems. In modern times, the links between our nations were forged by our beloved first Prime Minister, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru and your first President, that great and pioneering crusader for Ghana's independence and Africa's liberation, Dr. Kwame Nkrumah. I am glad to note that these relations have grown steadily since then.

COMMON APPROACH

As founder-members of the Nonaligned Movement, Ghana and India have a common approach to problems of world peace and international cooperation. We stand for a new world order based on equality and justice. We have consistently stressed the need

for all nations, big or small, strong or weak to follow the five principles of peaceful co-existence. We have worked together and cooperated towards this end in the Non-aligned Movement, the Commonwealth and the United Nations.

Excellency, with your assumption of office as President of the Republic (on September 24th, 1979) Constitutional Democracy is reascent in Ghana. This is a further common bond in our association with each other. We in India hold dear the democratic system and sincerely believe that inspite of its difficulties and travails, in the long run, it is the most dependable instrument of political management and economic and social change. It is with the democratic system that India, in the thirty four years, since independence has governed itself and mobilised its vast population and scarce resources to move from abject poverty and backwardness to self-sufficiency in food, and substantial strength as an industrial nation. Ghana can count on India's sympathetic support in its new democratic effort at national development and progress, under your distinguished and dynamic leadership.

COLONIALISM

At the very moment of Ghana's independence Dr. Kwame Nkrumah had declared "Ghana's independence is meaningless unless it is tied up with the total Liberation of Africa." If he were alive today, he would have exulted in the victories Africa has a ready won - the 42 countries which have gained Independence since Ghana first attained that glory on March 6th, 1957. He would, however, also have been full of impatience and justified anger to find that Africa is not yet completely rid of colonialism and racism, in Southern Africa.

Excellency, the common abhorrence of India and Ghana for colonialism and racism in all its manifestations, and our common faith in the brotherhood of man irrespective of colour, race and creed, have in the past seen us struggling shoulder to shoulder for the elimination of all forms of exploitation of man by man. We shall have to continue that struggle until final victory is won.

REVIVAL OF COLD WAR

The global outlook for peace has deteriorated in recent times. There is a perceptible revival of cold war postures. New conflicts and tensions have arisen in our respective regions. Large quantities of sophisticated arms are being inducted in India's neighbourhood. This could upset the existing balance and start an arms race adversely effecting the process of confidence building and normalisation of relations amongst countries of this region. In the Indian Ocean, there has been an alarming increase in military build-up by the great powers. Our constant calls for the elimination of great power rivalry and military bases have

failed to evoke any response.

ECONOMIC CRISIS

The world economy also is passing through an unprecedented crisis. The present inequitous economic order carried over from the colonial era makes for easy and continued exploitation of the poorer
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countries to the benefit of the rich ones. We have to strive to create the necessary political will and unity of purpose for restructuring this economic system. The ushering in of the new international economic order is a major challenge, which the Non-aligned Movement will have to intensify its struggle to achieve.

Excellency, your visit to India provides us with an excellent opportunity for an exchange of views on current international issues as well as on bilateral relations. I have no doubt that your visit will serve to advance the cause of peace and international understanding as also to expand and deepen our bilateral relations in the spirit of friendship, equality, mutual benefit and collective self-reliance, which are cardinal principles of the Non-aligned Movement.

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen, may I request you to rise and drink with me a toast to the health, happiness and success of His Excellency Dr. Hilla Limann, President of the Republic of Ghana, and to India-Ghana friendship. May this friendship grow from strength to strength".

ANA INDIA PERU USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC MALI ECUADOR

Date : Oct 10, 1981

Volume No

1995

GHANA

India-Ghana Joint Communique

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Oct 15, 1981

At the invitation of the President of India, Shri Neelam Sanjiva Reddy, President Dr. Hilla Limann of the Republic of Ghana paid a State visit to India from October 9th to 15th, 1981. The visit

took place in a warm and friendly atmosphere and greatly helped to strengthen the close ties between India and Ghana.

During his stay in Delhi, President Limann visited the Indian Agricultural Research Institute and the Okhla Industrial Estate. In Agra he saw places of historic and cultural interest. He also visited the Bhakra Nangal Dam, Chandigarh, Bangalore, Pune and Bombay to see various aspects of India's agricultural, industrial and scientific progress.

The President of the Republic of Ghana and the Prime Minister of India held wide ranging discussions on international and regional issues. They also reviewed bilateral relations. The talks between President Hilla Limann and Shrimati Indira Gandhi were marked by mutual cordiality and friendliness.

In these talks the Prime Minister of India was assisted by Minister of Commerce, Shri Pranab Mukherjee; Minister of Planning, Shri S. B. Chavan; Minister of State for Industry, Dr. Charanjit Chana; Chairman, Railway Board, Shri M. S. Gujral; Secretary (Agriculture), Shri S. P. Mukerji; Secretary (ER), Ministry of External Affairs, Shri R. Bhandari; Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Shri R. N. Malhotra; Secretary, Department of Mines, Shri C. S. Swaminathan; Secretary, Department of Industrial Development, Shri S. M. Ghosh; Secretary (Commerce), Shri Abid Hussain; Secretary, Education & Culture, Smt. Anna R. Malhotra; Additional Secretary (PP), Ministry of External Affairs, Shri J. R. Hiremath and High Commissioner of India in Ghana, Shri P. A. Nazareth.

The President of the Republic of Ghana was assisted by H. E. Nana Okutwer Bekoe-III, Chairman People's National Party; H.E. Dr. L. K. Chibueh, Minister of Foreign Affairs; H.E. Mr. Harry Sawyerr, Minister of Transport and Communications; H.E. Mr. Vincent Bulla, Minister of Trade; Dr. A. M. Arthur, Secretary to the President; Mr. Silverster Kwadwo Ankama, High Commissioner for Ghana to India; Dr. Appianda Arthur, Chairman, Parliamentary Committee on Presidential Affairs; H.E. Dr. Kwado Amohs, Chairman Parliamentary Committee on Foreign Affairs and Mr. V. E. Wood, Director, Asia Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Recalling the role of their countries as founder member of the Non-aligned Movement, the President of the Republic of

Ghana and the Prime Minister of India noted with grateful appreciation the firm foundations laid by Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru and President Kwame Nkrumah for the warm friendship and understanding between the two countries. The two leaders expressed their confidence that by strict observance of the principles of Non-alignment, and the close unity of the member countries, the movement would continue contributing to the strengthening of international peace and security, the

elimination of the last vestiges of colonialism and racism, and the building up of a more just and equitable international order in the political, economic and other fields. Towards this end, both countries pledged to work together in the spirit of the founding fathers of the Movement and in accordance with the decisions taken at the Non-aligned Foreign Ministers' Conference held in New Delhi in February this year.

The President of the Republic of Ghana and the Prime Minister of India reviewed the situation in Southern Africa and agreed that tension and confrontation in Southern Africa could not be ended and peace established there until Namibia had been liberated from the illegal occupation by South Africa, and until the structure of apartheid within South Africa itself has been dismantled. They reaffirmed their total support for the Namibian people's right to freedom, and registered their grave disappointment that the Pre-Implementation meeting in Geneva in January 1981 had been aborted by the refusal of the South African Government to agree to a date for the implementation of the Security Council Resolution 435.

They also reaffirmed their solidarity with the struggle led by the South West African People's Organisation (SWAPO), which is the sole, legitimate and genuine representative of the Namibian people, and renewed their determination to ensure that the people of Namibia should be allowed without further delay to exercise their right to self-determination and independence. Mindful of the role being played by the Western Contact Group, the two leaders urged the Group to intensify efforts to secure the implementation of Resolution 435 without any modification or dilution as early as possible as 1982. They expressed their strong condemnation of the acts of unprovoked armed aggression carried out by the South African regime against Angola and the Frontline States in an attempt to destabilise them and called for an immediate withdrawal of all South African troops from Angola and an end to all such violations. They expressed their disappointment that the efforts to impose mandatory sanctions against South Africa had been vetoed in the Security Council.

The President of the Republic of Ghana expressed his appreciation for India's principled, consistent and unwavering support for the cause of African liberation.

The Prime Minister of India noted with admiration the efforts being made by the leaders of the West African States to promote greater economic cooperation among themselves through the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and commended the historic Lagos Plan of Action. Both leaders felt that these efforts would contribute to self-reliance, economic progress and welfare of the peoples of Africa.

The President of the Republic of Ghana and the Prime Minister of India expressed deep concern over the escalation of great power military presence and rivalry in the Indian Ocean. They noted

that despite the clearly expressed wishes of the littoral and hinterland States, the great powers were intensifying their military competition with serious consequences for peace and stability in the region. They called on these powers progressively to reduce and eventually eliminate their military presence from the Indian Ocean. The two leaders affirmed the need to redouble efforts for the speedy implementation of the 1971 United Nations General Assembly Resolution, declaring the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace.

The Prime Minister of India outlined the recent developments and initiatives taken by India for the normalisation of relations amongst the countries of the subcontinent. She reiterated India's resolve to create a climate of understanding and co-
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operation in the sub-continent. The President of Ghana 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. He expressed his admiration for the remarkable progress and development made by India under the leadership of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.

Both sides expressed the need for continued efforts in the creation of a climate of understanding and cooperation among the countries in the sub-continent. To this end, they urged all parties concerned to refrain from any acts that could upset the process of confidence-building and normalisation of relations among the countries of this region.

The President of Republic of Ghana and the Prime Minister of India noted with concern the situation in West Asia and agreed that it is a source of danger for the peace and stability of the region. They called for the immediate withdrawal by Israel from all Arab territories, including Jerusalem, occupied by it since June 1967. Both leaders agreed that no solution to this problem could be found without the full participation the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) as an equal partner in any negotiations. They expressed their conviction that any solution of the problem, to be equitable and lasting should take into account the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people and should enable the Palestinian people to return to their homeland and to establish an independent state of their own. The two leaders strongly condemned the shocking Israeli attack on the peaceful nuclear plant under construction in Iraq and the continued attacks on Southern Lebanon. They agreed that these constitute a serious threat to peace and security.

In reviewing the developments in South West Asia, the situation in Afghanistan was viewed with particular concern. The two sides called for an early political settlement based on the withdrawal of foreign troops, respect for the independence, sovereignty,

territorial integrity and non-aligned status of Afghanistan, and strict observance of the principles of non-intervention and non-interference.

The President of the Republic of Ghana and the Prime Minister of India expressed their deep distress at the continuation of the Iran-Iraq conflict. They expressed the hope that Iran and Iraq would resolve their differences in accordance with principles of the Non-aligned Movement and the United Nations Charter.

The two sides were gravely concerned about the continuing conflicts and tensions in South East Asia which have affected the peace and security of the whole region and which, if left unchecked, could escalate over a wider area. They reaffirmed their support for the principles of non-interference in the internal affairs of sovereign states and the inadmissibility of the use of force in international relations. They agreed on the urgent need to de-escalate tensions in this region through a comprehensive political solution which would provide for the withdrawal of all foreign forces and which would ensure the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of all states in the region, including Kampuchea. The leaders endorsed the conclusions of the New Delhi Conference of Foreign Ministers of Nonaligned States in this regard.

The President of the Republic of Ghana and the Prime Minister of India reviewed the international economic situation and noted with concern the widening gap between the developed and the developing countries. They stressed the urgent need to bring about structural changes in the present inequitable international economic system with a view to securing the early and effective establishment of a New International Economic Order.

They also stressed the need for urgent measures to stabilise and improve commodity prices and affect a massive transfer of resources from the developed to the developing countries. They emphasised the need to counter the growing trend towards protectionism which makes it increasingly difficult for the developing countries with their manufactured or semi-manufactured goods, thus frustrating even their limited ability

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to earn the much needed foreign exchange for their economic development.

While welcoming the consensus evolved at the U.N. on a New International Development Strategy for the Third Development Decade, the two leaders expressed the hope that global negotiations on international economic cooperation for development would be initiated at an early date. They also expressed their hope that the forthcoming Restricted Summit meeting at Cancun in Mexico would be able to contribute towards the generation of the necessary political will which is a pre-

requisite for achieving the New International Economic Order. In this connection they recalled with satisfaction their solemn resolve, along with other Commonwealth countries, to work towards this end, as manifested in the Melbourne Declaration adopted during the recent CHOGM Meeting.

The President of the Republic of Ghana and the Prime Minister of India expressed satisfaction that the bilateral relations between the two countries have been progressing smoothly. They, however, felt that there was scope for further expanding mutually beneficial cooperation in various fields. The President of the Republic of Ghana expressed his warm appreciation for the assistance already received from India as well as the assurance of the Prime Minister of India that all such assistance as Ghana needed and was within India's capability would be provided, particularly in the fields of agriculture and rural development, small-scale industries, energy, transport and communications and technical training.

Both sides expressed satisfaction that the following agreements had been signed during the visit of the President of the Republic of Ghana i) India-Ghana Trade Agreement; ii) India-Ghana Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation Agreement; iii) India-Ghana Cultural Agreement; iv) Agreement for a Rs. 50 million Government of India credit to Ghana for rural electrification and rural water supplies; V) Agreement for an IDBI credit of Rs. 50 million for the agriculture, irrigation and small-scale industries sectors.

The two leaders agreed that the signing of these Agreements reflected not only the close and friendly relations between their two countries but also the principles contained in the Declaration of the Sixth Nonaligned Summit, that economic cooperation among non-aligned developing countries is an important part of the endeavour for the establishment of a New International Economic Order.

The President of the Republic of Ghana warmly thanked the President of the Republic of India and the Government and the people of India for the hospitality extended to him and his delegation during their visit to India.

The President of the Republic of Ghana extended an invitation to the President of the Republic of India and the Prime Minister of India to visit Ghana. The invitations were accepted with pleasure.

ANA INDIA PERU USA UNITED KINGDOM NAMIBIA SOUTH AFRICA SWITZERLAND ANGOLA
CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC MALI ISRAEL IRAQ LEBANON AFGHANISTAN IRAN RUSSIA
MEXICO LATVIA

Date : Oct 15, 1981

Volume No

1995

INDIA AND COMMONWEALTH

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's Speech at CHOGM

Following is the speech by the Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi, in response to Prime Minister Fraser's welcome address to CHOGM at Melbourne on Sep 30, 1981:

Presidents and Prime Ministers, Secretary-General, Distinguished Delegates and guests, I feel privileged to speak on behalf of the various delegations who have come to this beautiful city and on behalf of the Government and people of India. I thank the Rt. Hon. Malcolm Fraser for his eloquent and far-seeing address and, the Government of Australia for the warm and very friendly welcome accorded to us. The arrangements made for this important conference have been meticulous, and the hospitality is proof of the friendliness of the Australian people. The dynamism and

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friendliness of our Secretary-General, Dr. Shridat Ramphal, symbolise the Commonwealth spirit.

I join in greeting and warmly welcoming our new members Vanuatu, Zimbabwe and Belize. This is Prime Minister Mugabe's first personal appearance at a Commonwealth Summit, but in spirit his country has long been present in our councils.

The Commonwealth is a useful international institution in the perplexed and the trouble-torn world of today. It is a forum for mature deliberations. It helps to generate understanding and goodwill. Its significance is borne out by the presence of the heads of so many governments. Busy men and women accustomed to count every minute of their time would not spend a week together were they not convinced of the value of this meeting to promote the common good.

It is fitting that we meet in Australia, a founder-member of the Commonwealth. It is also appropriate that the host city should be Melbourne where the first meeting of the Federal Parliament took place eighty years ago. This island-continent, with its vast spaces, rich endowment of natural resources and dynamic people is bounded by the Indian and the Pacific Oceans. Mr. Fraser has elsewhere described Australia as a Western country which is in the East, a Northern country (in its economic connotation) which

is in the Southern Hemisphere and an affluent country whose neighbours are mostly developing countries. This has enabled Australia to transcend the limitations that circumscribe the vision of most other advanced nations. Mr. Fraser's own speech today showed comprehension of the dilemmas that we face, and the concerns of the poorer section of the world.

FELLOWSHIP OF EQUALS

Four-fifths of the twentieth century is behind us and we are justified in taking stock of achievements and setbacks since 1900. The end of empires and the emergence of more than 100 countries into freedom is one of the more remarkable events of this century. The Commonwealth is itself a symbol of this great change, of transformation of an imperial hierarchy into a fellowship of equals. It has contributed to the overcoming of old prejudices and the fashioning of a new outlook. The freedom and resurgence of a large part of Africa are a tribute to the Commonwealth spirit. But one last bastion of the racists remains, openly defying world opinion. The unfinished battle in Southern Africa is a challenge which we must face with determination.

The very informality of the Commonwealth's proceedings and methods of functioning is conducive to deeper understanding and the acceptance of mutual obligation. The convention that the Commonwealth should eschew bilateral disputes has helped it to concentrate on areas of larger common concern and to develop constructive approaches for cooperative action.

The world is threatened by two major dangers. The first and more obvious is the recrudescence of confrontation between the big powers, and the fearful increase in armaments - nuclear and conventional - and their spread to various parts of the globe. The second is the persistence of economic distress among large sections of mankind and the widening of the gap between the developed and the developing. The prospects of building a sane world order are in dire peril.

ROLE OF COMMONWEALTH

What is the role of the Commonwealth at this critical juncture? The Commonwealth is composed of many regional and small powers. We may interpret the causes of the Cold War variously, but the menacing reality of the present leaves little room for any divergence. It is imperative that we assume a greater responsibility and interpose our moral and political strength against policies and actions which jeopardize the very basis of human existence. As we meet here together our collective perception should be sharpened. When we disperse, we should use our influence in quiet ways to urge restraint and conciliation on the big powers and help to build bridges of understanding between contending parties. At this hinge of human history, this is an obligation we cannot shirk.

COLD WAR AND REGIONAL HARMONY

One of the consequences of the revival of the Cold War is the set-back to the process of building regional stability through patient negotiations and gradual enlargement of cooperation among neighbouring countries. India is deeply concerned that the Cold War is being extended to its neighbourhood with the inevitable consequences of mounting tensions. Perseverance over the last few years had yielded some promise of regional harmony. We were seeking peaceful solutions to bilateral problems through discussions, hoping thus to reduce recourse to armaments. All of a sudden, the acquisition of sophisticated military equipment is being preferred to the security that friendship alone can bring. The test of constructive diplomacy will be the restoration of the process of regional cooperation among the countries concerned without the intrusion of outside interests.

ECONOMIC COOPERATION

The second danger to which I referred is the increase in disparities between the technological haves and have-nots. Most developing countries are still dependent for their earnings on the export of one or two primary commodities. The costs of producing them are mounting but they are not fetching correspondingly higher prices. The situation is aggravated by the protectionist policies of most affluent countries and the enormous rise in the costs of imported machinery and other industrial goods. Industrialised countries also are affected by the rise in oil prices but are able to pass on most of the increased cost to others through exports. They also receive large investments from the oil exporting countries. The non-oil-producing developing countries are thus pressurised from all sides. Also their difficulties might tempt stronger powers to enforce new forms of dependency relationships.

In the last few decades nation after nation has been engaged in the search for political independence, economic welfare and a new economic international order, based on justice and equality. The whole world must transform itself from a collection of unequals into a community of equals - equals not perhaps in material affluence but in opportunities, in the assurance of freedom from want and from fear, and in self-esteem. Representing as we do both developed and developing countries, this Conference in particular, can view economic realities in a wider perspective and see the consequences to humanity of a continuing failure to find a way out which can only emerge from new forms of economic cooperation. Within a few weeks another Conference is being held in Mexico and people look to it to initiate steps for global cooperation. Through its own discussions and creative effort, let the Commonwealth show how its member-States, comprising a billion people, can help one another. Let our voices in Melbourne reach

out to Mexico so that that Conference can become a springboard for a concrete programme of development and economic security.

On behalf of all of us gathered here, I thank Prime Minister Fraser once more for hosting this Conference, for his Government's hospitality and the lead he has given in his opening remarks.

DIA USA AUSTRALIA VANUATU BELIZE ZIMBABWE MALI MEXICO

Date : Sep 30, 1981

Volume No

1995

INDIA AND COMMONWEALTH

Prime Minister's Remarks at Executive Session of CHOGM

Following is the text of the Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi's remarks at the Executive Session of CHOGM on the Agenda Item 3 (A) "World Political Scene -Global Trends and Prospects" on Oct 01, 1981:

At the opening session I tried to voice the deep concern of vast masses of humanity over the deteriorating international situation. In the two years since the Lusaka Commonwealth Conference, the world has become harsher. The patient efforts of the last few years to promote detente and reduce tensions among the big powers have been overtaken by policies of confrontation, containment and rearmment. This is cause for profound disquiet because they have

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come close to us and if these trends are not reversed in time, our expectations of development and of a better life for the underprivileged will turn to ashes. What is at stake is survival of humanity.

The current phase of the cold war is reminiscent of the brinkmanship of the early post-war years. But it is far more dangerous, since the nuclear-weapon powers of today (especially the Super-Powers) have a vastly greater capacity for global annihilation than in the fifties. Any war involving the two of them directly, could wipe out the whole-of mankind and many other innocent species. Against this nuclear reality theoretical arguments of limited nuclear war affront our reason, for they seem designed to lull people into the false hope that it is

possible to have a nuclear war without paying the high cost of damage and destruction.

ARMS RACE

Proliferation should not be taken to mean only the enlargement of the club of nuclear weapon powers which has open and clandestine members. The relentless vertical escalation of stockpiles is even more menacing. Points of friction and crisis are being multiplied. To us in India adding to military might ... does not increase security rather it heightens the very insecurity. History shows that an arms race does not really give lasting positions of strength or superiority. Having fought so hard for independence how can we accept the concept of one or two countries retaining world primacy or leadership? Every exercise of coercive power is bound to invite a counterthrust from the opposite camp. So far, we seem to be running for the ladder.

Some hope had been raised that the accumulation of armaments could be stopped. But it is clear that decisions have been taken on new and more sophisticated nuclear weapons. Missile programmes have been stepped up since I came in, I have been inundated with letters and messages asking me that I should bring up at the Conference the question of peace. It has been graphically pointed out that the money spent on a single ICBM could irrigate a million hectares, build 65,000 rural dispensaries or feed 50 million children. Instead, what is being done intensifies economic disparities.

PEOPLE WANT PEACE

However, for all its ominousness, the revival of this spirit of confrontation should not obscure a significant development. There are nations, there are statesmen and thinkers in many countries, who have deep misgivings about over-reliance on militarism and about the postulates of sustaining their economies by strengthening the armaments industry. We cannot brush aside the voice of the common man expressing itself in nonpolitical peace movements, which are becoming a force for peace.

Although the dominant fact of the international situation is still the bipolar strategic rivalry, it is less of a bloc phenomenon than it was thirty years ago. Two opposite tendencies are at work: one, the polarisation of the world crisis, which subserves and feeds on points of local crisis extending over the oceans and continents. The other, a ferment of thwarted nationalism which is increasingly difficult for the big powers to control other people in their own interest, to their own purpose.

NON-ALIGNMENT

This is where the non-aligned temper has proved its relevance. It was relevant when the cold war began: It is relevant now when the

cold war has revived.

If there are differing shades within the two blocks, so are there within the nonaligned community. The peril of polarisation among the non-aligned is indeed disturbing. But this should be balanced against the infusion of the non-aligned temper among the aligned countries to look after their own national interest.

A large number of Commonwealth countries are in the Non-alignment Movement. We hope to see in our communique a fitting expression of this concept and their concern. Our independence can be preserved only if we stand firmly, in the face of praise or criticism, be it subtle or crude. We should like to believe that such a state-

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ment of consensus among us will reflect thoughtful trends in world opinion.

Many of us are from developing countries. Our people want nothing so much as to catch up with the economic and social progress which we missed because of colonial subjection. Whether there is war or rising oil prices and costlier machinery and industrial goods. We are the worst hit. Developing countries are taunted when their economies get into trouble. We are advised not to allow politics to interfere with economics. As a democracy which fights elections, politics are a necessary part of our life. But certain countries, however will only suffer economic politics which they believe to be in their interest. Rules of the game are framed by affluent countries for their own benefit but not necessarily in their own long-term interest. The odds are permanently against us. Without economic self-reliance our political independence remains incomplete. For some countries, freedom becomes but a new form of dependency.

EQUALITY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

Our countries are subject to coercive pressures from within and without, controlled by powers which regard us not as peoples but as zones of influence. Economists consider us banalities and not men and women. The bitter confrontation between the Big Powers has deprived us of the necessary conditions for our self-sustaining progress, viz. stability and peace.

I should like to reiterate that we are not against the rich or the affluent, the East or the West, or the North. We want to resolve the problems we face in our own country, we must follow the ideals which are relevant to our position and for our progress. These ideals which were first enunciated by our leaders are timeless and shall remain relevant. How sad that even our expressions of frustration and anguish are resented. We hope that the Commonwealth, comprising as it does developed and developing countries, will use its influence constructively to change these

attitudes before some of us meet again in Mexico. Interdependence, without assurance of equality and social justice, will merely be a slogan to cloak international feudalism.

It is said that we are close to the Soviet Union. I should like to point out that all of us here are pro-our own countries. But how can we not accept those who hold on the hand of friendship or come to our assistance in our time of need, especially when we are denied help from any other quarter?

I should like to acknowledge that the U.S. has been the biggest donor of assistance to India. Our military purchases have been diversified and we buy our needs from anywhere around the globe, subject only to their being to our best advantage. Unfortunately, certain countries are in the habit of attaching strings. Fortunately many European countries have begun to take advantage of market opportunities and do not attach strings.

Our decisions remain ours. They are not influenced by such helps as we may receive. We take our decisions solely on considerations of national interest and the interest of world peace.

ASIAN IDENTITY

Against this background, let me delve upon some problems of Asia. The issues concerning Africa, Europe and the Caribbean will be dealt with by those of our colleagues who are more directly affected.

Firstly there is no recognizable political Asian identity or consensus as there is in Western Europe, or Latin America, or Africa. There may be differences within these Groups but they are able to project an African, European or Latin American base of units. Perhaps our continent is too large and diverse, and the civilizations that it has cradled have left too deep an impress.

IRAN

In the last two years, there have been some complex developments in the West Asian region. The revolution in Iran has not yet spent its course. Its significance in contemporary history can be surmised, although not yet fully understood. It was, above all,, a phenomenon of non-aligned nationalism, for Iran (as for other coun-

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tries), its own strategic importance in the geo-political context is more a liability than an asset. Iran's conflict with Iraq, which we hope will be resolved through negotiations, exemplifies the difficulties of competing nationalisms and the burden they impose on fledgling nations, even when isolated from Great Power involvement.

AFGHANISTAN

Very different is Afghanistan, which has become embroiled in a trial of strength between the Super Powers. If we are sincere in our wish to see the withdrawal of the Soviet presence from Afghanistan, and I should assure that certainly a political and negotiated settlement should be reached taking into account the concerns of all involved parties. This is the only way to ensure a non-aligned Afghanistan, and to reduce if not eliminate tensions in the region. India is gravely concerned at the use of Afghanistan as a pretext for a massive, externally funded and encouraged militarisation in our neighbourhood. We should like to caution that the limit between what is reasonable and what is provocative in armaments can not be decided by outside Powers, Ignoring local realities without sparking off explosions which will damage their own interests and those of the region.

WEST ASIA

At the other end of West Asia which is what you call the Middle East, we were shocked by Israel's action in striking out against Palestinians and Arabs with impunity. The Gulf has long been militarised. The tension is exacerbated in the Indian Ocean. Armadas with nuclear weapons are cruising up and down. This is of concern to us, with the long coastline we have. Action begets reaction, leading to alarming build-up of naval power. We consider the presence of the major Powers in the Indian Ocean an ominous intrusion in our marine environs which, until ten years ago, had been quite peaceful. Many of the littoral and hinterland States of the Indian Ocean some of them represented here - have repeatedly called in the UN as elsewhere for the withdrawal of competitive military presence there. Unfortunately the recommendations of the U.N. Resolution have been brushed aside. That demand needs to be reinforced. There is polarisation also in South-East and East Asia. Vietnam's intervention in Kampuchea cannot be isolated from the context of the barbarous dictatorship of POL POT and the external interest in sustaining it. We are receptive to the opinions of our friends in the ASEAN countries. We have no reason to be defensive about our own recognition of the reality in Kampuchea. We have taken our decision consciously and after due consideration of all aspects of the question. Nations should try to face facts. I remember that when we recognised the People's Republic of China it was said we were isolated and we were similarly criticised.

SOUTH-EAST ASIA

We urge those countries of South-East Asia, who are engaged in conflict, to reach a negotiated settlement in their common interest. ASEAN's commendable experiment in regional cooperation needs the ambience of trust that only a larger accommodation with Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea can provide. The path of peace is to

relax the tensions which are polarising and dividing Asia.

CHINA

China is in a central position to contribute to detente in Asia. We have differing world views. India believes that policies of strategic alignments or strategic consensus increase polarisation and confrontation. It is well known how hard we have tried to improve our relations with China and Pakistan. We are doing so and- will continue to do so. However, in this process of improvement of relations with our neighbours, we have no wish to be implicated in cold war alignments, such an outcome would be self-defeating.

We are genuinely interested in developing regional cooperation, through multilateral networks like the Commonwealth as well as through bilateral exchanges. Our hosting of the Commonwealth Regional Heads of Government Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Region last September was an ex
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pression of our keenness to take active part in group efforts which could benefit all. Our, present host, the Rt. Hon. Malcolm Fraser, is to be commended for his drive in promoting the concept... and for his country's role in sustaining the initiative.

ROLE OF COMMONWEALTH

Can the Commonwealth survive as an informal get-together? India believes that the Commonwealth can be invigorated by our concerted effort to balance and stabilise the various forces of turmoil and crisis. By formulating the Zimbabwe Plan, the Lusaka Summit won new respect and strength for the Commonwealth. The turn of events in Southern Africa, in Namibia and Angola - once again puts the Commonwealth to the test against the evil of racism in conjunction with exploitative vested interests. The whole world is warning that the days of apartheid are numbered. We cannot equivocate on this issue. We do not wish to interfere with or delay any process which is under way but we are entitled to be informed of any plan of action and the time frame.

The Commonwealth has a valuable function in numerous areas of activities. At a time when news from all directions is disturbing, we must collectively strengthen the voice of the Commonwealth in calling for in the words of the Secretary General, "a saner and more cooperative world order." We must revive our faith in solving problems by peaceful negotiations. We must support every effort to bring the Big Powers together, however discouraging it may seem. War cannot be left to the generals and politics only to the politicians.

Peace is too serious to be left only to the powerful nations.

India's association with the Commonwealth is consistent with its traditions of fostering peace and goodwill, and of working for the prevalence of ideals over fear, hatred and bitterness.

The current international situation, with the re-emergence of the cold war reminds me of my father's words at the 1961 Non-aligned Conference in Belgrade: "First things must come first and nothing is more important than this world situation of war and peace. Everything else, however vital to us, has a secondary place. If in this crisis, something we do, some action of ours or some words of ours, help to some extent to resolve the problem, to remove the fear of war, than we have justified ourselves."

We must address members to global crises on food and energy. As I have said, Mr. Chairman, this is not the time for rhetoric. We have to get on with the job. Let us make sure that we put first thing first.

DIA USA ZAMBIA LATVIA MEXICO CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC IRAN IRAQ AFGHANISTAN ISRAEL VIETNAM CHINA LAOS PAKISTAN ZIMBABWE ANGOLA NAMIBIA YUGOSLAVIA

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INDIA AND COMMONWEALTH

Prime Minister's Press Conference in Canberra

Following is the transcript of the Press Conference by the Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi held at the National Press Club, Canberra-on Oct 04, 1981

STATEMENT

Mr. Chairman, Members of the Press Club, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, it is a pleasure for me to be here amongst you and I believe that you have gone out of your way to arrange this, and that usually you do not meet on Sundays.

As you know I am here for the Commonwealth meeting in which we are greatly interested. India has not a small role in its present shape and we think that such meetings in our world are useful so we are committed to the Commonwealth. We are committed to the Non-aligned Movement. We are committed to the United Nations.

We feel that if we did not have these organisations, something

else would have had to be brought into being in their place so that countries could sit together, whether to quarrel or to have friendly discussions.

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The Commonwealth, of course, is purely friendly. That does not mean you do not have differences of opinion. You do. Everybody knows what the others' stand is on various issues, but the attempt is not to have a confrontation but to try and see what is the area of understanding and cooperation and how we can enlarge it and how we can go forward with certain aims to which we 411 are committed.

Now, I would like to say just a few words about India. The economic and social problems of India are those of a large and complex country in transition. India has changed in the last three decades since our independence. As a result of our planning and the progress we have made, we have today the problems of the developed as well as of the developing countries.

INDIA'S ACHIEVEMENTS

We have at last achieved self-reliance in agriculture and substantially in industry. The question now is how to take the benefits of growth to all sections of the people, and this is what we are engaged in doing with all our strength.

Until a few years ago we imported grain, often in the shape of aid. We now grow enough grain for our current needs and also for having buffer stocks. But we have made some foreign purchases to ensure that the stock is high enough and also to discourage speculative trading by food traders.

Industrially also our progress is significant. We are today meeting nine-tenths of our development expenditure through internal resources, but the international economic crisis makes our task vastly more difficult. We do need external capital, primarily to help us get over the hump.

MEETING RISING EXPECTATIONS

It is the kind of credit that a hard working determined entrepreneur needs. India's record in using credit prudently and effectively and also in making repayments promptly has been acknowledged abroad as excellent. Overcoming the stagnancy of centuries has inevitably led to social tensions - not that they were not there before. And it is a part of what is described as a revolution of rising expectations.

The last year and a half has been spent in repairing the damage of the years just before, especially to the industrial infrastructure by wrong attitudes and decisions. The growth rate in industrial production which was minus 1.4 per cent in 1979 is

now over 11 per cent in '81.

The large deficits which my government inherited in 1980 are now being slowly brought under control. The inflation rate which had gone up to as high as 23 per cent is now less than 8 per cent; one of the lowest in developing countries.

The highest priority has been given to the development of our own petroleum resources. Thanks to the intensification of our efforts in recent months, oil has been discovered in new areas and we expect to be able to meet more than 50 per cent of our requirements indigenously.

FRIENDSHIP TOWARDS ALL

I should like to reaffirm - I should have thought it is not necessary but this question is asked so often that I have to say this - that India is not and I and my government are not either pro-Soviet and anti-West or anti-Soviet and pro-West. India is pro-India. And it seeks to make a contribution, howsoever small, towards reducing international distrust and differences. We seek genuine friendship with both camps and individual countries in each camp. Our attempt has been to find the area of commonality between us and those countries and to enlarge that area. This is also my approach towards Pakistan and China.

We do get help from the Soviet Union but we also get help from the United States, from other countries of Europe and Canada. And in no way does our friendship with any country come in the way of friendship with other countries or in taking our decisions, making our assessments, independently coming to our own judgements and acting upon what we consider is right.

As I said earlier, we were one of the founder members of the Non-aligned Move-
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ment and we remain deeply committed to it.

COMMITMENT To DEMOCRATIC. PROCESS

We are also committed to the democratic process. The question is often asked whether, with all our vast problems, it would not be easier not to have a democratic process. My answer has been that, because of India's size, its great diversity and the highly individualistic character of its people, no other system is possible. We are bound to have, because even small countries have, small explosions, disagreements, agitations, disturbances, and so on.

In a democracy, they come one by one and you can deal with them; in fact, the people deal with them themselves, in a way. If you put the lid on those disagreements, then you have a big explosion

that nobody can deal with, and this is why, as I said a little earlier at the opening of our Chancery, that as Sir Winston had said, democracy is perhaps the most fragile of systems, yet nothing better has yet been devised.

So we remain committed to it. But democracy itself functions in an entirely different way in every country, even the countries close to the Westminster system; for instance, the Queen in England is above all politics. She does not interfere in any way. In India, the President can belong and has belonged, to a political party, and right at this moment he happens to belong to an opposition political party.

We feel that there are no short cuts to economic progress. Sometimes we are told that if we do such and such a thing the country would go forward much faster, but we feel that democracy cannot work and economic progress cannot come about without the peoples' involvement and that means that social and economic justice is absolutely essential. It does not mean that we have it or that we can immediately get it, but the people must be sure that we are taking steps in that direction and if they know that, then they are patient and they will put up with whatever hardships come their way.

I think that is all I am going to say just now except to thank you once again for giving me this opportunity of being with you and this will give us more time for questions.

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

QUESTION: Anne Summers, Australian Financial Review. Prime Minister, I would like to refer to the Melbourne Declaration which was released this afternoon by the Commonwealth Secretary-General. I was wondering if you would like to tell us your view of the significance of this document given that it calls for a revitalization of the dialogue between developed and developing countries yet makes no mention of the global negotiations, the primary vehicle for such dialogue. Secondly, I am wondering if you could tell us whether you were informed that the Declaration was to be released this afternoon or were you, like Mr. Muldoon, expecting to have an opportunity to have another look at it tomorrow.

MRS. GANDHI: To answer the second part of your question first, during this retreat people sat in groups. The Secretary-General spoke to some people individually and various groups, and therefore we know that it was going to be.

At the Prime Minister's dinner last night the Secretary-General announced that everybody had largely agreed to it and that he was going to release it. This was last night. Now, whether the special words "global negotiation" had been mentioned or not, we are committed to global negotiation, but I do not think words

make a difference. What do we want?

We feel today we do not want a confrontation with any country. We feel that world is becoming more and more interdependent, and that means that people must talk amongst one another and try to solve problems.

Some people feel that the poorer countries are out only to get aid or to get something out of the richer countries. Well, I do not want to go to the remote past, but the question does arise: how did we become poor? It just depends what stage of his-
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tory you want to start with. I am not going into that question. I just want to put it to you. But now, suppose we had no purchasing power. Where are the richer countries going to sell their goods or their machinery? How are they going to solve their problems of unemployment? So, this is how the global negotiations are just not the need of the developing countries; we feel that the developed countries are equally in need of such a dialogue. We can give it this name or you can give it another name.

But the question is that we should sit together, talk about it and try to find some way in which all people, developed or underdeveloped or developing, should find a way in which they can help one another and try to have a more - my personal view - a more egalitarian society, not merely because it is an ideal human idea but because I think that is the only thing that will keep our world working.

QUESTION:(Inaudible) from the Australian. Madam, it is not even two years ago that you did not object to Pakistan becoming a member of the Non-aligned Movement. It is two months ago when I spoke to some of your senior government officials in Delhi. They said that India would not blackball an application by Pakistan to rejoin the Commonwealth. Why did you not want the issue to be raised during the Retreat this weekend?

MRS. GANDHI: Frankly we saw no reason for it to be raised. Why did Pakistan leave the Commonwealth? Have they given any reason? Have those reasons changed? Has Pakistan changed or has the Commonwealth changed? Why do they want to come back?

It was an elected government, so far as I remember, which opted out of the Commonwealth. Have those parties now changed their view or is it just one individual who has changed its view? So there are lots of questions which arise which have not been answered.

QUESTION: Melissa Roberts, Mrs. Gandhi, Radio 2UE. Back to the Melbourne Declaration: are you satisfied with the final draft? Would you have preferred it to have a different construction, as Mr. Muldoon said, perhaps a stronger final para? Would you have

liked it to have a commitment on protectionism?

MRS. GANDHI: Well, perhaps each country has its own view on these things and we may like it to be stronger or more specific. But if you are trying to get the agreement of a large number of countries, some things cannot be as specific as I would like them or maybe some other person would like them.

But if the purpose is to get greater understanding and to take one small step forward - I mean, I am personally aware that, so far as India is concerned, I cannot change India in my lifetime and I certainly cannot change the world. But I do think that if we work in the right direction we can go a few steps forward and other people will go on with the journey.

Now, this is what these conferences can do. They cannot achieve anything. You cannot say: Well, what has it achieved in very solid terms.

But the very fact that we can meet, such very different countries, we can meet on a friendly basis, informally. We do not usually make prepared speeches and we can interrupt one another and everybody knows, if nobody is hiding their point of view or backsliding from their known positions. With that background, we do try to get the greatest agreement and consent.

QUESTION: (Inaudible) Sunday Midday, Bombay and Radio 2EA, Sydney. Madam after your present visit, have there been any moves towards an increase in Indo-Australian trade relations and other general issues?

MRS. GANDHI: I have not talked about them on this particular visit, but at least we have had talks with Australian officials and others, and our relationship is much better now than it used to be, and I certainly hope for closer co-operation.

We are importing goods from Australia, and exporting some. The balance is not
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very much in our favour at this moment.

QUESTION: (Iaudible) Ghana. May I know what you think about the Aborigines of this country, the approach that is in this country and what the policy of the Government is?

MRS. GANDHI: I received a large number of cables and letters on this subject before we arrived in Australia and after arrival here.

I Some of these problems are not easy of solution. We in India also have tribals of various ranges - some very highly educated and some so primitive that we have not even been able to reach to

them. We do not know their conditions even, because they still use poisoned arrows, and so on, in the Andaman Islands.

It is also very difficult to know how much you can change or how much you should change. The problem here, I believe, is one of land, but I do not really know enough about it. All I can say is that I hope it will be dealt with sympathetically. We have mentioned it in our meetings, and I believe that the Australian Government is trying to do all it can to solve it, but it is not a problem that can be solved overnight.

QUESTION: Prime Minister, (Inaudible) from the Australian Broadcasting Commission. Mr. Muldoon referred to the Melbourne Declaration really as being so many platitudes. What is your reaction to his remarks, and what practical effect do you think the Declaration will have?

MRS. GANDHI: Well, frankly most declarations do have platitudes whether we like it or not, but somehow over the years with all these platitudes we have gone ahead also. Even Australia, I am coming back here after - I cannot remember whether I was here - in 1968 I think I was here. I find enormous changes here. So the world is moving ahead even though it may resort to rhetoric or platitudes.

QUESTION: Prime Minister, you have just said that the question of Aboriginals had been raised at meetings. Could you tell us in what context that subject had been raised?

MRS. GANDHI: Well, no special context. Somebody spoke about it and then I also added that I had received all these letters and I hoped that the situation was being looked into and so on. It is Australia's internal problem and we cannot suggest to them what they should do and we do not know enough about it.

QUESTION: Mungo, MacCallum from The Review. Mrs. Gandhi, I wonder if you could expand a little bit on what you said in your opening address when you said that the Commonwealth can go forward to aims to which we are all committed. Could you tell us just what these aims are to which we are all committed, particularly in view of your statement that India in particular is to some extent, committed to the Nonaligned Movement, is neither pro-Soviet nor anti-Soviet, is neither pro-United States nor anti-United States? Are we committed to anything other than the sort of vague generalisations which are contained in the Melbourne Declaration? If not, is there really any point in going on with having these vague statements that we are all committed to a sort of something?

MRS. GANDHI: Well, we are committed to peace and I do not think that any body can call it a sort of something. In a world that is moving - as Prime Minister Fraser pointed out, Australians have been dying and lying in graves all over the

world in wars in which Australia was not directly attacked or in that sense concerned. Now, do we want more Australians or Indians or Americans or any other nationality to die? Today it seems to me that we are moving towards greater confrontation. It may be headed off, it may not. And in fact somebody, a person; I do not want to take names and this did not happen in Melbourne, this was in another part of the world - who is not supposed to be soft on these issues as perhaps we are, said that it is so sad; nobody wants war but we seem to be drifting to it.

Now, these platitudes and these get-togethers is to prevent this drift, to see how
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We can Once more get on to a path where we can stop this. Now, so far as India is concerned, we think there are two major causes which can cause conflict. One, of course, is the increase of the armaments industry and the spread of armaments and second is if there is a widening gap between the richer and the poorer nations.

Of course, this is equally true within nations, as I am very well aware of what happened in my own nation. We do not say this in order to blame the rich nations because we face the same problem in our country between our richer people and our poorer people. But, we are trying, as I said, with all our strength to try and help the poorer people and to mitigate their suffering.

QUESTION: Mrs. Gandhi, Julie Flynn from the National Times. In light of the South African rugby tour of New Zealand there has been much discussion about sporting contacts with South Africa. How important an issue do you think that is, particularly for the Commonwealth, and how much importance do you place on the Gleneagles Agreement?

MRS. GANDHI: Well, we think the Gleneagles Agreement is a good one and should be implemented. India is one of the first countries which stopped having any relations with South Africa. Now, another question was raised about whether there were not problems of racialism or discrimination in other countries and as I hinted, or perhaps I said it outright in my opening remarks, there certainly are in my country and there probably are in every country. But the great difference between us and South Africa is this; that in our country the government is going all out in trying to help. We may succeed to a lesser or a larger extent. But in South Africa their attitude is a racial one which we think is very wrong and completely out of date in the world of today.

QUESTION: Mrs. Gandhi, I would just like to ask you what do you think about Iran right now? What do you think should happen in Iran?

MRS. GANDHI: We would like the war to stop.

QUESTION: More specifically, what do you think about the leadership in Iran? And, can you compare that to the leadership in Afghanistan? In other words, what I am asking you, as a world leader, is to comment on two countries very close to you, very serious to the world situation.

MRS. GANDHI: They are serious. The situation is serious, and they are close to us. But otherwise, they are entirely two different questions. So far as - it is not for me to comment on what sort of leadership a country wants - that is the business of the people there. But the Iran/Iraq war and some of the news that comes from there is a matter of deep concern, there is no doubt about it.

So far as Afghanistan is concerned, it is different situation which is, as we have made our own point of view quite clear, we are against foreign interference of any kind - military or subversive, or any other kind from outside, in any country. We have not fought long years for our own freedom to want anybody to come and interfere with us, so we can well understand that another country would not want it either. But, do we just want to make a noise about it, or do we want to try and find a solution? The Soviet Union - and we have expressed our views that we want the troops out, publicly as well as privately, to the Soviet loaders and anybody else who has raised the question.

But they feel encircled. And we find that in large parts of the world there are double standards, because when similar things have happened in other parts of the world, there has not been that sort of mobilisation of world opinion against them or even condemnation. This is where we differ with some other people.

QUESTION: Geoff Kipney of the Perth Daily News. Prime Minister, I would like to get back to the Gleneagles Agreement and ask you specifically what you understand the obligations of Commonwealth countries are under Gleneagles, and, specifically, do you believe that Gleneagles requires Commonwealth countries to stop sporting contacts with South Africa or

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simply to discourage sporting contacts with South Africa?

MRS. GANDHI: Well, I do not remember the exact wording but I think that the word was to stop contacts. But I cannot be too sure of it.

QUESTION: Prime Minister, Martin Reardon from the Sydney Daily Mirror. What chance has the question of protection levels between rich and poor nations will be discussed at CHOGM and can anything specific be done to move actively in this area, do you think?

MRS. GANDHI: It has just been mentioned in some of the remarks

made by the Presidents and Prime Ministers who are collected there. As I said earlier, I think it harms other people as well. I mean, it harms those who have the protectionist policies. Now, to what extent we can make a change here and now of course I cannot prophesy, but I think that there is a deeper understanding of this problem amongst more and more countries.

QUESTION: Warrick Beutler from the Australian Broadcasting Commission. Mr. Gandhi, on the question of Pakistan's readmittance, was it raised in the retreat? If it was not raised, was that as the result of your lobbying to prevent it being raised and just what are your objections to Pakistan's readmittance?

MRS. GANDHI: Well, I thought I had already answered that question; that I do not see why they want to come back. What is the purpose of it? When they were in the Commonwealth before they were usually raising bilateral issues, although that is one of the understandings that they should not be raised and we should stick to the larger perspective and larger, more common problem. It was not discussed either at the Retreat or before.

QUESTION: Barry Cassidy, ABC, again. Just to refer you back to your comment that you believe the Aboriginal question is one for Australia - I mean, it possibly could also be argued that it is a matter for New Zealand who plays football in New Zealand, and perhaps a matter for South Africa whether apartheid is practised there. Are you saying that if an argument was made out to show that there was discrimination against Aborigines in Australia that is not a matter for other Commonwealth countries to comment on?

MRS. GANDHI: I do not think we have normally commented on these matters in the Commonwealth, but if there is any kind of injustice we usually do draw attention to it, but I suppose more in private here. Of course, when we spoke up, we spoke up in front of everybody.

You see, in order to give your advice on a particular question, you have to know a great deal about it. Now, frankly, I do not know what it is. I have just received some papers saying there is a problem with land and so on. But I do not know everything that it involves. I personally do not feel I am in a position to give advice on the subject, but I know that not only here but in most places where such a problem arises, it is an exceedingly complex one.

QUESTION: Colin Brammall of The Canberra Times. Prime Minister, This Afternoon Mr. Muldoon criticised the Heads of Government and other meetings of world leaders as being largely a failure. From what you have said tonight, you obviously do not share his views. Are there very many people attending the meeting in Melbourne who do share his views?

MRS. GANDHI: Are there people who share his views?

QUESTION: Who share Mr. Muldoon's view?

MRS. GANDHI: Well, I do not think anybody has spoken up in that way.

QUESTION: Prime Minister, Steven Mills from The Age newspaper. Could I ask you a very short question then a longer one. You mentioned that you had received cables and letters on the Aboriginal land question. Could I ask you what form those letters took, whether they were from individuals or from organizations?

MRS. GANDHI: Both.
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QUESTION: You said that India was a founding member of the Non-aligned Movement. I wonder if you could tell us - I wonder if I could perhaps tempt you into a comparison of Australian and Indian foreign policies by asking you under what conditions you might imagine Australia resuming its attempts to seek some presence or standing in the Non-aligned Movement. I wonder if you could tell us what a likely response might be to any Australian attempt to seek some presence at the movement.

MRS. GANDHI: The Non-aligned Movement - when we became free, there were two very definite blocs in the world. We had plenty of problems of our own and we saw no reason why we should get involved in the rivalries or the quarrels of other nations, and therefore, we thought that we should concentrate on our own problems and get together with those who had similar problems of development - poverty, and so on.

Later on, it became even more important that there should be greater, not only consultation, but economic cooperation. We also thought alike on a number of problems, such as racism, colonialism, various freedom struggles, and so on. This is what bound us together. Basically, anybody who belongs to a bloc cannot be in the Nonaligned Movement.

Now, it is true that in the later years, it expanded quite a lot, and various political matters did come into it which were not there, and had not been raised earlier. And it was thought that the movement was weakening. But when the Foreign Ministers of the Non-aligned Movement met in Delhi they were able once more to bring it to more even key and I think that, in today's world, non-alignment is even more relevant.

Now, Australia very definitely belongs to a bloc.

QUESTION: Prime Minister, Garry O'Neill, from the Melbourne Herald. Did your government formally protest to the United States

over the latest arms deal with Pakistan? If so, what was their reaction? Secondly, do you agree with the view that is often put, certainly in this country from time to time, that Pakistan is in fact the only effective buffer between so-called Soviet expansionism and the Indian Ocean?

MRS. GANDHI: Is it your contention that Pakistan is going to fight the Soviet Union? No, I do not believe it and neither do the Pakistani people believe it. So how are they a buffer? We have expressed our views to the world, including the United States. I do not know whether it comes diplomatically under the title of formal protestation or not. I do not think so, but I am not sure.

QUESTION: Mrs. Gandhi, Jenny Hewitt, Sydney Morning Herald. I would like to raise again the question of the release of the Melbourne Declaration. Mr. Muldoon said this afternoon that he fully expected that there will be more discussion on this tomorrow. You are saying that you were told last night that it would be released today. Were you happy that it would be released today? Did you expect that it would be done without any further alteration on the wording and, if so, can you explain the difference in interpretation on that between yourself and the New Zealand Prime Minister?

MRS. GANDHI: No, I cannot explain it.

QUESTION: Would you like to answer the other part of the question?

MRS. GANDHI: Well, the Chairman is saying the other part of the question. The other part is: Did we think it would be further discussed? Well, when the Secretary-General got up after the dinner and said that it was soon going to be released, now frankly I did not ask him if it was being released today or tomorrow and I did not think about it further because we all had seen it.

QUESTION: You are happy with the wording?

MRS. GANDHI: Well, nobody can be entirely happy or satisfied with wordings of such things, but the point is to get something on which other people agree. I mean if it was going to be my draft it may be different. But if I want Australia also to

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sign on it and other countries then there has to be some give and take.

QUESTION: Mungo MacCallum again, Mrs. Gandhi. Can I follow that up perhaps. I am somewhat amazed by the fact that you agreed to the issue of what comes out under the resounding title of the Melbourne Declaration simply because the Secretary-General got up

after dinner and said: Well, does anybody disagree with this? Well, I will put it out. Are we to put any weight at all on this Melbourne Declaration or are we simply to say: well it is something no one really disagreed with like a statement like the sky is blue and the grass is green.

MRS. GANDHI: That statement is not true in many parts of the world today, I might tell you. Industrial pollution is no better than the pollution of poverty.

QUESTION: Geoff Kidney, Perth Telenews again, Prime Minister. I would like to ask you about the question of Namibia, which I understand you raised in your opening address to the Commonwealth meeting. Do you envisage any particular role for the Commonwealth in finding a solution in Namibia and if so what role do you envisage, and will it be possible for this meeting to be able to take any steps without a full and frank briefing by the two contact countries, Britain and Canada?

MRS. GANDHI: Well, there is a contact group, and I think they are as committed to freedom of Namibia as the rest of us are. So I think that all we can do is to try and see that they function more effectively and with a greater sense of urgency.

QUESTION: Much has been said about the North-South dialogue in real terms, and in the present economic climate of high interest rates, credit squeeze and a shaken world economy, how does it affect India specifically and the developing nations?

MRS. GANDHI: Well, "squeeze" is the right word. We are squeezed from all sides. The price of oil products is very much higher, the price of machinery and other goods that we import is very much higher, but the prices of what we export are not higher.

The western countries or rather the developed countries also have the burden of higher oil prices. But they have a very big cushion. Firstly, a lot of their oil is used for luxury non-essential purposes, so they can cut down on the use by not driving on Sundays or whatever. Secondly, many of the oil producing countries, in fact all of them, invest in these very countries and they buy their goods, so that a lot of the burden which they have is, in a way, lessened by the countries.

Now, we do not have any of those cushions. In India we use the oil largely for, of course, energy, agricultural purposes, industry and public transport - compared to our size and population there are very few cars. Even then, we have put up the price of oil so that even those who do have cars will be discouraged from driving unnecessarily.

So, this is the squeeze that the developing countries have from all sides and we think that help from world financial institutions to developing countries is necessary and we would

like it to be on a multilateral basis and also that we should not be forced - I mean we should have the choice of taking this in whatever we consider as the interests of our own country. Each country may have a different view because some view has been expressed that we should deal only with private companies and so on.

QUESTION: Les Murphy, AAP, Mrs. Gandhi. Did I understand you to say, in response to an earlier question that Pakistan should not be re-admitted to the Commonwealth until it has an elected government again, as it did when it left the Commonwealth? And also, in view of the fact that many other countries, including Australia, are on record as saying that they would like to see her back, is India opposed to it mainly for bilateral reasons?

MRS. GANDHI: There are many reasons, but the main reason, is, as I said, that you cannot be hopping in and out of the Commonwealth, or United Nations, or whatever. Now, we have no guarantee that if they opt to come in now they will not opt to go out in a short time, again. And I think this is an important point. And, as I said
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before, we only heard they wanted to come, just a short while before. Me question had not risen before.

QUESTION: Bruce Juddery, The Journalist. Prime Minister, you suggested earlier that what the Commonwealth had in common - the members of the Commonwealth had in common - was a commitment to peace. I suggest that whenever the Commonwealth has actually shown its mettle, it has also been in a commitment to individual rights, particularly as drawn up in a racial sense, if you like. Twentyone years ago one country was driven out of the Commonwealth because of its racism and its question of people of certain races -and rightly so. Two years ago, it passed its greatest test, if you like, when it helped force the issue of Zimbabwe. Now I ask you, what will be the position - and, of course, recently we have had the row over New Zealand and the Springboks and so forth which is a spin-off of that sort of thing - of India, if and when the concern of the Commonwealth goes beyond simply racial freedom and equality? What will happen if Commonwealth countries refuse to play against Indian teams because of the gross oppression of the Harijan or untouchable people in India which your government and your predecessor governments have only made small steps to improve to the extent even that the Harijans now in the south of India, many villages of them, many thousands of people, are deserting Hinduism and becoming Muslims in order to get out of the stifling, oppressive system which your government has not managed to do any-, thing about?

MRS. GANDHI: I am sorry to say this, but your information is quite incorrect. The Harijans were oppressed in earlier times.

They were not allowed to enter temples, they were not allowed to walk along particular roads. Now we have guaranteed them equal status in our constitution. Because we thought that they may not - because of social prejudice - be elected, we reserved seats for them. Therefore a certain number of areas can only elect Harijans. I do not think that that can be called oppression in any language of the world. Furthermore, we have always Harijan Ministers. We have had and do have Harijan Governors, Judges, every possible high position that you can think of. It is true that social attitudes do not change immediately and there are areas in the country where there has been a certain amount of discrimination.

Some people have changed their religion. Other people have become Christians. Some Christians have become Hindus. I do not think that is because they are being oppressed, and I think that I can say with great authority that I doubt if there is any country in the world which has done more for its minorities and oppressed people than India. I would like to know which country.

QUESTION: Warrick Beutler again, Mrs. Gandhi. You said earlier that the Secretary-General had mentioned last night that unless anyone had any objections...

MRS. GANDHI: No, he did not. I did not say that. He just said that we have talked to everybody, and this is agreed, and it will be announced. I do not think he asked whether anybody has an objection, and if he did ask I did not hear it.

QUESTION: Okay. Was Mr. Muldoon present at the time? Did he hear this?

MRS. GANDHI: He was present. This was at the dinner.

QUESTION: Well, Secondly, then, might I ask: Do you agree with Mr. Muldoon that Mr. Ramphal plays too much of an interventionist role in the Commonwealth, that he should simply keep the minutes, as Mr. Muldoon puts, it? What is your view of the role of the Secretary-General of the Commonwealth?

MRS. GANDHI: Well, I think the Secretary-General of any such organisation has to do much more than keep the minutes. I think they have got a large staff to do that for them. They are supposed to - I mean take the Secretary-General of the United Nations. He is going around the world trying to solve problems and the task of the Secretary-General of the Commonwealth is to see that the Commonwealth keeps ticking and progressing.

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QUESTION: Russel Barton from the Sydney Morning Herald. Mrs. Gandhi, Mr. Fraser walks the world stage and in fact talks the world about protectionism. the centre piece of the North-South dialogue. From India's experience do you think Mr. Fraser is

delivering his rhetoric (inaudible) protection?

MRS. GANDHI: I think he has liberalised on his policy.

QUESTION: Colin Parks, Sydney Sun. Could I ask you, back to the Melbourne Declaration, whether you were specifically consulted about the terms of the Declaration apart from being handed a draft of it on Friday afternoon with the words from Mr. Fraser: Please keep this secret. I would like to ask you that specifically.

MRS. GANDHI: I do not think anybody told us to keep it secret. It was not just a draft being handed. We met in groups. We discussed it amongst ourselves. The Secretary-General also discussed it. I think he discussed it with everybody. Mr. Fraser discussed it, and everybody, as I said, was talking about it and several people made changes of words and so on.

QUESTION: (Inaudible) ... input into the final communique? -

MRS. GANDHI: I think so, yes.

QUESTION: Have you actually seen the Melbourne Declaration, Prime Minister?

MRS. GANDHI: Have I seen it?

QUESTION: Have you seen it?

MRS. GANDHI: Seen it? Yes, of course, I have seen it.

QUESTION: You said. I think I may have had some input into it. You seemed to be unsure.

MRS. GANDHI: No, I am not unsure, in that sense. I do not remember every word of it now. That is what I meant.

QUESTION: (Inaudible) who wrote it?

MRS. GANDHI: The original draft was produced by one person, but, after that, every other country saw it, and I think that people made additions as well as subtractions.

QUESTION: Prime Minister, a totally different subject. Given that India in May, 1974, detonated a nuclear device, is one of your objections to Pakistan's re-admission to the Commonwealth the fact that it appears to be developing a nuclear technology, albeit some would see with a more sinister motive than you claim for your own nuclear technology?

MRS. GANDHI: It is not a question of claiming. The whole world knows that we do not have a bomb and we do not make a bomb, and when we had our peaceful nuclear experiment, it was without any

kind of fall-out. We have been using nuclear energy for various purposes; developmental and purely peaceful, specifically for energy, but also very greatly for agriculture and medicine. But our information is that Pakistan wants to make a bomb. Obviously, we do not approve of this. But I do not think that that is directly connected with their wanting to come into the Commonwealth.

QUESTION: (Inaudible)

MRS. GANDHI: Well, it is not connected and that is (inaudible)

QUESTION: Madam, (Inaudible), again from the Australian. You have been making a very strong plea on a couple of occasions this week, including here tonight, for a scaling down of the arms race, yet you are going to Paris next month to sign a contract for the purchase of 150 Mirages latest technology Mirages 2000. I wonder, given your strong military superiority on the sub-continent, that you really need them.

I have a very quick supplementary question on the Melbourne Declaration. Was there any evidence of Mr. Muldoon being asleep perhaps?

Mrs. GANDHI: Mr. Muldoon was not sitting at my table so I really do not know. So far as the arms are concerned, we have been invaded - how many times I do not know, but a number of times, five. The
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first two times we were caught napping. Now, no country can afford that situation.

Pakistan, by the very sophisticated weaponry that it is now acquiring, is jumping a decade ahead of us. And much as we dislike the very thought of war and of spending money which we can ill-afford and which we need for development, there is no way that I could face the people or Parliament if they thought that I was not trying to - if the country was not fully prepared for any eventuality.

QUESTION: Mrs. Gandhi, Julie Flynn from the National Times again.

This Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Melbourne has seen the strictest security in Australia ever seen. One group that has been seen as a threat before your arrival was a sect that originated in India, the Ananda Marga. Have you personally felt any threat to your own safety since you have been here in Melbourne? Do you think there was any threat to your safety before you arrived?

MRS. GANDHI: I really have not a clue about it. The only demonstration we saw was of the IRA.

QUESTION: Mrs. Gandhi, Barry Cassidy again. If we can possibly be serious about Mr. Muldoon for a moment. Is he stealing the limelight away from the important issues at this conference, important issues such as- the North-South dialogue?

MRS. GANDHI: I think he is putting what he thinks is his point of view to his people as well as others.

QUESTION: Anne Summers, Financial Review, Mrs. Gandhi. The other day when you spoke at the opening of the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting you used a phrase that, "The world is at the hinge of history", and I think from memory you used that phrase in the context of talking about the escalation of arms, both within your region and globally, and I think during your speech to the closed session the other day you talked about the dangers of both vertical and horizontal escalation. Do you have any expectation that a body as diverse and, as we have all noted before, as platitudinous as the Commonwealth can make a serious statement that would have any impact at all on the movement towards disarmament? Do you expect anything to be said about disarmament in the communique, and if so, what would be your preferred form of words?

MRS. GANDHI: Well, I do not think I can give my form of words here, but all movements have had small beginnings and today the peace movement, especially in some countries of Europe, are pretty strong and they are going to have an effect, even perhaps in the elections of those countries.

So I would not dismiss a group of 41 countries such as the Commonwealth by saying they can have no effect. Most problems have been considered impossible of solution. I remember when we were fighting for freedom, as late as 1944, we did not think we would get freedom in our lifetime, but we did. There were so many other problems which were thought to be impossible but, because people kept in working at them, they did find a solution and I think that the Commonwealth has to work in that spirit.

QUESTION: Prime Minister, Ken Randall from the National Reporter. I know various aspects of this have been canvassed in several ways already, but it seems extraordinary to some of us, I think, that there could be such a divergence of view between two such active participants in a conference like this as yourself and Mr. Robert Muldoon. He said this afternoon - let me, for those people who might not have been here at the earlier session - it was put to Mr. Muldoon in one question that this was Lusaka all over again, in the sense that this was a little power group within the Commonwealth manipulating the whole meeting to achieve a result aimed at a couple of people and for very specific limited objectives on the day. He said: Yes, it was Lusaka all over again.

He was saying that about the release of the so-called Melbourne Declaration, the text of which, he says, this afternoon is still <pg-288>

foreign to him; he has not seen it. He was given one on Friday night which has been changed since, so Mr. Ramphal said this afternoon and, in Mr. Muldoon's estimation of the conference, it was due to come out tomorrow morning. Is that the way the Commonwealth should be run? What is going on?

MRS. GANDHI: Well, I think, is not that a question you should ask Mr. Muldoon, since he has expressed his view?

QUESTION: Very specific in his view about it.

MRS. GANDHI: It is obvious that Mr. Muldoon with the situation in New Zealand cannot have exactly the same - the history of New Zealand, cannot have exactly the same - viewpoint or perspective as we would with our history, our traditions, our experiences in India. But do you think that he is a person who can be easily manipulated? Does he think so?

MRS. GANDHI: May I say, first of all, that, much as I love women - and I am perfectly happy being a woman - I prefer to think of myself as a human being. And what I have understood of the Women's Lib - which - is not much, because the conditions in America and so on are so different - is that all they are asking for is that they should be treated like human beings, just as the Aborigines or the tribals or any other group that has been dominated over the centuries are asking

But, what I really wanted to say was, thank you very much indeed.

DIA AUSTRALIA USA CHINA PAKISTAN CANADA GHANA NEW ZEALAND SOUTH AFRICA IRAN AFGHANISTAN IRAQ FRANCE NAMIBIA PERU CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC ZIMBABWE ZAMBIA OMAN

Date : Oct 04, 1981

Volume No

1995

INDIA IN UNITED NATIONS ORGANISATION

India's Reply to Pakistan's Reference to J & K in UN Debate

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Oct 17, 1981:

The Indian delegation to the U.N. General Assembly objected to Pakistan having raised the question of Jammu and Kashmir by its delegate on October 9 and used the right to reply on two occasions. The following was the reply made by Miss Saroj Khaparde, M.P., member of the Indian Delegation:

Mr. Chairman, during the course of its statement on Item 81, the delegation of Pakistan regrettably chose to make a totally unwarranted reference to Jammu and Kashmir which is an integral part of India. As we stated in the Plenary when a similar reference was made by the same delegation, such references are contrary to the letter and spirit of the Simla Agreement of 1972 between India and Pakistan to which the delegation of Pakistan has reiterated its commitment. We hope wiser counsels will prevail and bilateral issues will be kept for bilateral discussions as envisaged in the Simla Agreement.

Pakistan in its exercise of right of reply stated as follows: "In our statement of October 9 under Agenda Item 81 our delegation while enumerating instances where the right of self-determination still remained to be exercised had made an appropriate reference to the case of Jammu and Kashmir.

Mr. Chairman, my delegation is disappointed that these comments should have necessitated a right of reply from the distinguished delegate of India because nothing
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in the Simla Agreement, an agreement to which both India and Pakistan adhere, militates against the statement of their respective positions on any disputes in international forums.

The objectives of the Simla Agreement on the basis of which Pakistan has been striving to build a cordial relationship of peace and cooperation with India cannot be served by demanding acceptance of one sided point of view.

In the exercise of a second right of reply, Miss Saroj Khaparde stated as follows:

"I have asked for the Floor to respond to the statement by the delegation of Pakistan. We have no desire to engage in a debate with our friends from Pakistan on this issue here. The correct position in regard to the Simla Agreement has been stated by my delegation in the Plenary."

Pakistan in the second exercise of its right of reply stated that they responded in like spirit to our statement and had no desire to engage in public debate. They recalled the statement of Foreign Minister, Mr. Agha Shahi, in the Plenary seeking peaceful and cordial relations with India.

India was the first to speak when the rights of replies were taken up in order to avoid the heat of the East-West polemics. Pakistan was thirteenth, the positions in between being taken up by the Socialists, USA, Cuba, Afghanistan, Albania, Laos and Chile. Iran and Israel also had a brief exchange.

India was again the first to speak in the exercise of second right of reply. Pakistan spoke immediately after India this time.

The rights of replies would have ended at that point itself but the US delegation spoke a second time and provoked another round of replies from the Socialists.

DIA PAKISTAN USA AFGHANISTAN ALBANIA CUBA LAOS CHILE IRAN ISRAEL

Date : Oct 17, 1981

Volume No

1995

JAPAN

India Receives 32.2 Billion Yen Loan From Japan

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Oct 17, 1981:

Six loan agreements totalling 32.2 billion Yen were signed on 15th October by the Indian Ambassador, Shri K. P. S. Menon and OECF President, Mr. T. Hosomi.

The details are: (1) Telecommunications Project-III for Yen 5.0 billion, (2) Telecommunications Project-IV for Yen 9.4 billion, (3) Nagarjunasagar Hydro-Electric Power Station Expansion Project for Yen 7 billion, (4) Lower Mettur Hydro-Electric Project for Yen 7.6 billion, (5) Lower Borpani Hydro-Electric Project for Yen 1.7 billion, (6) Hirakund Hydro-Electric Project of Yen 1.5 billion.

This forms part of economic bilateral aid pledged by the Government of Japan to India over the last three years and the entire amount is to be utilised for import of foreign exchange components for the respective projects within five years. The loan is repayable in 30 years including 10 years grace period and carries an interest rate of 2.75 per cent per annum.

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Date : Oct 17, 1981

Volume No

1995

PHILIPPINES

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's Speech at Dinner Hosted in Her Honour by President of Philippines

Following is the full text of the speech, by the Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi, at the dinner hosted in her honour by President and Mrs. Marcos in Manila on Oct 08, 1981. Replying to the toast Smt. Indira Gandhi said:

Your Excellency, President Marcos, and his charming lady, Madame Marcos, Your Excellencies, the Ministers, Excellencies of diplomatic corps, and distinguished guests,, after the enchanting evening which you have had, I don't know whether you are in a mood for speeches. We in India have a unique philosophy. In our country, myths merge into modernity and dreams lead to reality.

Long ago, I read somewhere that if you want to build castles in the air, that's all right. That's where they should be built. But then you must build a foundation to them and link them to the earth. And that is what we have been trying to do in India. It is not only the leaders of Modern India, but from the very, very ancient times of which as yet there are arguments about exact dates, which came first, and of which I am especially reminded today. Because in India, this is a season of festivals.

Yesterday, we had a great festival called the Setra. It is the old story of the Ramayana, which is reenacted year after year as if it were something that has just happened. It is very real to the people of India. Above all, it symbolizes not just a story but the victory of good over evil. In a day or so, we have the Muslim festival of Id, which is celebrated all over the world. And in a couple of months, as you all know, it will be Christmas.

THE RIGHT PATH

So this is a time when we think of the past, we think of the present, and we try to think of the future with hope. There isn't much in the world which leads to hope when one sees the violence and the crime and the many other things which we had hoped that with increased knowledge, wisdom, capacity, mankind would be able to overcome. But somehow, we have not been able to rise above all those other instincts, and violence does persist.

I was asked by the press just a day ago in Melbourne whether I am optimistic. In fact, they asked this question to all the leaders who were there. My reply was, that nobody in politics could afford to be not optimistic. But apart from that, our great leader, Mahatma Gandhi, always used to say that the strange thing in life is not that there is evil, but that inspite of the devil, good does persist. Not that there is falsehood, but in spite of falsehood, truth does persist.

And therefore, while mankind lives, we have to try for the good. We have to try for the right path. And in India, this is what we are trying to do. Being human, we cannot always live to our high ideals. We make mistakes and we have shortcomings. But we are trying to keep to the path which not only he but our very ancient sages laid out before us. I spoke earlier of our great epics. One, the Ramayana, the other the Mahabharat.

Now, they were written many years ago, thousands of years. In fact, they were not written. First, it was just oral transmission from generation to generation and later on they were written. And even now the research is going on a little bit in India but perhaps not so strangely more in places like Chicago, in West Germany, and places like that. But even in that ancient book, the lesson was the unity of India. They tried to weave their legends in such a way that the extreme East and the North and the West and the South were part of one. People travelling there, their stories getting intermingled.

UNITY IN DIVERSITY

And that is why the concept of a united India is not a new one. It dates back to
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those very ancient days. We have many languages. They are not dialects. There are fourteen official languages, each with its own script, each with its very ancient literature. Apart from that, we have dialects. We have many races, all the hues and the colours of the human skin, and hair and eyes. We have all religions of the world. But none of these has ever been a dividing factor. On the contrary, we have felt that this diversity is something that strengthens our unity.

And this is why we believe in democracy, too. Because in a country of this great diversity, this large size and population and, above all, of a people who, since time immemorial, have been taught to be individualistic, to try for their own salvation, you simply cannot put them in one mould. Each has to find its weight. Because we are trying to find the balance, that while you must do good to yourself, you must also do good to your neighbour and to society. Otherwise, you yourself cannot prosper.

This is the message today which we and you, Mr. President, I think are trying to give to the world. We happen to belong to what they call the developing nations. And there is another section. Some have divided the world into many parts. The developed, affluent world, the poor world, the Arab world, and some other world. I have been brought up to believe in one world. I had the great good fortune not only to be educated in different parts of India but in different parts of Europe and England. And so I was brought up to feel at home wherever I went and to think of people not as different races, different colours, languages, religions but as human beings. Men and women, not as statistics as today, were led more and more by our experts to think such and such percentage have done this, so many hours doing this. I look at everybody as men and women. Many have the same problems, however rich they are or however poor they are. But many have their own individual problems. And many have group problems, ethnic problems as we in India are well aware.

We saw today a spectacle of beauty, of variety. And, in fact, since we have arrived here, we have been surrounded by warmth, by friendship, and by beauty. The reception we got at the airport was one of the most impressive and warm-hearted that I have ever been accorded anywhere. While we have been struggling with our problems, and it has been indeed a very hard struggle... Well, I will repeat what I said in the Press Conference in Melbourne, that I would not have opted for politics if I had the chance to do anything else. But whether it is faith or something else - I don't know what it is that moves these things - I was born in a family, in a house, in a place at a time when there just was no choice. It was in the middle of the independent struggle. There was no question of thinking of anything, of doing anything else. We just had to put up all in that struggle. And then our leaders taught us that the end of the struggle was not that we should just remove the foreign rulers and sit on various chairs ourselves, but to remove the evils which existed in the country.

INDIA'S FREEDOM MOVEMENT

You, Mr. President, very kindly have mentioned the non-violence of our movement. It was indeed a unique movement. Because Mahatma Gandhi described violence not merely as not killing or hitting, but non-violence in your words, non-violence in your thoughts. We were told again and again that if you have bitterness and hatred in your heart, it doesn't matter if you don't raise your hands. You are a violent person.

This is how our movement grew. And that is why in the middle of the movement, at its tensest moment, a Britisher, whether a soldier or a civilian or an ordinary person could walk in the streets of India without having a hair touched. But some were killed, because we did also have a terrorist movement, over which we had no control, which we disapproved of. But nevertheless, a few misguided people, very, very small, did exist. and they

killed a couple of governors and others here and there. But the independence movement, which won freedom for India, was a non-violent one. And that is why after independence, we had no difficulty in being friends with Britain. In fact, even during independence in my home, we had British visitors. We had other foreign poli-
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tical peoples, scientists, artists, writers, every kind of person. So, this is the atmosphere in which I grew up and in which I learned to see the whole world.

OUR SELF-RELIANCE

Today, the India which used to be described in the foreign press as always holding a handout with a begging bowl, that India for many years has been self-sufficient in food. That India has made significant progress in industry, not only spread it more but diversified it. I don't want to go into all these figures which are terribly boring. And especially after, not the modest but the sumptuous meal which you have provided, Mr. President and Madame. But it is an India standing on her feet. We haven't reached where we want to go. As I have often said, when we see how far we have come, it looks very far. The poverty immediately after independence or all the many problems, they are far from us, we rarely worry about them. But when we see where we want to go, then we feel we have only barely touched the fringe of the problem. But, perhaps, that is a part of life. But while we have been struggling, the old struggle and the new struggle, we have also been watching what has been happening in the Philippines. We have been watching it with interest and with admiration. We have seen your own dedication to the development of your country, to the bringing of a better life to your people.

You are very fortunate in having somebody to help you, who is not only beautiful and charming, but who is equally dedicated to the cause. Who has done a great deal for Manila and for women everywhere. I am not a feminist. Let me make this clear. But I do like women and I enjoy being a woman. But I would much rather regard myself as a human being. And when they talk about women's lib, I am sorry to say I don't know enough about the women's lib as it is in Europe or in America. Because in India, our problems are so common that we feel that we should fight them or meet them shoulder to shoulder, rather than having a new argument between the men and the women. But I do feel that it is a mandominated society, and that women should be given a greater chance. Not to rule the man, although some say that they rule them from their homes anyway, not to imitate them or be like them, but to have the ability to be themselves, to be able to use their talents or their abilities in the service of their people in order to make not only better families, happier families, but a better society, a happier, healthier society.

The President told me that there are more women in the Philippines than men. Now, we don't have that much. We have only half-and-half. But even if we have only half, and they are not interested in what is happening in the country, how can you go ahead? You simply can't. So, this is why it is important, like all other disadvantaged groups, Women should have a chance to do what they want to do in the best manner that they can do it. And that the Philippines is doing it is a very big credit to both of you.

I don't want to take more of your time, but I do want to say that the little hospitality which we gave you was hardly anything because you stayed for so short a time. And we could hardly say that, Mr. President, you can stop, we won't give you lunch. But I have wanted to come for a long time. And it has given me great pleasure that our relationship has improved and that there is scope for greater economic and other cooperation.

NON-ALIGNMENT

I didn't want to go into political questions, but I want to make just one point. Because a lot of publicity is made as if we are not truly non-aligned.

Now, we are not pro any country or bloc and not against any country or bloc. We are pro-Indian. As I think that every country is. We are concerned with the lives of our people. But we feel that we cannot get on with the job unless certain international problems are solved. And that is why, Mr. President, you and I are going all the way to Cancun. We don't know whether anything will come out of it or not. But we do think that any little chance or opportunity there is for a better under-

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standing to get to know one another in a deeper way should be grasped. We don't think that today's world is an inter-dependent world. Whether we like our neighbours or others is immaterial. We simply cannot change our geographical situation. A day may come in the future when our great great grandchildren may be able to say, well, we don't like this world. We are going to go and live in Venus or wherever they can. But those of us who are here and our children have no such chance. We are here. We have to live with our neighbours. We have to live with the other countries. And, if we have to live with them, we might as well live in peace, harmony, friendship, and cooperation.

Now, this is the message which India wants to give and I think that the Philippines wants to give. And I think this is the biggest, the strongest link between us.

Mr. President, may I thank you and Madame with all my heart for the friendship which you have offered to us, for your gracious hospitality, for the invitation which has enabled me to come here

and meet not only the two of you, whom I have met before and was anxious to meet again, but to see the friendly faces of the Filipino people.

The word Filipino is almost synonymous with friendliness, with a kind of gaiety, joy, and harmony. This is what we wish for the rest of the world.

So, ladies and gentlemen, may I ask you to rise and lift your glasses to the good health, to the personal happiness and welfare of His Excellency, President Marcos of the Philippines, to Madame Marcos, and to the prosperity of the people of the Philippines.

ILIPPINES INDIA USA GERMANY OMAN

Date : Oct 08, 1981

Volume No

1995

PHILIPPINES

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's Press Conference in Manila

Following is the transcript of the Press Conference given by the Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi, in Manila on Oct 09, 1981:

MINISTR CENDANA: Good afternoon, Madame Prime Minister. We wish to Thank our friends and colleagues from the media, including those who are in the party of our distinguished guest, the Prime Minister of India. And we wanted to thank also the Prime Minister of India for giving us this rare opportunity of asking a few questions and possibly gaining some insights on her visit to our country and conversations with the President.

As customary, Madame, we would like to request Your Excellency to make a few statement - an opening statement. After which, there will be some questions from the Press.

MRS. GANDHI: First of all, I would like to apologize for being late. I am known in my country and elsewhere to be extremely punctual. But sometimes there are circumstances beyond one's control.

I would like to say what a delight it is to be in the Philippines of whose beauty, variety and progress we have heard much. This country has achieved the high degree of artistry and that quality which denotes a civilized person, which means the appreciation of

excellence.

The Philippines has been the meeting ground of many civilizations, religions and races of Asia and of Europe. Out of these has emerged a distinctive national personality known for its cosmopolitan character.

I have admired your hero, the father of the Philippine nation, Jose Rizal. Because I was brought up to admire all such people, and because he taught that modern man must work for the redemption not only of individual nations but of humanity as a whole in a spirit of tolerance and equality.

We have naturally followed with interest the efforts of the Republic of the
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Philippines to strengthen national stability and to build its economic capacity. I should like especially to express my appreciation of the new livelihood project which you call the KKK.

In India, our guiding principles have been national integration and technological self-reliance.

And I am glad of the privilege of having talks with His Excellency, the President, and that we have the beginnings of joint ventures and consultancy in this country. We feel there is a considerable scope to increase trade and diversify our economic relations. We have welcomed the association of the Philippines for the non-aligned family. We appreciate and share the concern of the Filipino people to live in harmony and get on with the task of building their country.

Obviously, this is possible only in conditions of stability in this region. India is next door. And history makes us, if I may say so, as honourable member of your region. Our affinity with Southeast Asia impelled us to have a dialogue with each country of ASEAN. We are active in other organizations such as the Colombo Plan, ESCAP and Asian Development Bank.

We consider ASEAN an important factor in ensuring the peace and stability of this sensitive area. With its immediate neighbours, India's policy has been one of seeking bilateral solutions through patient discussion. There is no problem which cannot be solved through negotiations; no issue which requires the use of arms.

This is the spirit of the Panchsheel Declaration which we signed with China in the 50s and the similar agreement we made with Pakistan in the early 70s. We are concerned at the rapid escalation of tension in our immediate vicinity further aggravated by the induction of highly sophisticated weapons. But

we shall continue to work for more cordial. relations with all countries. Friendship and cooperation are laudable ideals. But even more, they are practical necessities for the solution of the manifold problems which are shared by our region.

May I say MABUHAY to all the Pilipino people.

MINISTER CENDANA: May we ask Mr. Vicente Tanedo, President of the Malacanang Press Corps and a reporter of the Times Journal, to ask the first question.

MR. TANEDO: Good morning, Madame Prime Minister. After your talks with our President, are you free to share with us some of the details?

MRS. GANDHI: Well, usually such talks are entirely private. Otherwise, a lot of leaders - and not particularly these talks but anywhere - they wouldn't be so frank if they thought that we were sharing all of them with the press. But they were wide-ranging and to us extremely valuable.

MR. TANEDO: Would you allow me to ask another question, Madame? As one of the leaders of the non-aligned nations, how would you assess the effects of the death of Egyptian President Sadat on the search for ...

MRS. GANDHI: It is a little early to prophesy on that. I was asked this question earlier in another gathering here in Manila. And my assessment is that, it is not good for any people to feel that somebody is being strongly supported from outside. That weakens him in his country and in his region. President Sadat made a bold attempt. But you know that it did not make him popular among Arab countries. A solution of that particular, very delicate problem, of what is normally called the Middle East and which we in India call the West Asia, is only possible if there is a primordial agreement. But as to what will happen in Egypt, I think it is much too early to say.

MR. TANEDO: Thank you.

MINISTER CENDANA: Mr. Olenin of Novosti would like to ask the second question.

MR. OLENIN: Madame Prime Minister, as you know your Government has recognized the Government of Heng Samrin of People's Republic of Kampuchea. And this
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step of your Government was supported by many countries of the world. What can you say about your talks with President Marcos on this issue? And my second question, which is closely connected with the first one, is, what is your point of view on the proposal of Indo-Chinese states about holding a regional

dialogue, regional conference of two groups - Indo-China and ASEAN - in order to solve the problems of Southeast Asia?

MRS. GANDHI: Firstly, about Kampuchea. The information which we had about the Pol Pot regime was such that we felt we could not support it. We also felt that we could not be in a vacuum. And on inquiries and on information received not just from our own people but from press correspondents and others who had gone from various parts of the world - the nonsocialist world, the capitalist world, the western world - it was our assessment that the Heng Samrin regime had control of territory and also had popular support. There was no other figure who had popular support. That is why we recognized it. Now, the situation in the Philippines is entirely different. We don't have exactly the same views on this issue and on some other issues as well. Insofar as the question of regional conferences is concerned, generally we welcome conferences of any kind, regional or multilateral and bilateral and so on. But if it is felt that any group is getting together against somebody or another country, then there is bound to be the reaction. That country will try to strengthen its own group. And you have a confrontation. Then you have tensions. So we feel that any regional grouping should try and avoid this type of confrontation. I would like to go a little beyond your question, if I may. You know, when the Non-aligned Movement came into being, there were two definite blocs in the world - the western bloc and eastern bloc. They were very solid amongst themselves. Today, those blocs are not so solid. There is a difference of opinion within each of them. And I think it was because they have realised that this sort of confrontation is not in their interest.

MR. GENOVEA: Your Excellency, I understand you are one of the 22 leaders who will attend the meeting in Cancun this month. May we know what particular issue you expect to be given priority in this particular meeting?

MRS. GANDHI: I can only say what are the issues to which we attach priority. Whether they will come up there in that order or come up at all, it is not possible to prophesy. We give importance to global negotiations. Of course, some people said in Melbourne, this has become a jargon now. But nevertheless, it means something and therefore we used those words. But we think equally important is going ahead parallel to the global negotiations, dealing with the problems which are of immediate concern to some of the poorest and most undeveloped countries. Trade, food, energy, things like that.

MR. GENOVEA: Thank you, Ma'am.

TARA SINGH: Madame Prime Minister, ASEAN maintains that it is non-aligned and primarily an economic organization. Now, if all of the five ASEAN member nations extend an invitation to India, what action will India take or your Government take?

MRS. GANDHI: Action on what? To join?

NEWSMAN: Yes.

MRS. GANDHI: Well, I don't think I can give an answer to that now. But I can say that our relationship with the individual countries of ASEAN has improved. And we want to improve it further.

TARA SINGH: Thank you.

WILLIE NG: Madame Prime Minister, may we have your assessment on the situation in Pakistan where America is arming that country ostensibly because of the Afghanistan situation?

MRS. GANDHI: We are not happy about the escalation of the arms race in our region. We feel that the induction of such very sophisticated weaponry imposes a heavy burden on us. We feel that we will be about a decade behind. Now, as a leader of a nation, you can understand, how can I face the Parliament or our people and say
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that we are behind in our preparedness to meet any aggression or any such confrontation? We have been the victims of oppression. We have never committed aggression, not only now in modern times. But in all our ancient history, India has never gone into war with another country. Well, our soldiers have been used in other people's wars. But that was because we had no choice. But India itself, as a country, has not. And the other thing is, we feel that such an induction of arms is, perhaps, dangerous to Pakistan itself. It draws it much closer into the net of confrontation.

WILLIE NG: In other words, Madame, the American rationale is not acceptable.

MRS. GANDHI: The American?

WILLIE NG: Rationale, Ma'am.

Mrs. GANDHI: Rationale. Well, we have different views.

JEREMY TOYE: Madame Prime Minister, there have been suggestions that India will start to apply for loans to the Asian Development Bank. Is that correct and when might it be?

MRS. GANDHI: We haven't so far got any help from it, although we are contributing to it. But we may need it now just to help us to get over the hump of a difficult period.

NEWSMAN: As a follow-up. Ma'am how much you might need from the ADB?

MRS. GANDHI: Well, I am afraid I cannot give the details.

AIR. TABUNAR: Madame Prime Minister, can I go back to your reference about the arms race related to the world situation as a whole. America says that in order to prevent war, one must be strong. And so she has gone about in her efforts to increase her armaments and bolster her arms. How do you view this in relation to the present situation? Do you believe that this rationale is true? Can this arms race ease tensions in the long run?

MRS. GANDHI: Now, you see, the problem is that if one country becomes strong and there, is rivalry with another country. Is that country going to sit quiet or is it going to do something? And if it is going to do something, then it's like going up the rungs of a ladder. One country gets here. The other says, it must be on the higher rung and the other wants to be in the higher rung. Where do you stop? And, ultimately, if arms are going to be spread out in this manner all over the world and the arm industry is playing a dominant role in world economy, then we are inevitably moving towards a confrontation which might be destructive to everybody, even those who are not at all concerned.

MR. TABUNAR: In relation to that, Madame Prime Minister, the Indian Ocean will be the focus of events in the years to come. Do you have any thoughts as to how to prevent these tensions that are building up there in that area?

MRS. GANDHI: Perhaps, you know that all littoral states as well as some of the hinterland states have been concerned about this matter for a very long time. And the United Nations actually passed a resolution that the Indian Ocean should be a zone of peace. But except for raising our voices, there is not much we can do about it.

MR. TABUNAR: Just one more short question, Madame Prime Minister. There has been a proposal from the head of state of one country to the President suggesting a Bandung-type of conference in the near future of non-aligned nations. How would you view this proposal?

MRS. GANDHI: Well, the non-aligned are meeting very regularly, as you know. It just depends on what the conference is going to be about, what it hopes to achieve, and whether it's aimed against anybody. So it is difficult to give an answer unless one knows more about it.

MR. TABUNAR: Thank you very much.

Miss ABBY TAN: Madame Prime Minister, your view, your presumption on the Indo-China problem definitely differs with those of the ASEAN countries. How

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do you propose to improve relations with ASEAN? What are the prospects of a dialogue with ASEAN? And certainly do you think that the ASEAN nations actually do overestimate the power and interest of China in this region?

MRS. GANDHI: Well, I can't say whether they overestimate the influence of China. But in this world, most people have different perceptions or assessments of situations. Coming straight from Melbourne, from a meeting of Commonwealth countries, you know the wide range of opinions that were 'present there - from Mrs. Thatcher of the United Kingdom to the African leaders, to Asian people, to Pacific islands. And yet, we met in a friendly, informal atmosphere. We frankly and honestly discussed our problems and put our viewpoints forward. And I think we came up with a good communique, which is a step forward. So, although there will be really differences of opinion, we have to search what we have got in common. Is there a common interest? And I believe there is an interest in peace, in stability. And let us try to find that area of cooperation and try to extend it.

Miss M. FERIA: Ma'am, I would like to go back to the North-South dialogue. What particular positions or recommendations will you bring out at the Mexico meeting? And second, among these positions, which issues have you and President Marcos agreed upon or shared common views on?

MRS. GANDHI: We haven't discussed the Cancun meeting in detail. We just referred to it in passing. Because until you get there, you see the atmosphere, you try to create an atmosphere of understanding and goodwill, you won't be able to get on to any real problem. So I will just have to wait until we are there before we can say what our concerns are and be able to answer your earlier questions.

MR. BERNARD: Madame Prime Minister, I represent the Radio Veritas Asia. As you know, often there are racial riots in Sri Lanka, in which the Indians are affected, their properties being looted and they are being killed. What step is the Indian Government going to take to protect the, Indians in Sri Lanka?

MRS. GANDHI: As you know, the Indian Government and I personally am deeply concerned about what has happened in Sri Lanka. I believe the Government of Sri Lanka itself is also deeply concerned about this matter. We cannot interfere in the affairs of another country. We have put our point of view forward. And the Government of Sri Lanka has assured us that it is trying to do its best. But it is a serious problem and I do hope a solution can be found.

MR. BERNARD: Thank you very much..

OLAF GIRON: Your Excellency, in, connection with the previous question, what is the position of the Indian Government on, the production of the neutron bomb?

MRS. GANDHI: We are against it. You know India is very strongly for total disarmament, if that is possible. But especially for prevention of any type of nuclear war.

OLAF GIRON: Do you favor a preconference gathering of leaders of developing nations before the conference proper in Cancun, Mexico?

MRS. GANDHI: Well, we have barely the time now.

OLAF GIRON: Thank you.

NELLY SINDAYEN: India, Ma'am, has. been accused of being pro-Soviet. I wonder what your reaction is to this.

MRS. GANDHI: I don't have a reaction. As such, I can only tell you the facts, of the situation which is that India has never been pro-Soviet or anti-US or other parts of the West. It hasn't been anti-Soviet or pro-US. We have from the beginning, been what we consider: pro-India. But because we believe that freedom is indivisible, therefore, we are also pro all freedom movements. And we have supported the freedom movement, for instance, the situation in South Africa, Zimbabwe, and so on. Some of this porpaganda against India is deliberate. Why? I can't tell you. We have also been accused that we have voted more, with the USSR in the United Nations than with the Western bloc. But when I went,
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into this and to study, I found it was not we who go voting with the USSR but the USSR was voting with the group which was known as 77, but now they are 150 countries, as you know, on matters of colonialism and so on. In economic conferences, we find that all these countries stick together against the developing countries. We do buy from the Soviet Union. We have had help from them. But we don't buy only from the Soviet Union. In fact, one of the major helpers has been the USA. But, initially, when we first became independent, we felt that we had to build up infrastructure. And that is still our view. And that certain things which we have put in the coal sector, such as steel, should be in the state sector, it should not be in the private sector. Although we have not nationalised the one which was previously in the private sector. We went first to the USA. They said, No, we will not help the Government. We will help the private industrialists. After that, we said, who is going to help us? And the USSR did. We had oil in one part of India. A very small amount. We felt there may be more oil. We went to the western companies and said, Can you help us find oil? After sometime, they said, Well we have looked. You have no oil. Then, we went to Romania. And Romania brought in the Soviet Union as

its partner. And they found a lot of oil. So, this is how some of the relationship has grown. But we have made it very clear to the Soviet Union and to any other country that friendship does not come in the way of our independent assessment of any situation, independently coming toward judgement and independent action. And that we have been, we are, and we will remain strongly non-aligned with any of the blocs. Insofar as our purchases are concerned, whether military or otherwise, we have, over the years - not just recently, greatly diversified them. That is, we try to buy the best way we can get it. We have bought from West Germany. We have bought from the United Kingdom. We have bought from France, from Sweden and so on. We are not dependent on any one country. But, basically, our whole effort is a national effort. For instance, in our planning, Health component. is only 80 percent of our total planning. And each successive plan, it becomes less and less. Our objective has been self-reliance. We have attained self-sufficiency insofar as food grains are concerned. And we have, to a large extent, also become self-reliant in industry now.

MINISTER CENDANA: For and on behalf of the media, Ma'am, we would like to thank you for giving us this opportunity. And we wish you Godspeed and all the success, Ma'am.

MRS. GANDHI: Well, thank you very much. And may I, through you, give my very warm greetings and good wishes to the people of the Philippines.

ILIPPINES INDIA USA SRI LANKA CHINA PAKISTAN EGYPT AFGHANISTAN INDONESIA MEXICO SOUTH AFRICA ZIMBABWE OMAN ROMANIA GERMANY FRANCE SWEDEN

Date : Oct 09, 1981

Volume No

1995

ROMANIA

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's Speech at Banquet in Her Honourby Romanian President

Following is the text of the speech by the Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi at the banquet in her honour hosted by Mr. Nicolae Ceausescu, General Secretary of the Romanian Communist Party and president of the socialist republic in Bucharest on Oct 18, 1981 :

It is fourteen years almost to the day since my last visit to Romanian. I am de-

lighted to have this opportunity of renewing India's friendship with a dynamic country and to exchange views with a statesman who is known for the force of his personality. Mr. President, your contribution to the industrial growth of Romanian and to international cooperation is widely acknowledged. We admire the achievements of the Romanian people and the advance made under your leadership.

In ancient times we have had trade contacts between India and Romanian, and Romanian, and some of the main routes from India across Western Asia ran through Romanian to other parts of Europe. I am told that one of your mountain passes is called the Oriental Gate. There is a kinship between our languages. In recent times, we have renewed these contacts and worked consistently to strengthen our bilateral relations. We look back with satisfaction and appreciation on the technological help we have received from Romanian, especially in oil and coal. The refineries of Gauhati and Haldia and the present fruitful collaboration at Kudremukh are examples of our bilateral cooperation, which we hope to expand in other areas.

COMMITMENT TO PEACE

Our domestic concerns and our political systems may not be similar. But we do share a common commitment to peace, and to the right of countries to develop in the manner they choose without interference from any quarter. Peace is no longer an alternative, it is an imperative. Lasting security lies, not in armaments but in dialogue and mutual understanding.

Old problems persist and new ones have emerged, posing danger to the world as a whole put especially to Asia and our neighbourhood. In assessing their strategic objectives, some powers are pursuing shortterm and short-sighted policies. The process of regional dialogue and conciliation is thwarted, apart from the fact the people of the region are not benefited.. We do not believe in power vacuums which must be filled by one or other outside power. We feel that non-alignment and the recognised principles of peaceful coexistence serve India and human-kind better than theories of competitive deterrence.

We in India are involved in the gigantic task of improving the lives of our people.. Peace is a necessary condition for any economic development and peace depends on finding political solutions to the most complex problems. I need not recount the gains we have made in our fight for technological self-reliance, or how we have been affected by the steep increase in the cost of oil imports or the special problems we had to encounter when for a few years the country was led away from our chosen path of economic development.

NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER

Food, energy and financial flows are the major economic problems of developing countries - and these are subjects of discussions in the forthcoming meeting in Mexico. In food, the strategy of increased production through the widest possible participation of rural people and the application, of new technology has enabled us to overcome shortages. But as a developed-cumdeveloping country, our energy requirements and financial needs are enormous.

Both our countries want a more equitable international order. Our bilateral economic and commercial relations are in tune with this larger outlook. Greater trade between developed and developing and greater, economic cooperation even among developing countries will help all countries to mitigate the hardships caused by the global economic crisis.

We live in an interdependent world. India's ancient philosophy, recognises the unity of all forms of life and even of nonlife. Tolerance and acceptance have been the secret of the survival of our civilisation. Even during our fight for national independence, Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru taught us to view nationalism in the context of a harmonious internationalism. So we have pursued friendships with all countries, irrespective of their political persuasions. Above, all ideology, is the service of the human being.
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My delegation and I thank you for the warm welcome that has been accorded to us. On behalf of the Government and people of India, I wish Your Excellencies and, through you, the people of Romania, happiness and prosperity in the years to come.

AN ROMANIA USA INDIA UNITED KINGDOM MEXICO

Date : Oct 18, 1981

Volume No

1995

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Indo-Soviet Protocol on Coal Industry

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Oct 07, 1981:

Matters relating to cooperation between India and the Soviet Union in Coal Industry were discussed at a meeting of the Indo-Soviet Working Group on Cooperation in the Coal Industry held in Moscow last week. The Indian team was headed by Shri R. P. Khosla, Additional Secretary in the Department of Coal and the Soviet team by Mr. V. V. Belyi, First Deputy Minister of the Coal Industry of the USSR.

A Protocol was signed in Moscow on October 3, 1981 on conclusion of the meeting.

During the discussions the progress of work on the Mukunda opencast project in Jharia coalfield of BCCL with an annual capacity of 12 million tonnes of coal was reviewed. This project will add substantially to the supply of scarce prime coking coal for the steel plants. A team of Indian experts will visit Russia in January 1982 to discuss the conceptual report to be prepared by the Soviet side. Because of the extremely complex working conditions in this mine which has a number of partly worked out seams as well as underground fires, it was decided that before the project report was prepared the Soviet and the Indian sides would discuss the conceptual report so as to satisfy themselves that the mining technology proposed to be adopted in this mine was suitable for the specially difficult conditions prevailing there.

NIGHAI PROJECT

Another major project which was discussed was the Nighai opencast project in Singrauli Coalfield which will have ultimate annual capacity of 14 million tonnes, of coal. This will make it the largest opencast mine in the country. The power station which is linked to this mine is also being put up with Soviet assistance and it was therefore agreed that the Soviet side would ensure that the schedule of development of the mine would match with the schedule of commissioning of the power station. The Working Group on Power is due to meet shortly in Moscow in which Waidhan power station will also come up for discussion.

JANJHARA MINE

The Soviets are also providing assistance in construction of the Janjhara mine which is an underground mine with a capacity of nearly three million tonnes per annum located in Eastern Coalfields. Two major shafts of about 300 mt. depth will have to be sunk in this mine in addition to an inclined shaft of 1400 mt. length. The Soviet side will be providing design for these shafts as well as some of the equipment required for sinking the vertical shaft.

Some new areas of cooperation were also identified during the meeting. Talcher confields in Orissa contains vast reserves of coal suitable for generation of power. It Was decided that the

Soviet experts would assist in the preparation of a master plan
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for exploitation of this coalfield. A similar master plan had been prepared by Soviet experts for the exploration of the Singrauli coalfield and individual mines are now being mined in accordance with this master plan.

TRAINING AND EQUIPMENT

In the field of equipment supply, it was decided that in order to overcome some of the problems being faced by the Indian mining industry in timely procurement of spare parts, two nodal agencies would be appointed by the Soviet side, one for the supply of spare parts for underground mining equipment and the other for supply of spare parts for opencast mining equipment. It was also agreed that Indian specialists, workers and supervisory staff would be trained in the USSR on the maintenance and repair of opencast equipment, mine planning and the use of computers and the technology of shield method of mining which is being introduced in the Makum coalfield in Assam with Soviet assistance. The coal seams in this coalfield are nearly vertical and cannot easily be exploited by conventional methods. The Soviet experts have already submitted a scheme for the exploitation of these deposits and this has been approved for implementation by Coal India.

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A INDIA RUSSIA UNITED KINGDOM CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

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PORTUGAL UGANDA VENEZUELA

Date : Nov 01, 1981

Volume No

1995

BULGARIA

Indo-Bulgarian Joint Declaration

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Nov 09, 1981:

A joint Indo-Bulgarian Declaration was signed on November 8, 1981 in Sofia by the Prime Minister of India, Smt. Indira Gandhi and the President of the People's Republic of Bulgaria H.E. Mr. Todor Zhivkov.

Following is the text of the Declaration.

Noting with satisfaction the growing friendship and cooperation between them and expressing the firm resolve of their Governments

and peoples to develop their relations in the future.

Reiterating their profound commitment to the promotion of international peace and the development of cooperation among nations on the basis of the principles of peaceful co-existence between States with different political and social systems.

Determined to struggle against imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism, racism and apartheid, and for the ideals Enshrined in the charter of the United Nations.

Concerned over the deterioration in the present day international situation and the dangers of conflict inherent in this situation.

Declare their firm resolve to further develop and deepen their friendly relations in the interests of the peoples of the two countries and the cause of peace, detente, cooperation and all round progress in the world.

The Republic of India and the People's Republic of Bulgaria note with satisfaction that relations between the two countries in all fields have been developing steadily to the benefit of their peoples and on the basis of equality, mutual respect, preservation of sovereignty, non-interference in each other's internal affairs and the principles of peaceful co-existence. They confirm their mutual desire to make still greater efforts for the enrichment and deepening of their friendship and cooperation.

The two countries attach great importance to meetings at the Summit level that not only impart a new dynamism to bilateral relations but contribute to strengthening peace and international cooperation. The two sides express their readiness to continue this bilateral dialogue also at other levels, in the economic, social, cultural and scientific fields. The two sides recognise the positive results of the bilateral agreements already existing between them.

The two sides express their satisfaction over the mutually beneficial growth of bilateral, commercial and economic relations and, in this context, recognise the fruitful contribution of the Indo-Bulgarian Joint Commission. The two sides express their resolve to further expand this cooperation corresponding to all possibilities offered by the economic, scientific and technological potentials of the two countries on the basis of planning, long-term stability, diversification and balanced growth. The two sides emphasise the need for efficient measures in order to develop new and more modern forms of industrial cooperation, including in third markets. They agree that the forthcoming sixth session of the Indo-Bulgarian Joint Commission should closely examine the possibility of increasing the range and volume of commercial and economic coope-

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ration on the basis of these principles, and delineate concrete projects of cooperation, especially in sectors where the two sides possess technical and industrial capability. They are convinced that the Memorandum, signed during the visit of the Bulgarian Government delegation to India in July, 1980, will contribute substantially to the achievement of these objectives.

The Republic of India and the People's Republic of Bulgaria attach great importance to scientific and technical cooperation and are determined to develop this further, including through direct contact between specialised institutes and organisations of the two countries with a view to facilitating joint research in mutually agreed fields. They express their readiness to promote two-way transfer of technology.

The two sides regard with satisfaction the high level of cultural exchange already achieved and its contribution to fostering better knowledge and understanding between the two peoples. India and Bulgaria shall work further for the strengthening and deepening of cultural ties as an important element of their bilateral relations.

The Republic of India and the People's Republic of Bulgaria are deeply convinced that the preservation and consolidation of peace in the world and the prevention of another world war are the most important and imperative tasks of our time. They will continue to do everything in their power to preserve and consolidate peace, which is a supreme value for all peoples on earth and a decisive pre-requisite for progress in every sphere of human activity.

The Republic of India and the People's Republic of Bulgaria share a profound concern over the deterioration of the international situation, a qualitative jump in the nuclear arms race, involving the development of new weapons of mass destruction, including neutron weapons and the continual increase of international tension.

The two sides deplore policies responsible for the crumbling of detente. They reaffirm their commitment to the preservation and development of detente and to making it universal.

The two sides deeply believe that the danger hanging over mankind can be overcome. This can be done through the joint efforts of everybody to whom the cause of peace is dear. In the present day more than ever before, there is, no alternative to dialogue and detente. They express their abiding faith in the policy of attempting to solve problems through serious, constructive and frank negotiations without resorting to the use or threat of force and on the basis of the principles of equality, recognition of territorial integrity, inviolability of borders sovereignty and the right of peoples to peaceful development free from

outside interference.

At the present time it is imperative to strive to promote the relaxation of tensions, the cessation of the arms-race, first of all the nuclear arms-race, the cessation of the production of new types of weapons of mass destruction, the reduction and eventual elimination of nuclear weapons' stockpiles and general and complete disarmament, under effective international control. It is essential that the dissipation of the material and spiritual energies of mankind, which is having a detrimental effect on the socio-economic development of countries, should be stopped.

The two sides support the efforts of the UNO for securing peace and security in the world and the development of cooperation among states, in accordance with the principles of the UN Charter and declare that they will spare no efforts for the success of the second special session of the UN General Assembly on DAS disarmament to be held in 1982.

The two sides declare that economic justice for the developing countries is a major international problem and express themselves in favour of making efforts towards implementation of the new international development strategy for the third development decade, adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations. They feel that this would be a major step towards the restructuring of international economic relations on a just and democratic basis.

The Republic of India and the People's Republic of Bulgaria firmly support the
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right of all peoples to dispose of their natural resources in the manner they deem appropriate and firmly oppose all exploitation, discrimination and any other inequitable features in international trade. They are convinced of the necessity of preserving peace and consolidating the process of detente in Europe and fully implementing the principles enshrined in the final Act of the Helsinki Conference. The two sides express their hope that the Madrid meeting of the Representatives of the States participating in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe will conclude successfully and promote the process of detente and cooperation.

The two sides are firmly of the view that all efforts should be made to improve the climate of relations among the countries of South West, South East and South Asia and to foster peace and stability on the basis of the principles of peaceful co-existence. They are convinced that all problems, however, difficult, must be solved through the process of dialogue and by finding peaceful political solutions based on full respect for the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and non-aligned status of countries. They declare that the countries of

the area should not be involved in any military alliance, no military bases should be established on their territories and their sovereign right to their natural resources should be respected.

The two sides voice their concern over externally financed militarization that creates new fulcra of aggression. They express their firm opposition to any build-up of tension through the large scale induction of sophisticated weapons in excess of legitimate defence requirements. They call on countries to seek security through dialogue and cooperation rather than in a fresh wave of armaments that would cripple efforts to improve the lives of peoples in these countries.

The Republic of India and the People's Republic of Bulgaria note with concern the situation in West Asia and declare that a just, enduring and comprehensive settlement of the West Asia problem should provide for the full and unconditional withdrawal of Israel from all occupied Arab territories, the implementation of the legitimate rights of the Arab people of Palestine, including its inalienable right to establish its own independent State and the recognition of the right of States of West Asia to independent existence and development. Any comprehensive settlement should be with the full participation of the Palestinian Liberation Organisation - the only legitimate representative of the Arab people of Palestine.

The Republic of India and the People's Republic of Bulgaria reiterate their support to the heroic struggle of the people of Namibia led by South West African peoples Organisation (SWAPO), the only legitimate representative of the Namibian people, to liberate Namibia, and the solidarity with the Frontline States who have been defending the consolidation of their independence and territorial integrity. The two sides deplore all efforts to modify, dilute or subvert the United Nations plan for a peaceful settlement in Namibia as outlined in Security Council Resolution No. 435 (1978). They condemn the policy of racism, apartheid, minority rule followed by South Africa and its actions of armed aggression against the Peoples Republic of Angola and other independent African countries.

The two sides express their principled and unwavering support for the liberation struggle in Southern Africa and express themselves in favour of imposing international sanctions on the Republic of South Africa on the basis of the Resolution of the United Nations General Assembly.

The two sides note with concern the deteriorating situation in the Indian Ocean and support without reservation the early implementation of the United Nations Declaration of 1971 on the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace.

They call for the dismantling of all foreign military and naval

bases in the Indian Ocean and firmly oppose any attempts to build up foreign military presence in the area.

The two sides agree that there is an integral, intrinsic and indissoluble link between non-alignment and anti-colonialism.
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They further declare that the Non-aligned Movement is an important factor in contemporary international relations and exercises a positive influence on the situation in the world and in the direction of consolidating peace, lessening the danger of war, reducing confrontation and promoting understanding and cooperation among nations.

The Indian side highly appreciates the principles, consistent and constructive policy of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, which is aimed at achieving peace, detente and cooperation in Europe and the world.

The Bulgarian side estimates highly the peace-loving foreign policy of the Republic of India, its important role in consolidating the Non-alignment Movement in solving the problems facing the developing countries, achieving a genuine transformation of international economic relations as well as its consistent efforts and great contribution to the strengthening of peace and the advance of cooperation in Asia and throughout the world.

The two sides express their deep satisfaction with the results of the official friendly visit of the Prime Minister of the Republic of India, Mrs. Indira Gandhi to Bulgaria. They are convinced that the understanding reached at Sofia serves the cause of peace and international cooperation and enriches the traditional and friendly Bulgaria-Indian relations.

BULGARIA INDIA USA FINLAND SPAIN PERU ISRAEL NAMIBIA SOUTH AFRICA ANGOLA

Date : Nov 09, 1981

Volume No

1995

CANADA

Loan Agreements with Canada Signed

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Nov 21, 1981:

Three loan agreements for a total amount of C \$ 125 million (approximately Rs. 962 million) were signed here today by Shri R. N. Malhotra, Secretary (Economic Affairs) on behalf of the Government of India and Mr. Marcel Masse, President, Canadian International Development Agency on behalf of the Government of Canada.

The first agreement is for a loan of C \$ 50 million (Rs. 38.5 million) for the Agricultural Refinance and Development Corporation for agricultural refinancing activities, which include minor irrigation, animal husbandry, forestry programmes, fisheries, development of market yards etc. The emphasis would, however, be given to small farmers who would receive, as far as possible, 60 per cent of the project funds. During the last three years, Canada had extended similar assistance to ARDC.

The second agreement is for a line of credit of C \$ 45 million (Rs. 346 million) for the purchase of materials, equipment, machinery and services related to oil and gas exploration and development. This line of credit is in continuation of an earlier line of credit for C \$ 15 million extended in 1980.

The third agreement is for a line of credit of C \$ 30 million (Rs. 231 million) for financing the purchase of materials, equipment, machinery and services related to the power sector.

The above loans are free of interest and service charges and are repayable over a period of 50 years, inclusive of a grace period of 10 years. With the signing of these agreements, the total amount of aid authorised so far by Canada during 1981-82 would be C \$ 145 million (approximately Rs. 1116 million).

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NADA INDIA LATVIA USA

Date : Nov 21, 1981

Volume No

1995

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Indo-Czechoslovakia Trade Protocol for 1982 Signed

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Nov 25, 1981:

The Trade Protocol for the year 1982 between India and Czechoslovakia in terms of the provisions of Trade and Payments Agreement of December 1979 was signed, here today. The Protocol was signed by Shri S. K. Sarkar, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Commerce on behalf of India and by Mr. J. Garcar, Director General, Ministry of Foreign Trade of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic on behalf of Czechoslovakia.

The Trade Protocol for the calendar year 1982 envisages a trade turnover of around Rs. 340 crores bothways, which - represents an increase of about 40% over the provisions of the Trade Protocol for 1981. India's exports to Czechoslovakia are likely to go up from Rs. 125 crores in the current year's Trade Protocol to Rs. 180 crores in next year's Protocol.

EXPANSION

During the trade talks, both sides recognised that there was scope for considerable expansion in Indo-Czechoslovak trade in terms of volume, variety and value. For instance, the value of total imports from India to Czechoslovakia was hardly 2170 of the value of items imported by that country from other developed countries of the world. It was agreed that more earnest efforts would be made to actually achieve the targets provided in the Trade Protocol for 1982.

It was decided that the export performance by either country shall be reviewed on quarterly basis at meetings between the Ministry of Foreign Trade of the country and the Trade Representation of the other partner stationed in that capital. Unresolved issues would be taken up for discussions between the two Governments.

Buy - BACK ARRANGEMENTS

The trade turnover could also be increased by entering into buy-back arrangements from manufacturing projects set up in one country with the assistance of the other. For instance, there was scope for export of coke oven batteries, heavy duty transformers and electric motors etc. manufactured by HEC and BHEL. It was decided to discuss in greater detail specifics of collaboration in third country projects, including joint bidding to improve the competitiveness of the offer in respect of global tenders.

Mr. Garcar, Leader of the Czechoslovak delegation promised due assistance to improve the actual exports from India but suggested that it would require a more sustained sales promotion campaign by the Indian exporters. It was suggested by the Indian side that more faithful adherence to contract terms, after sales service and better sales promotion activities like participation in trade fairs etc. might be possible if the purchasing organisations of Czechoslovakia were advised to induce their local agents to procure supplies from reputed manufacturers/export houses or

trading concerns in India.

IMPORTANT PARTNERS

Czechoslovakia is an important trading partner of India from amongst the East European countries. In terms of volume of trade, it ranks third after USSR and Poland. India had trade relations with Czechoslovakia long before independence but the first formal Trade Agreement between the two countries was signed in 1960, and the trade turnover in 1961 almost doubled as compared to that in 1960. The first five year Trade and Payments Agreement, providing for bilateral, balanced trade in non-convertible Indian rupees, was signed in 1963 and was subsequently renewed in 1968 and 1974. The present Trade and Payments Agreement
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which was signed in December, 1979, and became operative from January 1, 1980, is Valid upto December 31, 1984, allowing the then existing trading system to continue.

Since the signing of the first Trade Agreement, the volume of Indo-Czechoslovakia trade has grown steadily. It increased Rs. 47 crores in 1963 to Rs. 66 crores in 1973 and touched a level of Rs. 79 crores in 1979 and is estimated to have reached the level of Rs. 107 crores in 1980. (One crore equals 10 million)

India's main items of import from Czechoslovakia are steel and steel products, newsprint, seamless pipes, tubes and castings, machine tools, ball, roller and taper bearings, diesel generating sets, organic and inorganic chemicals, hops, textile machinery, shoe-making, tanning and leather-making machinery, components, spares, tyres and tubes for tractors, capital goods and components for Czechoslovak assisted projects.

The commodities being exported by India to Czechoslovakia are predominantly traditional, like de-oiled cakes, coffee, pepper, cotton yarn, iron ore, jute manufactures, tanned and semi-tanned hides and skins, mica, manganese ore, castor oil and shellac. A beginning has been made with the export of non-traditional items like finished leather, shoe-uppers, woollen synthetic fabrics, readymade garments, machine tools, hand tools and other engineering goods.

RWAY SLOVAKIA INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC USA RUSSIA POLAND

Date : Nov 25, 1981

Volume No

1995

External Affairs Minister P. V. Narasimha Rao's Statement in Parliament on Reported Pak offer of No War Pact

The Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, made the following statement in both Houses of Parliament on Nov 25, 1981 on the reported offer of a no war pact by Pakistan:

The House will recall that the late Prime Minister Nehru had proposed to Prime Minister Liaqat Ali Khan of Pakistan on December 22, 1949, that the two governments sign a joint non-war declaration. The basis of this was to have been: "The Government of India and the Government of Pakistan, being desirous of promoting friendship and goodwill between their peoples who have many common ties, hereby declare that they condemn resort to war for the settlement of any existing or future disputes between them."

This offer was thereafter repeated on numerous occasions by Prime Minister Nehru, Lal Bahadur Shastri (in 1965), Smt. Indira Gandhi (in 1968), and Shri Morarji Desai (in 1977). When the Foreign Secretary visited Pakistan in February, 1980, he had renewed the offer to sign a no-war pact with Pakistan so that no apprehensions remain in Pakistan about any threat from India.

PAK NEGATIVE RESPONSE

Our repeated offers in this behalf have invariably and all along drawn a negative response from Pakistan.

Over the years, Pakistan's basic position in this matter remained unchanged. In June 1963, Mr. Bhutto declared "Let India arrive at an equitable and honourable settlement with Pakistan over Kashmir, we can then have not one but a thousand no-war pacts.... While the Kashmir dispute exists, it is inconceivable that we should accept India's offer of a no-war pact." President <pg-308>

Ayub, rejecting Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's offer of a no-war pact called first for a settlement of the Kashmir issue.

Replying to Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's suggestion to sign a no-war pact, President Yahya Khan stated. "It is our sincere conviction that amity and friendship will continue to elude India and Pakistan if our two Governments run after the shadow that the peripheral issues are and evade the reality that our two outstanding disputes regarding Jammu & Kashmir and the Ganges waters represent. . . ." President Zia ul-Haq, in an interview to an Indian journalist stated quite clearly: "No war pacts, non-aggression pacts were not worth the paper on which they were written. History tells us that a number of no-war pacts, non-

aggression pacts and the peace treaties have proved good for nothing."

SIMLA AGREEMENT A NO WAR PACT

Ever since the Simla Agreement of 1972 Pakistan has stated on a number of occasions that the Simla Agreement itself is a kind of no-war pact and, therefore, there is no further need for thinking of any such pact. Foreign Minister Agha Shahi informed our Foreign Secretary in February 1980 that it was not possible for them, due to political reasons, to consider a no-war pact, as in their opinion, the Simla Agreement itself was virtually a no-war pact.

U.S. - PAK ARMS DEAL

The Official Spokesman of the Pakistan Government issued, on September 15, 1981 a long statement announcing the formal acceptance by Pakistan of the package proposal for supply and sale of U.S. arms to Pakistan. The concluding portion of this statement was a paragraph suggesting Pakistan's readiness "to enter into immediate consultations with India for the purpose of exchanging mutual guarantees of non-aggression and non-use of force in the spirit of the Simla agreement. "The Pakistan newspapers of September 16 reported the principal thrust of this statement by using headlines like "Positive Turn in Dialogue with USA". This was the context in which Pakistan then made this suggestion. The timing too was significant, namely the U.S. Congressional hearings on the U.S.- Pak arms deal.

Copies of the Pakistan Official Spokesman's statement, referred to above, were given to our Ambassador in Islamabad and by the Pakistan Ambassador in New Delhi to our Foreign Secretary. More than two months later on 22nd November 1981 to be exact, the Pakistan Government have confirmed their "offer" in official notes communicated to us in Delhi and Islamabad.

PAK PROPAGANDA

Thus it would be seen that the mention of this subject was contained cryptically in a public statement released to the media on an entirely different subject, ironically enough, justifying the acquisition of arms, which are more likely to regenerate confrontation and to promote arms race in the sub-continent. The propaganda offensive which followed contained baseless false and absurd charges against India on a very wide variety of subjects. It was obviously difficult to take this as a basis for a proper response from the Government of India. We did not, however, say anything which could be construed as negative. Meanwhile, the Foreign Minister of Pakistan, Mr. Agha Shahi, speaking to pressmen in New York on September 21, as reported by the Associated Press of Pakistan from the UN Headquarters, is said to have "Categorically denied that Pakistan's offer was in

contradiction of its 1951 position that a no-war pact should follow the resolution of the Kashmir dispute".

While the substance of Pakistan's "offer" in all communications, to date, remains exactly the same, Government of India considers it necessary to share its views with Parliament. Hence, Mr. Speaker/Mr. Chairman, this statement.

In this connection, I could do no better than to restate our well known position. As I said during my visit to Pakistan in June, it is in India's interest to see a stable and prosperous Pakistan. I believe that this sentiment is reciprocated by the People of Pakistan'. We are committed to the norma-
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lisation of relations with Pakistan as laid down in Simla Agreement.

That means that we settle all our problems by direct bilateral discussions without involving third parties. It was on the same basis that we originally offered the no-war pact. We stand by it, as such, with no exceptions, on conditions, and no variations. Our attitude will thus be positive on the basis that Pakistan's "offer" constitutes an acceptance for the first time, of India's offer of a no-war pact which has stood intact since 1949, and as further amplification of the Simla Agreement.

A PAKISTAN INDIA

Date : Nov 25, 1981

Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Official Spokesman's Statement on The Fahd Plan

Following is the text of statement made by Shri J.N. Dixit, Joint Secretary (XP), on Nov 20, 1981 in response to queries by Pressmen regarding the Fahd Plan:

The Fahd Plan has been welcomed by us as a declaration of the basic principles of peace in West Asia. The Saudi peace initiative enunciated by Crown Prince Fahd in his statements elaborating the 8-point peace plan has attracted world attention and is becoming an instrument of a new hope in the region.

The Saudi initiative has rightly included the recognition of the Palestinian issue as one of the important elements of any comprehensive and durable West Asian settlement. As clarified by Crown Prince Fahd himself to the Saudi press agency later, the plan stressed the need for recognition of the PLO as '..... a reality' and as '..... the lone legitimate representative of the Palestinian people'. Without PLO's participation no Palestinian State can be set up.

The Saudi initiative is in line with India's general position, consistently stated in various national and international forums. India therefore welcomes the Fahd Plan, as already stated by Foreign Minister.

A INDIA

Date : Nov 20, 1981

Volume No

1995

INDIA IN UNITED NATIONS ORGANISATION

Foreign Secretary R. D. Sathe's Statement in the United Nationson Afghanistan

Following is the full text of statement made on Nov 17, 1981 in the United Nations General Assembly by the Foreign Secretary, Shri R. D. Sathe, on the situation in Afghanistan:

Few issues in recent years have given rise to as much public recrimination and divisive debate in the United Nations as that generated by the situation in and around Afghanistan. Yet, nowhere has the hiatus between ritualistic declarations and constructive action been more apparent than over this question. Successive efforts at defusing the situation there have been frustrated by the continued adoption of unrealistic attitudes, inflexible positions and legalistic disputations. Like some Medieval Passion Play, we witness in the General Assembly once again arcane exercises in didactic formulations and criss-crossing allegations with little hope of any outcome that can command all-round acceptability.
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In the meantime, the reality of the situation in South West Asia has however been made grimmer and more foreboding. With respect to Afghanistan, it is now distressingly evident that though this question has been at the forefront of international attention, intervention and interference, consistently but unconvincingly

denied in the past in the internal affairs of Afghanistan have not ceased. The withdrawal of foreign troops remains yet to be accomplished and other outside powers are using the situation to draw the nations of the region into larger strategic arrangements which could call seriously into question the commitment of these nations to the policy of Non-alignment. These outside powers have become increasingly enmeshed in the affairs of the region, bringing into play their complex scenarios of diplomatic stratagems and political pressures all of which only serve to aggravate tension and instability over a wider area and engulf more and more countries of the Indian Ocean littoral.

INDIA'S CONCERN

These developments have caused deep concern and anxiety to India. We are particularly disturbed that the developments in Afghanistan have had the effect of reversing of trend of events in the sub-continent which had so far given us cause for a degree of optimism. The nations of the sub-continent had over the past few years begun to experience a period of relative relief from a climate of distrust and hostility and were embarking upon equitable relationships for our common benefit and a developing faith in bilateral negotiations as a means of settling outstanding problems. The fact that all the countries of the region had become members of the Non-aligned Movement had given us reason to hope that the entire area would be free from the competitive attentions of outside powers and that the people of these countries insulated from the chilling winds of the cold war could engage in the task of national reconstruction and socioeconomic development without external interference or tutelage. It was our hope that the existence of a conflict free area, such as we had hoped ours would be, would have contributed to an ever widening atmosphere of peace in the world.

If this trend was interrupted by the cycle of events in Afghanistan, the normalisation of relations in the region was rendered more difficult by the introduction of factors and issues not indigenous or germane to the immediate problems of the region. While the problems posed by the situation within Afghanistan were themselves causing concern, the adoption of frontline postures and the induction of sophisticated arms could only prove detrimental to any confidence building between states or to the evolution of stability through mutual accommodation and cooperation among the states of the region- Suspicions generated by the harbouring and encouragement of dissident elements and the consequent build-up of tensions could only heighten the risk of a great power confrontation and its evil consequences leading to the attrition of the political and economic resources of the countries concerned. Further such a situation would serve as a standing temptation to those who wish to create further instability in the area. Mr. President, India has always had close and friendly relations with the government and people of Afghanistan. We have been deeply concerned and vitally interested

in the security, independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of this friendly non-aligned neighbour and have continued our traditional ties of fruitful and productive cooperation despite the vicissitudes of history on both sides. Our concern with present developments affecting both Afghanistan and the region derives from the fact that our own security and national interests are also vitally affected by developments that impinge on the security of all our neighbours in the sub-continent.

DEFUSING TENSION

The Foreign Minister of India said in the course of the General Debate in this very chamber less than two months ago and I quote:

"India has consistently expressed her disapproval of all kinds of outside intervention and interference in any country. We have unequivocally opposed the presence of foreign troops in any country and all countries. For us this including Afghanistan, whereas presum-

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ably to some other countries, this should apply only to Afghanistan."

Throughout our own consultations with a large number of countries on this question we have consistently stressed the need to prevent the escalation of tension in South West Asia and to take every action to defuse the situation and to set the stage for the evolution of a political solution based on a dialogue between the parties most involved and whose cooperation is most essential to prevent the situation from escalating. Such an approach, we feel, should look towards an eventual settlement taking into account all factors relevant to the present situation rather than apportion blame for the past. Above all the contours of such a political solution should be based on certain commonly acceptable elements of which the most important are the complete cessation of all interference or intervention in the internal affairs of states, opposition to the presence of foreign troops in any country and the furnishing of reliable and complete guarantees against all forms of interference.

These elements are contained in formulations acceptable to all Non-aligned countries in paragraph 82 and 83 of the New Delhi Declaration adopted in February this year by the Foreign Ministers of Non-aligned countries, It was also at the New Delhi meeting that the Secretary General designated his personal representative to engage in efforts aimed at facilitating negotiations among the parties concerned so as to achieve a political solution.

RECOGNISING REALITIES OF THE SITUATION

It was our hope, Mr. President, that in the aftermath of the New Delhi Conference, the parties concerned would take steps to unfreeze the situation and pave the way for substantive negotiations. While there has been a growing appreciation of the need for a political solution, it is equally clear that such a solution can only emerge out of an atmosphere of trust and confidence based on the realities of the situation and after a careful unravelling of the global, regional and national aspects of the situation and their inter-relationships. In this connection we take note of the August 24th proposals of the Afghan Government as yet another step in the direction of finding a solution to the problem. To date however, we note with regret that there has not been any meaningful development which could give us reason to expect an early commencement of any substantive negotiations.

We believe, Mr. President, that neither the debates in the United Nations nor the resolutions adopted by it so far have borne any meaningful relationship to the realities of the situation obtaining in the region. While the Secretary General has admittedly made some earnest and constructive efforts to remove the hurdles to enable a dialogue between the concerned countries. These efforts have, for some time now, been confronted with contrived and seemingly inseparable technicalities. In the meantime the people of Afghanistan continue to suffer the effects of an unstable situation. We feel that the adoption of yet another resolution unacceptable to some of the countries directly involved would only be counter productive. Our participation in the present debate is only meant to urge restraint on the part of those directly involved as well as outside powers to avoid a further deterioration of the situation or its exploitation for ulterior ends. We sincerely hope that the Secretary General's efforts will be successful in removing the procedural obstacles that have prevented a dialogue from commencing until now. The people of Afghanistan and indeed of our region have a great stake in the success of the Secretary General's efforts.

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DIA AFGHANISTAN USA PERU MALI CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Nov 17, 1981

Volume No

1995

MOROCCO

India and Morocco Sign Trade Agreement

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Nov 17, 1981:

India and Morocco today signed a trade agreement which, inter alia, provides for setting up of a Joint Committee consisting of representatives of both the countries to ensure formulation of measures to promote commercial relations. The Joint Committee will meet in Rabat and New Delhi alternatively.

The Agreement was signed by Shri Pranab Mukherjee, Union Minister of Commerce, Steel & Mines on behalf of India and by Mr. Azzeddine Guessons, Minister of Commerce and Industry and Tourism, on behalf of Morocco.

The Agreement also provides for a Favoured-Nation-Treatment by each other and all payments for the transactions under this Agreement will be made in freely-convertible currency. Both the countries have also agreed to allow the holding of permanent or temporary fairs, exhibitions and trade centres. This Agreement will be in force for a period of three years.

In the trade talks between the two Ministers, before the signing of the Agreement, Morocco sought Indian technical knowhow for setting up of an integrated steel plant of one million tonnes capacity. It was agreed that an Indian study team would shortly visit Morocco to make a feasibility study on the subject. The visiting dignitary also showed interest in the Indian machinery, particularly for the textile industry, sugar industry and leather industry. Shri Pranab Mukherjee informed him that in respect of consumer goods machinery, India was not only self-sufficient but also possessed a fairly good exportable capacity and assured that India would be able to meet Morocco's requirements in this respect. As regards leather industry, it was mooted that a joint venture could be established between the two countries to their mutual advantage. The Union Commerce Minister also offered Indian assistance for a geological survey and mapping facilities for finding out the potentials of mineral resources in Morocco. It was felt that the cooperation between the two countries in the above said sectors would also help in balancing the trade between the two countries which presently is largely in Morocco's favour.

At present, the volume of trade between India and Morocco is not much. While our imports from Morocco consist mainly of rock phosphate and some chemicals and related products, India's exports to Morocco comprise of fruits and vegetables, spices, jute goods, manufactures of metals, machinery and transport equipment, cinematographic films, sanitary and plumbing fixtures and fittings and some other items. In 1980, India had been able to achieve a breakthrough in the export of green tea to Morocco.

ROCCO INDIA UNITED KINGDOM USA RUSSIA

Date : Nov 17, 1981

Volume No

1995

MOROCCO

India, Morocco Sign Cooperation Agreement

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Nov 20, 1981:

India and Morocco are to work jointly in a spirit of friendship to encourage, facilitate and strengthen economic and technical cooperation in conformity with the principle of mutual benefit.

An agreement on Economic and Technical Cooperation between the two countries was signed here today by the External <pg-313>

Affairs Minister, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, on behalf of India and by His Excellency Mr. Azzeddine Guessous, Minister for Commerce, Industry and Tourism on behalf of Morocco.

The agreement will be valid for a period of five years and extended from year to year by tacit agreement.

The two countries will work for the, joint realisation of projects of technical and economic nature through cooperation among their concerned organisms, institutions or enterprises on the basis of special arrangements. .

These institutions and enterprises will collaborate in joint pre-investment surveys in social, mining, agricultural, tourist, industrial, energy, petrochemicals, fertilisers, chemicals, pharmaceuticals, transport and communications sector or any other branches of activity where such cooperation may be mutually beneficial.

The agreement provides for the organisation of training programmes for technical and professional personnel, and also for the deputation of experts and consultants for short and long-term assignments.

Both the countries have agreed that any technical documentation or information supplied by the bodies of one of the contracting parties to the other party will not be communicated to the third party without the written agreement of the concerned contracting

party.

The agreement also provides that the two contracting parties will hold bilateral consultation as and when necessary, for ensuring implementation of the present agreement. The consultations will be for the purpose of ensuring coordination, examining new programmes and to resolve any problem that may arise following implementation of the agreement.

ROCCO INDIA USA

Date : Nov 20, 1981

Volume No

1995

NEPAL

Minister of External Affairs P. V. Narasimha Rao's Speech at Banquet in His Honour by Nepal's Minister of Panchayat

Following is text of the speech made by the Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, at the banquet in his honour hosted by Nepal's Minister of Panchayat, Mr. Nav Rai Subedi, in Kathmandu, on Nov 27, 1981:

Your Excellency, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen: I am indeed most grateful to Your Excellency for providing me this opportunity to fulfil a longstanding desire to visit this land of incomparable beauty and hospitality. Both our countries, being the children of the Himalayas have, through the centuries, built up and constantly reinforced the strong bonds of friendship that bind us to each other. These bonds of friendship have been carefully nurtured by some of the loftiest thoughts which mankind is heir to, and which have emanated from the shadow of these very towering Himalayas, induced as they have been by their tranquillity, serenity and majesty. If your people have regarded India as the abode of the four "Dhams", our people, in turn have venerated your land as a "pavitra bhoomi" sanctified further by the location of one of the holiest of all shrines, that of Lord Pashupathinath. Through the long period of interaction between our two peoples, it has been established that India and Nepal are as close to each other as any two countries anywhere in the world could conceivably be. Consequently, we both have

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an in-built interest in the success of each other's efforts and endeavours.

In modern times, both India and Nepal have embarked, almost simultaneously, upon the most vital and challenging task of economic development, in which lies the key to the happiness of our peoples. In its contemporary dimension, it involves a shared perception of the mutuality of interests between the two countries. I believe that as this perception increases, our age-old ties will receive an even greater impetus and will acquire a further momentum of their own.

INTERDEPENDENCE

Today, one hears a great deal not only about the North-South Dialogue but, equally, about South-South Cooperation. Undoubtedly, on the international plane, this idea has only now begun to reach the takeoff stage, but I am proud to say that India and Nepal were already forging ahead- in this direction. Soon after our Independence, we realised that in both countries, political independence would be incomplete without economic independence. Consequently, within our own constraints, we have exerted and will continue to exert, our utmost in this direction. India has reached a stage of industrialisation and availability of scientific and technological manpower where it is possible for us to share our experience with our friends, particularly from the developing world. Therefore, I have no hesitation in assuring Your Excellency, and your Government of our continuing support for your objectives in this direction. We are conscious of your special difficulties as a fellow developing country and we hope that you will agree that we have consistently endeavoured to be of assistance in tackling the problem faced by your country, including those in the vital fields of trade and transit.

The concept of collective development, interdependence, and mutuality of interests, to which I have briefly alluded, is the key word in the economic lexicon of our times, and our part of the world simply cannot remain immune to these concepts. In the ultimate judgement of history, the yardstick chosen would be one which is most visibly directed towards achieving the welfare of our peoples.

ESCALATION OF TENSIONS

Your Excellency, it is evident that the success of our efforts, whether individually or collectively, can only be brought about in the context of harmony and amity, globally generally, and in our region in particular. But events seem to be moving away from peace, which we so eagerly and avidly desire. All around us, there is a rapid escalation of tensions, aimed at destroying the harmony and tranquillity of our area. Under no pretext therefore, most countries in our region become a catspaw in the game of the great powers. We all have to remain on guard against the forces of destabilisation and against elements, both internal and external, which tend to disrupt Indo-Nepal friendship. This is a

commitment so far as India is concerned. It was a well-known Hungarian nationalist, in the 19th century, who said that while one could not even build a small hut with it. So is the case with the edifice of friendship.

With these words, Your Excellency, I would like to thank you, your Government and the people of Nepal, for their very kind and generous welcome and hospitality and, while wishing your Government and people every success in the future, I would like to propose a toast to the health and happiness of Their Majesties, King Birendra and Queen Aishwarya, of His Excellency the Prime Minister, Mr. Surya Bahadur Thapa, His Excellency Mr. Nav Raj Subedi, Minister for Panchayat, Local Development and Health, to the health of all those present here and to the everlasting friendship between the peoples of India and Nepal.
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PAL USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC INDIA

Date : Nov 27, 1981

Volume No

1995

NEPAL

Minister of External Affairs, P. V. Narasimha Rao's Address to Nepal Council of World Affairs

Following is text of the address by the Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, to the Nepal Council of World Affairs at Kathmandu on Nov 29, 1981:

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen: I am very happy to have this opportunity to address such a distinguished gathering of intellectuals, academics and other eminent people, under the auspices of this prestigious Council.

India and Nepal are close neighbours, with centuries of harmonious cultural interaction and friendly, fraternal traditions. In modern times, both have made non-alignment the corner-stone of their foreign policy. Both are developing countries, with the happy background of mutually beneficial cooperation and a vast potential for further growth in the new context of interdependence and complementarity. We have common concerns and can work together with shared perceptions and in the quest for a better quality of life for our peoples. Today, I would like to share some thoughts with you, relevant in the context of the changing international situation since the end of

the Second World War, a period which has also coincided with the emergence of India as an independent sovereign State.

INDIA'S FOREIGN POLICY

The conceptual basis and a framework for India's foreign policy was determined by our great leader Jawaharlal Nehru. The root of our foreign policy are to be found in our traditions and historical experience. India, since time immemorial, advocated a loftiness of outlook which treats the whole world as one family. It is the same loftiness which, during our struggle for national independence, made us remind ourselves of the emerging international scene again and again. The Indian freedom movement, under Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru, never looked upon itself as isolated from the world, even though it could not, at that time, announce a foreign policy as a Government. Its awareness of international affairs had always been deep and comprehensive. Hardly would there be a meeting of the All India Congress Committee which did not discuss international affairs thoroughly and with keen interest. Thus, anti-colonialism, was, and remains, a fundamental tenet of India's foreign policy. India has been in the vanguard of this movement, as a matter of high principle because it involved the fundamental right of every people to live in freedom, dignity and honour. Just as India was one of the first countries to get colonised by the British, which thereafter led to establishment of colonies elsewhere, so also India was the first to get decolonised, providing the spark that lit the lamps of decolonisation all over the world.

NON-ALIGNMENT

Along with this, India stood for nonalignment. It was, in those days, a difficult decision to take because there were tremendous pressures on India to align with one bloc or the other. The nature of our nonalignment was grossly misunderstood; and quite frequently, misinterpreted and distorted intentionally. As Nehru and other leaders pointed out time and again, non-alignment is not passivity nor neutrality, nor fencesitting; it is a positive policy reflecting a country's determination to decide issues on their merits, rather than on the preferences of blocs. From this stand-point non-alignment is the very anti-thesis of passivity or neutralism. It is dynamic involvement in all important issues and, not unoften, controversies, in which the non-aligned are as much likely to find themselves in line with one camp as with other and even more often, supporting a view which probably annoys both blocs. This is indeed inherent in nonalignment. Yet this is what independence is all about. The impressive number of countries who have joined the Non-aligned Movement testifies to the continued validity and relevance of non-alignment today. Even the blocs have lost their original rigidity and are tending to take stands that are not quite

identical within themselves. We are proud that India made a significant contribution in launching this important movement. The movement has come to stay, whether those outside like it or not. In fact slowly but steadily, the blocs themselves have begun to see some virtue in non-alignment because, for one thing, one bloc would prefer a third country to be non-aligned rather than in the opposite bloc. Non-alignment is, therefore, another important dimension of India's foreign policy.

INTERDEPENDENCE

One of the outstanding features of the post-war period has been the tremendous revolution in the field of transport and communications, which has brought peoples and nations much closer to one another, in turn making them more interdependent. This unique and unprecedented situation has made the task of diplomacy more complex and challenging. The conventional wisdom about inter-State relations, developed over centuries, does not provide answers to the new problems thrown up after the Second World War. Countries can no longer remain ensconced in their cosy cocoons insensitive to happenings elsewhere in the world. The new situation calls for a new dynamism and a new sense of urgency.

Today, happily, most of the countries in the world have been decolonised. But unfortunately, many of the basic human problems, namely, hunger and poverty, the conflict between the 'haves' and the 'have-nots' have not been resolved. Political independence has not brought economic prosperity to many countries. It is in many ways still a Hobbesian world, where life for man is 'nasty, brutish and short'. The task before the international community today is to change this. If the comity of independent nations does not succeed in doing this, who but the nations themselves could be blamed? Since colonialism is no longer operating as before, it can no longer be blamed as before. The conclusion is irresistible that the independence of nations, by itself, has proved to be inadequate in some respects. It is without economic sinews, which oftentimes can and does debilitate political sinews as well. The long and arduous process of decolonisation is thus in danger of being brought to nought and political independence made an empty slogan, unless every citizen, from the lowest upwards, is able to feel, within the ambit of his own life, the difference between past slavery and present independence.

DEVELOPMENT AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

The twin issues of development and social justice are the most important international issues today. They are being extensively debated and discussed at the UN and other international fora. The recent Cancun meeting of 22 Heads of State and Government, clearly indicates the realisation of the crucial and fundamental importance of these issues. In fact, for the first time, their intrinsic relationship has been brought into sharp focus on the basis of inter-dependence between the developed and developing

countries. The absence of any direct conflict between the principal actors in the Second World War in the post war period has enabled those countries to prosper by leaps and bounds. But the losers have been the other weaker countries of the world. There may be peace in Europe, an uneasy peace, but there is no peace in the world at large. There may be prosperity in a handful of countries, but the condition of the peoples of the developing countries of Africa, Asia and Latin America continues to be miserable. In fact, the disparities in the world have increased, creating further tensions.

Most developing countries face an extremely difficult situation today. Some have been virtually devastated by the wars of proxy fought on their territory by the Big Powers. The economies of several are in the grip of transnational corporations. True, some oil-exporting developing countries have become rich because of the sharp rise in international oil prices. But, the worst affected are not the countries which consume the greatest amount of oil, but the oil-importing developing countries whose economies and balance of payments situation have been thrown completely out of gear. Even the prosperity of the oil-exporting developing countries is tied up with that of the West, because their trade and

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investment flows are mostly with the developed countries. They too suffer from import inflation and otherwise continued to be afflicted with all the difficulties of developing countries.

INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS

What is needed is a global restructuring of international economic relations. There is no agreement so far on how this can be done, but it should be clear that the methods which have brought prosperity to the West cannot be duplicated in the world today because circumstances are very different. One of the most difficult tasks is that of capital formation. When the developed countries were at the stage of development at which the developing countries are today, they amassed capital through easy and cheap access to the vital raw materials in their colonies and other countries of Asia and Africa, which also provided the markets for their industrial products. Today, most countries of the world are independent, all with a high degree of political awareness. There is, moreover, greater social consciousness, which dictates that growth should be combined with equity and justice. In this changed context, therefore, it cannot be said that free play of market forces is an answer to the global economic problems. The limitations of this approach have been recognised in several countries which had practised unlimited free trade. Many are having to revise their beliefs.

Similarly, in the international sphere as well, there has to be some mechanism to ensure conditions of equity and freedom from

exploitation. To find a mechanism or institution of this nature is the objective of the North-South dialogue.

SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION

It is equally important that the developing countries of the world must make their own efforts to develop cooperation amongst themselves in a spirit of collective self-reliance. The concept of self-reliance has been a determining feature in India's internal as well as external policies. We deem it extremely important that the developing countries should try to help one another. Some of us have raw materials and other resources; others have finance; and still others have technical manpower. We could achieve a lot if we could pool our resources and coordinate our policies. There is no longer any need, nor justification, in taking a purely Eurocentric view of the world. The developing world needs to develop its own philosophy and ethos of development, since it has to be informed by justice and equity and should not add to existing problems of dependence. In a word, the new philosophy has to be based on self-reliance. One claims that self-reliance means total self-sufficiency in everything. This no country can achieve, much less a developing country. Self-reliance is in fact a wider concept which seeks to harmonise ideals with realities in terms of parameters of policy and its implementation so as to eliminate dependence of the kind prevalent in the colonial past.

India has taken a number of steps to translate the concept of collective self-reliance into reality through its bilateral technical and economic cooperation arrangements with many other developing countries in Asia and Africa, including with Nepal. The results achieved so far have been very encouraging and it is our policy to continue and further expand this cooperation.

FRIENDSHIP WITH NEIGHBOURS

There is no better place to start than in relations with one's neighbours. One of the most important objectives we have, which is fundamental to India's foreign policy, is to live in peace and friendship with our neighbours. There are, in all seven nations in South Asia. All of them, more or less, share common traditions - you may call it the South Asian tradition, if you wish, but no label is really necessary. It does not need much imagination to see the common aspects, both positive and negative, of these countries. So are their problems and potentials. Yet each of the countries has its distinctive features which stand out and build up its own personality. It is upto each country, therefore, to make its own choice of the particular features that shall determine its destiny. The commonality of tradition is no shackle; it could, if the coun-

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tries so choose, provide a convenient foundation for the edifice

of our mutual relationships. After years of deliberation, we are seeking to do this through the process of regional cooperation. The results of the Colombo and Kathmandu meetings of the Foreign Secretaries of the countries of this region have been positive and encouraging. Our goal in regional cooperation has to be to undertake action which would improve the lot of the common people in our respective countries. We have wisely decided to set aside bilateral and contentious issues from the purview of regional cooperation and adhered to unanimity on decisions. I realise that this is not going to be easy. The regional dimension needs to be properly grasped and its ramifications understood by all the countries. We cannot and should not be over-ambitious in our new found enthusiasm, while we should also not be too hesitant in taking initiatives where they are due. I am sure that Nepal, as well as other countries of the region, agree with this approach. I am confident that ultimately regional cooperation will succeed in South Asia.

Coming to the bilateral aspect, the issues between the countries of South Asia are intrinsically manageable and I for one do not see any insurmountable hurdle to their resolution. Naturally, these issues will have to be tackled realistically, keeping in mind mutuality of interest. India's hand of friendship remains extended to all her neighbours. We would like to see all of them stable and prosperous because in that lies India's own prosperity and the well-being of its people. Likewise, it goes without saying that none of the countries of the region stands to gain anything by India being weakened or embarrassed in any way. In fact India's track record in the pursuit of causes like world peace, anti-colonialism, independence, non-aggression, non-interference and all-round goodwill, has been such that India could always be counted upon to support and strengthen these immanent values for the good of the whole of humanity. The attempt to weaken India, in any way, would therefore be entirely unwarranted, as well as sure to be counterproductive. This then, is the basic mutuality of interest that informs our policy, apart from long historical and cultural ties.

NEW DIMENSION TO COOPERATION

I would like to conclude by saying a few words on Indo-Nepal relations. Both countries instinctively understand that perpetual peace and friendship shall prevail between them. Every aspect of our lives points to this logic. If man could understand the wish of God, I may say that Lord Pashupathinath ordained it. The Buddha blessed it. As I said, we have close cultural ties. They must and will continue; indeed they need to be strengthened. In the economic field, our cooperation has been considerable and promises to expand further. We should now add a new dimension to this cooperation in the light of the fact that our peoples are now very conscious of their problems and needs. It is their satisfaction that counts, in the ultimate analysis. In my view, we should therefore make a conscious effort to identify areas of

cooperation which will bring direct and visible benefits to the people in both countries. This would, to some extent, need a fresh approach and a fresh orientation. Programmes of industrialisation imaginatively worked out, including joint ventures yielding tangible benefits to the poor, should receive high priority. Deriving benefits by both countries from available resources of water etc. is a matter which deserves serious consideration. There are bound to be small, and sometimes even big, hurdles. But I know of no problem between States which cannot be solved by goodwill, determination and a spirit of give and take. The same holds good for all on-going programmes of cooperation including trade and transit. There is much more scope in the fields of education, health etc. where lasting programme of cooperation could be worked out without much difficulty. As we go along, I have no doubt that many more areas will suggest themselves. Since Smt. Indira Gandhi's Government came into office in 1980, we have adhered to our well-known principles and policies to which I have just referred, in our dealings with Nepal, as with other neighbours. I do hope that there is awareness of this in Nepal as well. India will continue on this path, secure in the belief that our concerns will likewise receive recognition. We hope and wish to continue the high-level contacts between our Govern-
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ments, which began with His Majesty's visit to India last year. Within a few days, the President of the Republic of India is going to pay a State visit to Nepal. These contacts will certainly lead to closer understanding and friendship.

Mr. President, I wish the Government and peoples of Nepal all success in their national endeavour. India and Nepal have had a glorious past characterised by commonality. While keeping that intact, let us now work consciously towards an equally glorious future characterised by mutuality.

PAL USA INDIA SRI LANKA

Date : Nov 29, 1981

Volume No

1995

NORWAY

Agreement on Economic Cooperation With Norway

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on

Oct 31, 1981:

Consultations between India and Norway on economic cooperation concluded here today with the signing of an agreement under which Norway will provide to India assistance of the value of N. Kr. 110 million (Rs. 17.19 crores) during 1982.

The agreement was signed here today between Shri B. M. Oza, Joint Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs and Mr. H. Pedersen, Deputy Director General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Oslo on behalf of their respective Governments. The Norwegian delegation has had consultations with various Ministries of the Government of India on Indo-Norwegian economic cooperation.

A salient feature of economic cooperation between the two countries is the advance indication by Norway of availability of a minimum assistance of N. Kr. 110 million annually for the four-year period 1982-1985 for various projects and programmes assisted by them. The assistance received from Norway is totally by way of grant and would be utilised for implementing projects and programmes in the fields of fisheries, agriculture, health and family welfare, science and technology and women's and child development.

RWAY INDIA USA

Date : Oct 31, 1981

Volume No

1995

PAKISTAN

Indo-Pakistan Trade Relations Discussed

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Nov 16, 1981:

Ways and means of increasing and diversifying Indo-Pakistan commercial and economic relations, were discussed here today, when Mr. Mohd. Yousaf Zia, President, Pakistan Chamber of Commerce & Industry called on the Union Minister of <pg-320>

Commerce, Steel & Mines, Shri Pranab Mukherjee. A 22-member delegation led by Mr. Zia has been visiting India for one week at the invitation of FICCI.

The visit of the delegation coincided with the inauguration of the India International Trade Fair 1981, where Pakistan is participating in a big way. The Commerce Minister said that IITF'81 gave a comprehensive picture of India's economic development and technological capabilities and enquired whether Pakistan delegation could go round the Fair. Mr. Zia said that IITF'81 was very impressive and useful to the visiting Pakistan businessmen and industrialists. He pointed out that the delegation had also gone round several industrial undertakings around Delhi and had intensive discussions with their counterparts for identifying the areas of commercial cooperation.

While there is no Trade Agreement specifying any special modalities for trade between the two countries, Indo-Pakistan trade continues to be carried out under the existing export-import policies and prescribed procedures. It is hoped that the dialogue between the businessmen of the two countries like the present one will help in fostering a better understanding of each other's point of view as well as potential that exists for mutual trade.

India's main exports to Pakistan are iron ore, bidi leaves and engineering items and building materials. Our main imports from Pakistan are cotton, neptha and rock salt.

KISTAN USA INDIA UNITED KINGDOM CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Nov 16, 1981

Volume No

1995

PORTUGAL

External Affairs Minister P. V. Narasimha Rao's Speech at Dinner for Foreign Minister of Portugal

Following is text of the speech by the External Affairs Minister, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao at the dinner hosted in honour of H. E. Prof. Andre Goncalves Pereira, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Portugal, in New Delhi on Nov 04, 1981. Proposing the toast Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao said:

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you, Excellency, here this evening. Although this is your first visit to India, your association with our country is not new. I do hope that your visit to Goa has given you a glimpse of India from the historical as well as the present day perspectives.

India and Portugal are no strangers to each other. The first to discover the sea route to India, the Portuguese were the first European power to know our country. The historical connection between one of Europe's oldest countries and one of Asia's most ancient civilisations thus dates back to almost five centuries ago. Indeed, some of the figures most venerated in Portugal like Vasco de Gama and Camoes have acquired a place also in our own history and, in this way, history has provided the basis for our bilateral relations.

ABIDING RELATIONSHIP

In welcoming you, Excellency, I cannot but recall the past, if only because of the great potential it has to serve the present and the future. Five centuries of contact is an asset of rare value, which we can use today to build up between us an abiding relationship of mutual understanding, goodwill and friendship. So far, the frequency of high-level political visits between our two countries has not been high; your visit now

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will, I hope, mark a reversal of this trend. In this connection, I am happy to note that, at the invitation of our Parliament, a Portuguese Parliamentary delegation will be visiting India early next year.

The Cultural Agreement signed by our two countries in April, 1980 is another significant instrument in our hands to enrich our ties. This Agreement, of course, provides merely the outline; we have to give it substance by drawing up a programme of concrete cultural exchanges in various fields to be implemented in the next couple of years. I am particularly glad to note that you are accompanied by a distinguished delegation, which will be engaged in the next few days in drawing up a cultural exchange programme between our two countries. I wish these deliberations all success.

Excellency, the face of India has undergone a radical transformation since 1947, as has Portugal since 1974. Beyond the traditional image of India, a new Indian reality pulsating with change and modernity has emerged, just as in Portugal a new democratic reality has appeared that has greatly altered the country's internal and external equations. We in India have watched with great interest and sympathy the consolidation in recent years of Portuguese democracy.

COLD WAR

Excellency, we find too many disquieting trends in the world today. I cannot but share with you the great concern we feel over the rise of cold war tensions, the breakdown of detente, the frightening buildup of armaments and threatening postures of

confrontation. It is our hope that wiser counsels will prevail and we will learn to work together for peace and prosperity in the world.

ECONOMIC RELATIONS

The present state of the world economy calls for expanded cooperation on the basis of mutual benefit between the developing and the industrialised countries. The Cancun meeting has been a step towards this. In the further strengthening of economic relations between India and Portugal there is a lot that remains to be done. Steps are currently being taken to improve upon the existing state of affairs. In a few days from now, the first session of the Indo-Portuguese Joint Economic Committee has been scheduled in Lisbon. The Committee will no doubt review existing trade relations, closely examine all those areas in which trade can be expanded in the future, besides exploring the possibilities of joint ventures in third countries. A seminar on Indo-Portuguese trade, jointly organised by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry and the Lisbon Chamber of Commerce just prior to the meeting of the Joint Economic Committee, will give a valuable opportunity to entrepreneurs and exporters from both sides to size up the potentiality of each other's markets.

Your visit, Excellency, will, I am sure, strengthen the growing friendship and the bilateral interests shared between our two countries. I do hope that your visit, though brief, is an enjoyable one.

Friends, may I now request you all to join me in a toast to the health and happiness of His Excellency Prof. Andre Goncalves Pereira, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Portugal, and to increasing friendship and cooperation between our two countries and peoples.

RTUGAL INDIA USA

Date : Nov 04, 1981

Volume No

1995

PORTUGAL

First Indo-Portuguese Cultural Exchange Programme Signed

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on

Nov 06, 1981:

The first Indo-Portuguese Cultural Exchange Programme was signed here today. This follows the Cultural Agreement between India and Portugal signed last year. The programme will be valid for a period of two years beginning from January 1, 1982.

The Programme covers a wide spectrum of activities in the fields of Education, Science, Art, Culture, Mass-Media Sports
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and Public Health and seeks to explore areas of Cooperation which would involve institutions, organisations and individuals in both countries in the task of developing mutual understanding amongst the people of the two countries in respect of each other's cultural heritage, cooperation between social and scientific institutions with the two Governments acting as catalysts in the process.

The main focus of the programme of cooperation centres around establishment of bilateral contacts and exchanges between Departments, of Universities and Institutions of National importance and other institutions of higher learning in the two countries. The Programme also covers development of Portuguese Language in India and study of Sanskrit and Indology in Portugal. It visualises cooperation between the national archival organisations, in the two countries with a view to filling up their gaps through exchange of microfilm copies of records of interest to each other.

RTUGAL INDIA USA

Date : Nov 06, 1981

Volume No

1995

UGANDA

President N. Sanjiva Reddy's Speech at Banquet for President of Uganda

Following is text of the speech by President of India, Shri N. Sanjiva Reddy, at the banquet hosted in honour of Dr. A. Milton Obote, President of the Republic of Uganda, in New Delhi on Nov 23, 1981. Proposing the toast the President said:

It is a great privilege and pleasure having President and Madame Obote and the distinguished members of the Ugandan delegation

with us tonight. In welcoming you, Mr. President, we welcome a staunch and trusted friend. We have known you closely since the fifties. Your relentless fight for the independence of Uganda from colonial rule is universally known and admired. We commend your sense of justice and fairplay. The composite culture of India comprises different cultural, ethnic and religious strands. We, therefore, fully appreciate your efforts towards creating a non-racial and multi-ethnic society in Uganda which would be free of discrimination on grounds of race, religion and regional differences.

Your re-election to the high office of President of Uganda testifies to the political maturity and wisdom of the people of Uganda. Mr. President, we are convinced that democratic institutions, despite their fragility, are more suited for bringing about social and economic change in societies which face the massive task of economic development.

INDIA'S SUPPORT ASSURED

We are certain that under your wise leadership, Uganda will succeed in the gigantic task of economic rehabilitation and nation building. Uganda which was called the "Pearl of Africa" will shine and rise again. You can count on our support in your laudable endeavours. India since gaining independence has made tremendous progress in science, technology, industry and agriculture. During these years, while we were engaged in the onerous tasks of development, we met innumerable challenges and gained experience which we feel is relevant and can be useful to other developing countries. May I assure you that India is willing and ready to share this experience with Uganda.

Economic and social change and progress need a peaceful environment. Unfor-
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tunately, there has been a general increase of tensions in the world. In the Indian Ocean, the Super Powers have continued to increase their presence and their rivalry. In our own neighbourhood, efforts are afoot to induct highly sophisticated weapons systems which would inevitably increase tensions and a state of instability.

We call upon those who are encouraging such developments to heed this and stop the large-scale induction of arms into this region so that the people of this area can utilise their limited resources for economic progress.

INDIAN OCEAN

The Indian Ocean and our own region are not the only areas where tensions are continuing. In Southern Africa, the apartheid regime of South Africa continues with its policy of institutionalised

discrimination against its citizens on the basis of colour and race. India supports; the African National Congress and other liberation movements in their heroic and valiant fight against this inhuman and abhorrent system. They have our full sympathy and support in their efforts to dismantle apartheid. The racist South African regime continues to defy world opinion in its attempts to destabilise the neighbouring Frontline States.. We condemn these efforts on the part of South Africa and commend the governments and the peoples of the Frontline States for their steadfastness in resisting aggression. Namibia continues to be under the illegal occupation of South Africa. It seems that the Western Contact Group is consulting South Africa and others concerned.

LIBERATION STRUGGLE

There are reports that some progress is being made. I would like to take this opportunity to reiterate India's support and solidarity with the struggle led by the South West African People's Organisation. We hope that Security Council Resolution 435 will be fully implemented without modification or dilution so that we are able to welcome an independent Namibia to the comity of nations in 1982.

I do not wish to sound too pessimistic since there are hopeful signs on the horizon. The Commonwealth Heads of Government who met in Melbourne and the Cancun Meeting have given us hope that serious efforts are being made for at least the start of a new global round of negotiations.

Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, may I now request you to join me in drinking a toast to the health and happiness of His Excellency Dr. Apolo Milton Obote, President of Uganda and the distinguished members of the Ugandan delegation, to the progress and prosperity of the people of Uganda and to the ever-lasting friendship between our two peoples.

ANANDA INDIA USA SOUTH AFRICA NAMIBIA

Date : Nov 23, 1981

Volume No

1995

UGANDA

Text of Ugandan President's Speech

Replying to the toast Dr. A. Milton Obote said:

Mr. President, I thank you, I thank the Prime Minister and I thank the Government of India for inviting me to come once more to this great land. I have come to bring Uganda closer to India.

My visits to India have always been a source of great inspiration. This is a land of ancient civilisation which gave birth to two of the greatest men of this century.

I refer, Mr. President, to Mahatma Gandhi who, apart from providing the great spiritual strength to your great people, also contributed the strategy of non-violence which had such great impact on the freedom movements in India and throughout what we today term as the Third World.

Your first Prime Minister, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru who I had the great privilege of knowing and meeting on several occasions was not only the main architect of modern India but carved his name deep

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in history, for all time to come. He was one of the founders and the main inspiration behind the political concept which we today refer to as the Non-Aligned Movement, and to which most of us in the Third World belong.

INDIA'S ECONOMIC PROGRESS LAUDED

We have watched with considerable interest the great strides that your country, Mr. President, has made since independence in the social, political and economic sphere. What is of particular interest to Uganda is the way India has weaved the old with the new. India has achieved some great technological advances within a democratic framework and practices.

To me, Mr. President, the very fact that you have managed to feed, house and clothe some 700 million people is a major achievement of post-independence India. Your achievements in industry, agriculture and adherence to democratic principles-are a source of comfort and confidence and an example for us to emulate.

INDIA'S ROLE IN INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

India's political role in the international affairs and your unstinted support to the cause of freedom in Africa has been most positive. Mr. President, we live in perilous times. We live in a world divided by race and colour; marked conspicuously by the haves and have-nots. The gap between the rich and the poor keeps widening. While most of us in the Third World are struggling to provide the very basic necessities of life to our people, the developed countries are increasingly spending much of the global

resources in the production of more and greater weapons of destruction. This is all done, we are told, in the interest of maintaining world peace.

ARMS RACE

Mr. President, arguments of that nature are of little comfort to us. This is a waste of resources which would otherwise contribute enormously to raising the standard of living in the poorer areas of the world, but which are instead being used to jeopardise the security of us all. Peace cannot be achieved by maintaining a balance of terror. The escalation of the arms race worries us. History tells us that a man has never produced a weapon that he has not eventually used.

UGANDA'S DECADE OF THE, 70'S

I come from a country, Sir, which over the past decade has gone through a traumatic period. In October 1970 I had the most pleasant exchange of views with your great Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi in the city of Lusaka. We were both at the meeting of Non-Aligned Countries. The Prime Minister in her usual way, honoured Uganda by attending our Independence celebrations, together with other Heads of delegations. On that occasion of Uganda's eighth anniversary of Independence I had all the hopes that Uganda would progress in the decade of the 70's. That was not to be.

A lunatic regime seized power in January 1971 through the force of arms, and then ruled the country in a most brutal fashion with the power of the gun. They terrorised and killed our people by the thousands and ravaged and plundered the resources of the land. Uganda, one of the most beautiful countries in Africa, with enormous human and natural resources, was reduced to a virtual wasteland.

The spirit of freedom did not die. In my own case I joined the struggle because of the destruction of life and property. It took us over eight years. During that period, Mr. President allow me to say that I did hear that my colleague, the Prime Minister of India, went through a painful period. I am happy to see this great daughter of India back in office through the strength of the ballot.

I am also pleased to state, Mr. President, that Uganda's decade of shame is over and I come to your country as representative of a new Uganda. A Uganda full of hope and with goodwill to all nations of the world.

I thank the Government of India who, together with other Commonwealth coun-
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tries, participated in our electoral processes which restored democracy in Uganda.

Mr. President, my Government has inherited a devastated country and we have a formidable task of rehabilitation ahead of us. We have embarked on the job of reconstruction with full resolution. We shall mobilise all our human and material resources at home and with the assistance we receive from friends abroad we are hopeful to put Uganda back on the road to peace and prosperity in the shortest possible time.

Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, permit me to request you to join me in drinking a toast to the close and historical ties between Uganda and India, to the President, Prime Minister, Government and people of India, and for continued friendship and cooperation between our two nations. I give you the toast "JAI HIND".

ANDA INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC USA ZAMBIA

Date : Nov 23, 1981

Volume No

1995

UGANDA

India, Uganda Sign Co-operation Agreement

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Nov 24, 1981:

India and Uganda are to cooperate and assist each other in economic, scientific and technical fields for mutual benefit.

An agreement to this effect was signed here today by the Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao on behalf of India and H.E. Dr. A. Picho Owiny, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, on behalf of Uganda.

The agreement, will be valid for a period of five years and could be renewed with mutual consent.

The two countries will work in establishing industries, including small scale industries and also the setting up of joint ventures. They will cooperate with each other in developing infrastructure industries like communication and transport.

The agreement stipulates that the two countries cooperate with each other on developing tourism, trade, agriculture, fisheries, exploration and exploitation of crude oil, natural gas and other mineral resources.

The agreement provides for the training of personnel, grant of scholarships and for the deputation of experts on economic, scientific and technical fields including the supply of equipment.

AIR SERVICES

Both the countries have agreed to extend cooperation in scientific research particularly in the field of medicine. They will also explore the possibilities of operating air services between the two countries.

India has also agreed to give advance training in the country to Ugandan experts, scholars, scientists, and administrators.

ANDA INDIA USA

Date : Nov 24, 1981

Volume No

1995

UGANDA

India-Uganda Memorandum of Understanding in Agriculture

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Nov 24, 1981:

India and Uganda today signed a memorandum of understanding in the field of agriculture. It has been decided that a team of experts from Uganda will visit India to hold detailed discussion on subjects of interest to Uganda.

Uganda has sought Indian cooperation in:

1. Development and expansion of irrigated agriculture and assistance with the development of techniques and equipment therefor.

2. Development of agro-based industries with integrated nucleus estate

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supported by out-growers co-operative schemes etc.

3. Production and processing of the following:

i. Oil Seeds such as Soyabean, Groundnut, Sunflower, Sesame, Maize;

ii. Rice;

iii. Wheat and Barley; and

iv. Cashewnut.

4. Production, processing and packaging of horticultural crops such as tomatoes, cabbage, cauliflower, capsicum, eggplants, fruits, etc. specially for export.

5. Development of forestry and wood resources (including afforestation schemes), and promotion of industries based thereon.

6. Expansion of the Sugar industry including the establishment of minisugar plants and utilisation of bagasse and Molasses in such areas as production of pulp and power alcohol, etc.

7. Development of animal resource such as poultry, piggery, fishery etc. and establishment of dairy based products as well as, production of animal feeds.

8. Development of bio-gas especially for use in rural and farming community.

9. Provision of technical assistance and expertise, inter-alia, in the following areas of development and research:

i. Tea;

ii. Irrigation;

iii. Forestry; and

iv. Cooperatives.

The memorandum was signed by Shri R. V. Swaminathan, Minister of State for Agriculture and Rural Reconstruction on behalf of India and by Hon. Dr. A. Piche Owiny, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs on behalf of Uganda.

ANDA INDIA USA LATVIA

Date : Nov 24, 1981

Volume No

1995

UGANDA

Indo-Uganda Trade Agreement Signed

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Nov 24, 1981:

A new Trade Agreement between India and Uganda was signed here today by Shri Pranab Mukherjee, Union Minister for Commerce, Steel & Mines and Mr. J. M. Agiro-Omara, Uganda's Minister of Commerce, on behalf of their respective Governments. The two countries have agreed to grant each other most favoured nation treatment in matters of exports and imports. The Agreement shall remain in force for a period of two years.

A Joint Committee consisting of representatives of India and Uganda will be set up for the effective implementation of the Trade Agreement. The Committee will meet on mutually convenient dates alternately in the capitals of the two countries.

The Trade Agreement indicates several items of export interest from India to Uganda. These are industrial plants and machinery, transmission towers and polls, steel structurals, spices, pepper, cardamom, oil cakes, cotton, textiles and made-ups, consumer durables, chemicals and pharmaceuticals, electric and electronic items. The Agreement also lists several items of export interest from Uganda to India. These are timber and wood products, copper and copper alloys, cobalt, phosphates and super phosphates.

The Agreement indicates that bilateral trade will be conducted in freely convertible currency through normal banking channels. It has also been agreed that India and Uganda will allow the organisation of trade fairs and exhibitions in each other's country for the promotion of bilateral trade.

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ANDA INDIA UNITED KINGDOM USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Nov 24, 1981

Volume No

1995

UGANDA

India-Uganda Joint Communiqué

Following is the text of India-Uganda Joint Communiqué:

At the invitation of the President of India Shri Neelam Sanjiva Reddy, the President of the Republic of Uganda, His Excellency Dr. A. Milton Obote, paid a state visit to India from 23rd to 28th November, 1981. The visit took place in a warm, friendly and cordial atmosphere which renewed-and further strengthened the traditional friendly relations between India and Uganda.

During his stay in India, President Dr. A. Milton Obote visited Ludhiana, Ahmedabad, Baroda, Bombay and Pune to see various aspects of India's industrial, agricultural and scientific progress. President Obote also visited Agra and saw places of historic and cultural interest.

The President of the Republic of Uganda held wide-ranging discussions on international and regional issues with the Prime Minister of India, Smt. Indira Gandhi. The two leaders also reviewed the bilateral relations and discussed ways and means of further developing them. The talks were held in an atmosphere of utmost cordiality, mutual trust and understanding.

In these talks, the President of the Republic of Uganda was assisted by i) Dr. A. Picho Owiny, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs ii) Hon. Shafiq Arain, Minister without portfolio, Office of the President, iii) Hon. Chris Bwakasisi, Minister of State, Office of the President, iv) Hon. Dr. A. Tiberondwa, Minister of Industry, v) Hon. Yona Kanyomozi, Minister of Cooperatives and Marketing, vi) Hon. Aliro-Omara, Minister of Commerce, vii) Hon. Peter Otai, Minister of State Vice President's Office and Ministry of Defence, viii) Hon. Edward Rurangaranga, Minister of State, Office of the Prime Minister, ix) Ambassador Ephraim Kamuntu, Office of the President and H.E. Gurdial Singh, Uganda High Commissioner in New Delhi.

The Prime Minister of India was assisted by i) Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, Minister of External Affairs, ii) Shri N. D. Tewari, Minister of Industry, iii) Shri S. P. Mukherji, Secretary (Agriculture), iv) Shri Romesh Bhandari, Secretary (ER), Ministry of External Affairs, v) Shri R. N. Malhotra, Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, vi) Shri S. M Ghosh, Secretary, Department of Industrial Development vii) Shri J. R. Hiremath, Addl. Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs and Shri A. K. Das, High Commissioner of India to Uganda.

The President of Uganda and the Prime Minister of India expressed their grave concern at the sharp deterioration in the international situation characterised, inter-alia, by the erosion of detente, the escalation of the arms race, particularly the nuclear arms race, the increase in great power confrontation, resources of cold war attitudes and their adverse effects on the developing countries.

NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT

The President of the Republic of Uganda and the Prime Minister of India reaffirmed their faith in the policy of nonalignment and noted that the Non-aligned Movement represents the hopes and aspirations of the majority of mankind and has become an independent and positive force for world peace.

The two leaders expressed their confidence that by strict observance of the principles of Non-alignment, and the close unity of the member countries, the Movement would continue to contribute to the strengthening of international peace and security, the elimination of the last vestiges of colonialism and racism, and the building up of a just and equitable international order in the political, economic and other fields. Towards this end, both countries pledged to work together in accordance with the decisions taken at the Non-aligned Foreign Ministers' Conference held in New Delhi in February this year.

The President of the Republic of Uganda and the Prime Minister of India
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reviewed the situation in Southern Africa and agreed that confrontation, tension and violation of peace in Southern Africa could not be ended and peace and stability established until the liberation of Namibia from the illegal occupation of South Africa and the dismantling of the abhorrent system of apartheid and other forms of oppression of the black people of South Africa. They reaffirmed their total support for the Namibian people's fundamental right to peace and freedom and their solidarity with the struggle led by the South West African Peoples Organisation (SWAPO) which is the sole, legitimate and authentic representative of the Namibian people.

Both leaders condemned all attempts by South Africa to subvert the UN Plan for peaceful settlement in Namibia as contained in the Security Council Resolution 435, and deplored the actions of certain States which encouraged the Apartheid regime of South Africa to persist in its intransigence and arrogant defiance of world opinion. The two leaders expressed their strong condemnation of the acts of unprovoked armed aggression by the South African regime against the People's Republic of Angola and other Frontline States in an attempt to destabilise the region and called for an immediate and unconditional withdrawal of South

African troops from Angola and an end to all such violations.

The President of the Republic of Uganda expressed his appreciation of India's principled, consistent and unwavering support for the cause of the African liberation.

REGIONAL COOPERATION

The Prime Minister of India noted with appreciation the initiative taken by Uganda to promote regional cooperation in East Africa and with other neighbouring countries of Uganda and considered it a step in the right direction which would contribute to greater peace, stability and economic progress in the region.

The Prime Minister of India outlined the recent developments and initiatives taken by India in the normalisation of relations amongst the countries of the subcontinent. She reiterated India's resolve to create a climate of understanding and cooperation in the region. The President of Uganda appreciated the initiatives taken by India for the establishment of durable peace and promotion of economic cooperation among all the countries in the region. He expressed his deep admiration for the outstanding progress and all-round development made by India under the leadership of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.

Both sides expressed concern at the massive induction of sophisticated weapon systems in the Indian sub-continent and agreed that this could seriously upset the existing balance and precipitate an arms race which would adversely affect the process of confidence building and normalisation of relations amongst the countries of the region.

The two sides noted with grave concern the situation in South West Asia and agreed that it is a source of danger for the peace and stability of the region. In this context they reviewed the situation in Afghanistan with particular concern and called for an urgent political solution of the problem with full respect for the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and nonaligned status of Afghanistan and strict observance of the principles of non-intervention and non-interference.

The President of the Republic of Uganda and the Prime Minister of India expressed their grave concern over the increasing escalation of foreign military presence in the Indian Ocean area against the declared wishes of the littoral and hinterland states of the Indian Ocean. They called on these foreign powers to progressively reduce and finally eliminate their military presence from the Indian Ocean. The two sides reaffirmed the need to redouble effort for the speedy implementation of the Declaration on the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace as contained in the 1971 United Nations' General Assembly Resolution on the subject. The two sides recognised that although the prospects for

the early convening of the Indian Ocean Conference, scheduled to be held in Sri Lanka in 1981, have receded, it will be the endeavour of Uganda and India to bring about a satisfactory implementation of the 1971 UN
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Resolution with the cooperation of the other like-minded States.

The President of the Republic of Uganda and the Prime Minister of India noted with concern the situation in West Asia i.e. Middle East. They called for the immediate withdrawal by Israel from all Arab territories occupied by Israel since June 1967, including Jerusalem. Both leaders agreed that no solution to the problem could be found without the full participation of the PLO as an equal partner in any negotiations. They reiterated the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people to self-determination and to a free, independent and sovereign nation State of their own. The two leaders strongly condemned the repeated and continued attacks on southern Lebanon by Israel and held that these constitute a serious threat to peace and security in the region.

The President of the Republic of Uganda and the Prime Minister of India expressed deep distress at the continuation of the Iran-Iraq conflict and expressed the hope that these two countries would resolve their differences in accordance with the principles of the Non-aligned Movement and the UN Charter.

The two sides also reviewed the situation in South East Asia and reaffirmed their support for the principles of non-interference in the internal affairs of sovereign States and in the imperative need to refrain from the use of force in international relations. They agreed on the urgent need to de-escalate tension in this region and called for a comprehensive political solution which would ensure full respect for the sovereignty, independence and the territorial integrity of all States in the region.

INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC SITUATION REVIEWED

The President of the Republic of Uganda and the Prime Minister of India reviewed the international economic situation and noted with concern the widening gap between the developed and the developing countries. They stressed the urgent need to bring about structural changes in the present inequitable international economic system with a view to securing the early and effective establishment of a new International Economic Order. They also stressed the need for urgent measures to stabilise and improve commodity prices and effect a massive transfer of resources from the developed to the developing countries. They emphasised 'the need to counter the growing trend towards protectionism which makes it increasingly difficult for the developing countries to have access to the markets of the developed countries with their

manufactured or semi-manufactured goods, thus frustrating even their limited ability to earn the much needed exchange for their economic development.

While welcoming the consensus evolved at the UN on International Development Strategy for the Third Development Decade, the two leaders expressed the hope that global negotiations on international economic cooperation for development would be initiated at an early date. It was also their hope that discussions at the recent restricted summit meeting at Cancun will now provide the necessary political impetus to overcome the present deadlock.

The President of the Republic of Uganda and the Prime Minister of India expressed satisfaction that the following documents had been signed during the visit of the President of the Republic of Uganda:

- (i) India-Uganda Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation Agreement.
- (ii) India-Uganda Trade Agreement.
- (iii) India-Uganda Cultural Agreement.
- (iv) India-Uganda Memorandum of Understanding on Agriculture.

The two leaders agreed that the signing of these documents reflected not only the close and friendly relations between the two countries but also the principles contained in the Economic Declaration of the Sixth Nonaligned Summit that economic cooperation among non-aligned developing countries is an important part of the struggle for the establishment of a New International Economic Order.

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The President of the Republic of Uganda thanked the President of the Republic of India, and the Government and people of India for the warm hospitality extended to him and his delegation during their visit to India.

The President of the Republic of Uganda extended an invitation to the President of the Republic of India and the Prime Minister of India to visit Uganda. The invitations were accepted with pleasure.

ANDA INDIA USA UNITED KINGDOM ITALY NAMIBIA SOUTH AFRICA ANGOLA MALI PERU
AFGHANISTAN SRI LANKA ISRAEL LEBANON IRAN IRAQ RUSSIA

Date : Nov 24, 1981

Volume No

1995

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

US Development Assistance to India

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Nov 20, 1981:

India and the United States today signed an agreement for a loan of \$ 10 million (Rs. 92 million) for the Social Forestry Project of the Madhya Pradesh. This is in continuation of an earlier Agreement for the same project for which assistance was provided for an amount of US \$ 4 million.

The Agreement was signed by Shri Purshottam Lal, Director, in the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance and Mrs. Priscilla M. Boughton, Director, United States Agency for International Development, American Embassy.

A INDIA

Date : Nov 20, 1981

Volume No

1995

VENEZUELA

President N. Sanjiva Reddy's Banquet for Venezuelan President

Following is text of the speech by the President of India, Shri Neelam Sanjiva Reddy at the banquet hosted in honour of H.E. Luis Herrera Campins, President of the Republic of Venezuela, in New Delhi on Nov 03, 1981. Proposing the toast President Reddy said:

We are very happy to extend once again to Your Excellency and to your charming and gracious wife and to the distinguished members of your delegation a most cordial welcome to India.

Excellency, you are the first Venezuelan President to visit India

and, as such, the visit will become a landmark in the development of friendly relations between our two countries.

Although our two countries are separated by geography, India and Venezuela share a common interest in global peace and international cooperation. As countries engaged in the task of development of national economy and human resources, we are naturally conscious and convinced of the

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need to have a peaceful environment and, towards that end, have worked together closely both bilaterally and in world forums.

When we became independent, Excellency, we embarked on a national effort to build up a strong economic base to underpin our political independence. This, together with the democratic foundations of the country, necessitated a foreign policy which derived its strength from the philosophy of peaceful co-existence and nonalignment.

FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY

Both India and Venezuela have broken free from the colonial past and been through struggles which have rightly taken the pride of place in both our histories. Both the people of India and Venezuela cherish the value of democracy, freedom, sovereignty and the independence of peoples as well as of nations. We both have a tradition of struggle for attaining our rights. We in turn have drawn upon the teachings of Mahatma Gandhi which constantly remind us that it is necessary not only to give material meaning to independence but also to maintain a system of values. This has given us the strength to move forward through tempestuous times and overcome difficulties which on occasions have appeared formidable. Venezuela was equally fortunate in having Simon Bolivar, the great liberator and freedom fighter to inspire her with his ideals at the moment of birth. Indeed Bolivar is rightly regarded as a father figure in Venezuela and many other parts of the Latin American region. It must be our fervent desire that we remain true to the high ideals that such leaders set for US.

ARMS RACE

Excellency, the international situation is, confused and restless and in some regions even volatile and explosive. More recently developments specially in our region have given us cause for anxiety that the world peace and stability for which we have struggled so hard is being seriously undermined. We are becoming increasingly concerned that the international community is about to witness a new period when solutions to problems, might be sought more by the weight of arms than by force of logic and peaceful negotiations. Such a situation is more harmful for the developing countries which have a vital stake in peace and stability for their growth and economic well being. We must

preserve and strengthen our independence and wherever possible bring about a reduction in tensions.

India's determined effort has been directed to promote peace and stability in our region. Towards this end we have sought to improve and strengthen friendly relations with our neighbouring countries. Many of our efforts have been successful but we regret that new and complicating factors have been introduced into the region by the policies of some great powers. We have no monopoly of political tensions in our region alone. They exist elsewhere including in Latin America. Venezuela has shown great compassion in dealing with the problems facing the world and in strengthening and promoting peace and cooperation in her region. We note with appreciation the constructive contribution made by Venezuela in global and regional affairs.

ECONOMIC INTER-DEPENDENCE OF NATIONS

Over the centuries economic and political developments have led us to a situation where international economic relations are seen to be based on outdated principles. Rapid development of political independence among nations has not been matched by a corresponding evolution of economic independence. We are, of course, conscious that no country today, big or small, rich or poor can afford or hope to be totally autarchic economically. We recognise that interdependence among nations is as natural as interdependence in a community of civilised human beings. We learn to live together without sacrificing our individuality, identity or self-interest or at the cost of other people's identity, independence or self-interest. Consistent with our dignity we are not asking for aid or holding out our hand for charity. We only appeal to developed countries to display the political will to assist developing countries in their programmes for development in the knowledge that this is to the mutual benefit of both.

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We have extended our hands to seek the hand of friendship, the hand of cooperation and it is generally recognised that in helping developing countries, developed countries and economies have also helped themselves.

In this context, we would like to take note of the recent meeting of Heads of State/Government in Cancun. There was a general consensus on the need of revitalise world economy and accelerate the rate of development in developing countries. While we can by no means say that significant progress has been made at these discussions, we believe that a beginning can be said to have been made in the development of a general consensus for resolving many outstanding questions related to the international economic order. This consensus will provide the necessary political will for further development.

GROUP OF 77

As President for the last year of the Group of 77, Venezuela has made a signal contribution to the efforts made by developing countries to bring about a New International Economic Order and I would like to express appreciation for this role.

While we will continue to press our case for greater justice from the developed nations, we must also recognise that cooperation between developing countries needs to be amplified and extended so well outlined in the Caracas Programme of Action. In India we greatly appreciate the gesture of the Venezuelan Government in agreeing to our request for the supply of crude petroleum at a difficult time following the Iran-Iraq crisis. This is all the more appreciated because Venezuela had at that time announced a cutback in its production. Both our countries are trying to reach a stage of economic and industrial self-reliance. I am confident that there are many areas where India and Venezuela can benefit mutually by close cooperation in technical, scientific, economic and commercial matters. Whatever avenue is open to us must be explored and utilised.

We are confident that your visit will provide an opportunity or discussions on a wide range of subjects, both on international questions and on ways and means of strengthening bilateral relations, as well as to strengthen the existing bonds of friendship between our two countries. Between our two peoples, it is not only the material relationship that is important but 'the intellectual and spiritual as well.

I wish Your Excellency and the members of your delegation a very pleasant stay in India. I am afraid your visit is so short that it will not give you an opportunity to see the diversities of our country. Nevertheless, we hope that your visit will help you have an understanding not only of India's past history and glory but also of our present strategy of economic development for the betterment of our people and for contribution to international peace and stability.

NEZUELA INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC IRAN IRAQ

Date : Nov 03, 1981

Volume No

1995

VENEZUELA

Indo-Venezuelan Joint Communiqué

Following is the text of Indo-Venezuelan Joint Communiqué issued in New Delhi on Nov 05, 1981:

At the invitation of the President of India, Shri Neelam Sanjiva Reddy, the President of Venezuela, His Excellency Dr. Luis Herrera Campins and Madame Betty Urdaneta de Herrera paid an official visit to India from 3rd to 5th November 1981. His Excellency the President of Venezuela was accompanied by His Excellency the Minister of Foreign Relations, Dr. Jose Alberto Zambrano Velasco, His Excellency the Minister of Defence, General Bernardo Leal Puchi, His Excellency the Minister for Energy and Mines, Dr. Huhberto Calderon Berti, His Excellency the President of the Central Bank of Venezuela, Dr. Leopoldo Diaz Bruzual and other high officials.
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During their stay in Delhi they paid tribute to the memory of Mahatma Gandhi at Rajghat and also acquainted themselves with the cultural and historical traditions of Delhi. The distinguished visitors paid a brief visit to Agra.

His Excellency the President of Venezuela called on the President of India and received the rice President of India, Shri M. Hidayatullah.

The Prime Minister of India, Smt. Indira Gandhi called on the President of Venezuela, His Excellency Dr. Luis Herrera Campins and had wide-ranging discussions on important international questions of common interest. They also considered ways and means of strengthening bilateral relations between India and Venezuela.

Talks were also held at Ministerial level. The Indian delegation to these talks was led by the Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao and the Venezuelan delegation by the Minister of Foreign Relations, His Excellency Dr. Jose Alberto Zambrano Velasco.

The discussions which were marked by cordiality and friendship clearly brought out the similarity of views between the two countries linked together by the common bond of a democratic tradition. They showed a common interest in the maintenance and strengthening of peaceful international environment so that as developing countries they could dedicate their energies to the tasks of nation-building and socio-economic development of their peoples.

The two sides expressed concern at the deterioration in the international situation. They were against every form of interference in the internal affairs of other countries and came out in favour of the right of the peoples of every nation and

country to realise their aspirations, for peace, social and economic justice and full freedom and independence to shape their own destinies.

In this context they attached great importance to the principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations. They were convinced that faithful adherence to these principles by nations in regulating their relations with other nations would provide the best guarantee for the maintenance of world peace and strengthening international cooperation.

They were of the opinion that disputes between countries should be resolved through peaceful and direct negotiations without outside interference.

The two sides reaffirmed their full opposition to all forms of racial discrimination and more particularly to the practice of apartheid which offends human dignity and violates fundamental human rights.

The two sides took note of the continuing deterioration in the world economic situation due to the unjust relations existing between the developed and the developing countries. While they recognised the need to reaffirm the determination to strengthen the solidarity and the unity of purpose and action among the countries of the Group of 77 for closer cooperation among developing countries, at the same time, they affirmed that cooperation among developing countries does not absolve developed countries of their responsibilities within the framework of the North-South Dialogue.

The two sides recalled the contribution they had made to the deliberations of the Group of 77, took satisfaction in the positive results of the High Level Conference on Economic Cooperation among Developing Countries held in Venezuela in May 1981 and reiterated their firm determination to contribute actively to the early implementation of the Programme of Action of Caracas.

The two sides recognised that with the rapid advance in modern science, technology and communications the world has come closer together and that it is desirable for nations to work together in a spirit of inter-dependence which is inevitable between the developed and the developing countries.

They expressed their view that global negotiations should be a decisive landmark in international cooperation and agreed that the success of such negotiations would de-
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pend on the political will of the participating countries, particularly the developed countries.

The two sides took note of the growth in economic and commercial exchanges between the two countries over the last few years and recognised the immense possibilities for their further expansion.

They agreed to study the possibilities of setting up joint ventures of cooperation and development among enterprises of the two countries.

The two sides reviewed the excellent relations between Petroleos de Venezuela and Indian Oil Corporation particularly in the field of petroleum imports by the latter and agreed to discuss enhanced supplies in the very near future.

Reviewing with satisfaction the growing friendship between India and Venezuela, the two sides agreed that the conclusion of an Agricultural, Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation Agreement and also of a Cultural Agreement would contribute further to the strengthening of Indo-Venezuelan friendship. The Agreements would be discussed through diplomatic channels.

His Excellency the President of Venezuela expressed the deep appreciation felt by him and his wife as well as the members of his delegation for the warm and cordial reception accorded to them.

His Excellency the President of Venezuela extended an invitation to the President of India, Shri Neelam. Sanjiva Reddy and the Prime Minister of India, Smt. Indira Gandhi, to visit Venezuela. The invitations were accepted with pleasure.

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NEZUELA INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Nov 05, 1981

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YEMEN ZAMBIA

Date : Dec 01, 1981

Volume No

1995

AFGHANISTAN

India Offers to Help Afghanistan in Water Development

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on
Dec 14, 1981:

India has offered to assist Afghanistan in the development of her
water resources and allied fields. The offer was made when His
Excellency Dr. Raz Mohammed Pakteen, Minister of Water and Power,
Democratic Republic of Afghanistan called on Rao Birendra Singh,
Union Minister of Agriculture, Rural Reconstruction, Irrigation
and Civil Supplies and Shri Z. R. Ansari Minister of State for
Irrigation here this afternoon.

Matters of mutual interest were discussed specially with regard
to activities in the field of water resources development. Dr.
Pakteen, who had visited a number of projects in India during his
stay and also attended the 'International Symposium on Water
Conservation and Pollution Abatement' convened by Institution of
Engineers, India, Roorkee, evinced keen interest in the expertise

developed in this regard by India. He said that he was greatly impressed by the progress made by Indian in various fields and particularly the expertise in the design and construction of multi-purpose projects.

The Ministers assured Dr. Pakteen that India would be glad to assist Afghanistan in the development of her water resources and share India's experience in this field.

GHANISTAN INDIA LATVIA USA

Date : Dec 14, 1981

Volume No

1995

ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT

External Affairs Minister P. V. Narasimha Rao's Speech at Banquet for Foreign Minister of Egypt

Following is the text of the speech by the External Affairs Minister, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, at the banquet he hosted in honour of Dr. Boutros Ghali, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of the Arab Republic of Egypt, in New Delhi on Dec 19, 1981. Proposing the toast Shri Rao said:

It is my privilege to welcome amidst us our old friend Dr. Boutros Ghali, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of the Arab Republic of Egypt. We also extend a cordial welcome to the distinguished members of his delegation. We have had the pleasure of having Dr. Ghali with us last year, and he is, indeed, no stranger to India, having come here on other occasions as well in the past. Over the last two days, I have had occasion to exchange views with him on important bilateral and international issues. This visit, like the previous ones, has afford-

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ed us an opportunity to have meaningful discussions and to understand better each other's concerns and aspirations.

Excellency, Egypt is a land of ancient civilisation, antedating most other cultures in the world. India too can lay claim to one of the earth's oldest civilisations. We are proud of our respective heritages as also of the deep-rooted interaction between the two. Indo-Egyptian ties have a long history, dating back thousands of years in history. This historical association made us in mere recent times, co-founder members of the Non-aligned Movement. These factors have provided the foundation of

Indo-Egyptian relations, and generally helped the two countries maintain a cordial and friendly relationship, with its normal ups and downs.

ARAB CAUSE

What binds us together is the shared commitment of the two countries to promote peace in the world, to usher in a new international economic order, and to strengthen non-alignment. It is also part of India's foreign policy objectives to support, consistently and as a matter of principle, the Arab cause. We are convinced that a just and comprehensive peace in West Asia could emanate only from a settlement which ensures complete vacation of Israeli aggression and helps in undoing the injustice done to the Palestinian people. Restoration of their rights, including the establishment of an independent Palestinian State, must be an essential component of any settlement.

We also believe that the PLO, as the sole representative of the Palestinian people, must participate in any peace negotiations. We hope that a solution of the Middle East question on these lines will be found before long.

Excellency, West Asia is not the only focus of tension and conflict. All over the world, tensions seem to be on the increase. For us in India, it is a matter of particular concern that the frightening tendencies towards a renewed cold war should manifest themselves at our very doorstep. Attempts are being made by the great powers to exploit local conflicts for pursuit of their global designs and, in that process, smaller countries in the region are in danger of becoming pawns in a game which, far from subserving their own national interests, acts to their detriment. It should be our joint endeavour as peace loving countries and as members of the Non-aligned Movement, to keep our part of the world free from the tension which is inevitably consequent upon the strategic involvement of outside powers. The repercussions of such confrontation we can ill afford.

NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT

Friends, the world is conscious of the contribution made by the leaders and peoples of Egypt and India towards founding and developing the concept of non-alignment. It is a matter of satisfaction that the Non-aligned Movement has gained in strength and appeal over the years. But much more remains to be done and we owe it to ourselves and to posterity to devise effective ways and means to cope with the new challenges confronting our movement today. I am happy that the Conference of Foreign Ministers of Non-aligned Countries held in New Delhi earlier this year reaffirmed, in great measure, the solidarity of the movement.

Excellency, as fellow developing countries, both Egypt and India

stand to gain through expanded cooperation in economic, commercial, technical, cultural and other fields. I am confident that this mutually advantageous cooperation will be strengthened further in the years to come.

Friends, may I now request you all to join me in a toast: to His Excellency, Mr. Hosni Mubarak, President of the Arab Republic of Egypt, to our distinguished guest of tonight, His Excellency Dr. Boutros Ghali, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of Egypt, and to the friendship between our two peoples.
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YPT INDIA USA ISRAEL

Date : Dec 19, 1981

Volume No

1995

ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT

Text of Egyptian Foreign Minister's Speech

Replying to the toast, Dr. Boutros Ghali said:

It is a great privilege for me to be in India conveying the assurances of President Mohamed Hosni Mubarak's highest esteem and his most sincere wishes for your great country and great people. Our two countries represent ancient and great civilisations that have traditionally enjoyed cordial and fraternal ties.

NON-ALIGNMENT

The peoples of India and Egypt shared similar experiences and at various junctures of modern history, our destinies were closely related. The 20th century brought similar conditions for our two peoples. Mahatma Gandhi and Saad Kaghlul cooperated during the struggle for independence. Gamal Abdel Nasser and Jawaharlal Nehru embarked on a monumental task, namely the elaboration Of the concept and philosophy of non-alignment. Within a short span of time, our combined efforts transformed an embryonic gathering of few developing nations into a dynamic movement comprising over 90 states. A movement that offered its members a valid and viable alternative to superpower dominance and hegemony. History will recall that the non-aligned states democratised international relations and introduced a fair and promising era to all states regardless of creed, colour or stage of economic and social

development. Our movement pioneered a path and volunteered to strive for the achievements of social justice so that no country should continue to languish in conditions of abject poverty, hunger and backwardness. Our bilateral cooperation and our common contributions ensured that the non-aligned countries attain their present weight in world affairs.

Your Excellency, we are always keen to exchange views with the friendly Government of India. On this occasion I would like to assure that Egypt will continue the peace process started by the historical visit of the late President Sadat to Jerusalem in 1977 which will lead us to the comprehensive, just and durable peace and enable the Palestinian people to exercise their right to self determination and independence in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations.

We are convinced that strengthening and expanding the traditional and fraternal relations between India and Egypt will be mutually beneficial to both countries and to the world at large. We hope that efforts aimed at intensifying and diversifying our bilateral relations will steadily grow and flourish with the cooperation of the Government and people of India.

YPT INDIA USA

Date : Dec 19, 1981

Volume No

1995

AUSTRALIA

Indo-Australian Farm Project Memorandum of Understanding Signed

Following is text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Dec 07, 1981:

The Governments of India and Australia signed here today the Memorandum of Understanding concerning the Indo-Australian Fodder Seed Farm Project located at Hessarghatta in Karnataka.

The objectives of the Project are: to produce sufficient seeds of improved varieties of forage grasses, legumes and fodder crops <pg-339>

for further multiplication and testing by the Government and other organisations; to maintain reference plots of selected forage grasses, legumes and fodder crops for the supply of

nucleus seed for use as parent material by Government and other organisations; and training of State level officers in Fodder Seed Production Technology.

The Memorandum of Understanding was signed by- Shri B. M. Oza, Joint Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Government of India and Mr. G. N. Upton, High Commissioner of Australia on behalf of their respective Governments.

The total commitments of the Government of India and Government of Australia for this project will amount to Rs. 59 lakhs and A \$ 1,600,000 equivalent (approximately) to Rs. 160 lakhs, respectively spread over a period of four years.

STRALIA USA INDIA

Date : Dec 07, 1981

Volume No

1995

AUSTRALIA

Agreement on Australian Equipment for Hissar Cattle Breeding Project

Following is text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Dec 30, 1981:

Australia is to provide necessary equipment, advisers and training facilities for the Indo-Australian Cattle Breeding Project at Hissar (Haryana) under an agreement signed here today.

The Memorandum of Understanding was signed by Shri B. M. Oza, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Finance and Mr. G. N. Upton, High Commissioner of Australia.

India is committed to an expenditure of Rs. 130 lakhs whereas Australian contribution is set at A \$ 16,80,000 (equivalent to Rs. 168 lakhs) for this project over a period of three years from July 1980. Among the objectives of the project are the establishment of a 500 acre fodder seed production unit, development of frozen semen centre and production of high quality cross bred bulls.

STRALIA USA INDIA

Date : Dec 30, 1981

Volume No

1995

BANGLADESH

Indo-Bangladesh Memorandum of Understanding Signed

Following is text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Dec 09, 1981:

On 9th December, 1981, the Government of India and the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh concluded a memorandum of understanding on technical cooperation. Mr. M. Dubey, High Commissioner for India in Bangladesh and Mr. A. M. A. Muhith, Secretary, External Resources Division, Ministry of Finance, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh signed the memorandum on behalf of their respective governments.

The understanding is the first of its kind to be concluded between India and Bangladesh. Its primary objective is to facilitate and streamline the utilisation of technical assistance offered by India, to establish a mutually identified pipeline of viable projects, and to ensure that on-going

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programmes of technical cooperation are implemented satisfactorily through a process of government-to-government coordination, monitoring and review.

The need for the understanding was felt in the context of the offer made by the Government of India during the UNIDO sponsored solidarity meeting held in Dacca in December, 1980 to provide takas one crore for technical assistance projects in Bangladesh. Progress in the utilization of these funds is already underway. Projects for technical assistance in key development sectors in Bangladesh have been identified and agreed to by both governments. On India's side, executing agencies have been located and work has already begun.

The memorandum of understanding is recognised by both governments as the starting point of a dynamic two-way process of cooperation on the basis of mutual benefit to both countries. The coordinating agencies responsible for the implementation of the understanding are the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India and the External Resources Division, Ministry of Finance, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh.

NGLADESH INDIA

Date : Dec 09, 1981

Volume No

1995

EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY

EEC Grant Agreement

Following is text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Dec 25, 1981:

Out of the ECU 43 million grant (equivalent to Rs. 430 million) given by the European Economic Community (EEC) for the year 1981, an amount of ECU 36 million (Rs. 360 million) will be used for procurement of fertilisers by the MMTC and to meet the local cost of ARDC-IV and Himachal Pradesh Water Supply Scheme. ECU 7 million (Rs. 70 million) will be utilised for Flood Protection Schemes in Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

An agreement to this effect has been reached in the Annual Talks between India and European Economic Community held in Brussels from December 7-9, 1981.

The EEC has also been giving substantial assistance in the form of milk products to India for the Operational Flood II Scheme. India has been one of the largest beneficiaries of the EEC assistance to the non-associate countries.

DIA USA BELGIUM

Date : Dec 25, 1981

Volume No

1995

FRANCE

Indo-French Cooperation

Following is text Of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Dec 08, 1981:

The French Minister for Research and Technology, Mr. Jean Pierre Chevenement, today called on the Union Minister of State for Science & Technology, Electronics and Environment, Shir Chandra Pratap Narain Singh and had wide ranging talks on Indo-French cooperation in Science & Technology.
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The two Ministers agreed to further strengthen the existing cooperation between the two countries in Science & Technology with particular reference to selected areas including lasers, electro-optics, bio-technology and energy. The on-going Indo-French projects cover a wide range of subjects from Mathematics to Ocean Science Technology.

ANCE INDIA

Date : Dec 08, 1981

Volume No

1995

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

Indo-GDR Trade Protocol Signed

Following is text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Dec 03, 1981:

The Indo-German Democratic Republic Trade Protocol for 1982 was concluded, here today, envisaging 23 percent growth in India's export to GDR. The Protocol was signed by Shri S. K. Sarkar, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Commerce, on behalf of India, and Mr. H. Marx, Director General, Ministry of Foreign Trade, on behalf of GDR, in terms of Trade and Payments Agreement of December, 1980.

The Trade Protocol envisages a total turnover of approximately Rs. 260 crores both ways, which represents an increase of 15% over the provisions made for the Trade Protocol in 1981. Exports to GDR from India have increased by about Rs. 25 crores i.e. 23 percent compared to Trade Plan provisions in 1981. Imports, from GDR into India have also increased by more than Rs. 10 crores.

Items of exports from India for which major increases have been agreed upon include textile machinery, machine tools, ossein,

shoe uppers and leather goods, oilseed extractions, pepper and jute goods. For the first time, the Trade Plan has provided allocations for items like electronic components, sports goods, etc.

Exports from GDR, for which major increases have been provided, relate to items like steel products, printing machinery, machine tools, diesel generating sets, equipment for power stations, cinematographic films etc.

India's trade with German Democratic Republic, is conducted within the framework of a Long-term Trade & Payments Agreement which provides for the settlement of all commercial and non-commercial transactions between India and GDR in non-convertible Indian rupees. This is a balanced form of trading and imports and exports are expected to balance each other over a period of time. The current Trade & Payments Agreement with GDR was signed in December, 1980 and is valid upto December 31, 1985.

IMPORTANT TRADING PARTNER

GDR has been an important trading partner of India from amongst the East European countries. Since the signing of the first Trade Agreement with them in 1954, there has been a spectacular growth of our trade with that country. It has increased from a modest level of Rs. 2 million in 1954 to Rs. 975 million in 1979.

Major items of India's exports to GDR have been mostly traditional like de-oiled groundnut cakes, other de-oiled cakes, hides and skins, tea, coffee, spices, tobacco, iron ore and mica. However, during the recent years, several non-traditional items like engineering goods (such as machine tools, small hand tools, textile machines, automobile ancillaries, sanitary fittings, readymade garments, shoe uppers, finished

leather, fruit juices and concentrates, tinned fish etc. have been added to our export basket. GDR has, in fact, offered us a very good market for Indian manufactures like shoe-uppers and cotton textiles. A breakthrough has already been made by exporting shoe-uppers, finished leather and leather products worth Rs. 205 million to GDR in 1980. Another important item in our export basket is that of iron ore. With the development of steel industry in GDR and development of our own export capacity, iron ore has good export potential in GDR in the coming years.

The hard core of our imports from GDR consists of potash fertilizers, cinematographic films, printing machinery, capital goods and equipment and chemicals and pharmaceuticals. In the past, we used to import printing machinery, rolled steel products etc. from GDR to a great extent but with the expansion of our own industrial base and our import requirements getting confined to sophisticated categories of machinery and equipment, our imports

of some of these items have got reduced. However, we are still depending on GDR for the import of machine tools, precision tools, capital goods and equipment, diesel generating sets, and instruments and apparatuses for scientific and educational laboratories.

DIA USA RUSSIA

Date : Dec 03, 1981

Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Minister of External Affairs P. V. Narasimha Rao's Statement in Parliament on Sino-Indian Talks, Golan Heights and Poland

Following is text of the statement by the Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, in both Houses of Parliament on Dec 17, 1981 on the recent official Sino-Indian talks held in Beijing, the annexation of the Golan Heights by Israel and the situation in Poland:

SINO-INDIAN TALKS

During the visit of the Chinese Foreign Minister to India, we had agreed that official level talks would be held in Beijing regarding both bilateral problems and bilateral exchanges. Talks were accordingly held in Beijing for five days from December 10 to 14. There were three sessions of plenary discussions, and several meetings of subgroups on matters concerning the boundary, trade and economic cooperation, cultural exchanges, and science and technology.

Various members of the delegation also met senior officials of the concerned Ministries and visited a number of institutions. The delegation had a meeting with Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Huang Hua. The atmosphere was friendly and cordial throughout all the meetings and discussions.

Regarding the border, it was not our anticipation that it would be possible to make substantive progress in the first round. The two sides have had a fairly detailed exchange of views, and although fairly wide differences persist, we hope that they could result in a better understanding of each other's positions.

In the light of the report of our delegation, we are now

considering how we should take this matter forward. We may, however, regard the fact of the meeting itself, the first on this subject in 20 years, as a positive step. This, I understand, is the Chinese view also.

The delegation reviewed the level of exchanges in various fields such as culture, trade, economic cooperation and science and <pg-343>

technology, and tentative programmes for the future are now being considered by the various Ministries and agencies.

As I have repeatedly informed the House, it is the desire of the Government to normalise relations fully with China. This is only possible when we can bring about a complete resolution of our problems as well as a stable relationship in all fields.

ANNEXATION OF GOLAN HEIGHTS

Sir, may I now refer to a development that has taken place in the Middle East. I refer to the Israeli Government's decision to annex the occupied Syrian territory of Golan Heights. The matter is already before the General Assembly of the United Nations and the Security Council has been specially convened to discuss this matter. In the General Assembly, India has cosponsored a draft resolution which, while expressing its grave alarm at the Israeli decision to apply Israeli law to the occupied Syrian Arab Golan Heights, and reaffirming that acquisition of territory by force is inadmissible under the UN Charter, principles of International Law and relevant UN resolutions, asks, inter alia, that the General Assembly:

- 1) Declare that the Israeli decision is null and void and has no legal validity whatsoever,
- 2) Strongly deplore the persistence of Israeli policy of annexation which escalates tension in the region,
- 3) Demand that Israel rescinds forthwith its decision,
- 4) Call upon all States, Specialised Agencies and other International Institutions not to recognise this decision,
- 5) Request the Security Council, in the event of Israel's failure to implement this resolution, to invoke Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations.

While this matter is currently being debated and discussed in the UN in New York, it is clear that Israel continues to pursue a policy of expansionism by force. It is highly provocative and aggressive, being a policy of conquest and confrontation which will further aggravate the already tense and indeed volatile situation in West Asia.

POLAND

Sir, I finally turn to the developments which have recently taken place in Poland. Hon'ble Members are aware that a state of emergency was declared in Poland from mid-night on 12/13 December and an Army Council of National Salvation was constituted. This was announced in a radio broadcast by Prime Minister Jaruzelski who said that he was taking these measures "obeying the Polish, Constitution.

We have been following these developments, under conditions of interrupted communications. The Polish Ambassador in New Delhi called on me yesterday, under instructions of his Government, and gave me an account of the recent developments. He also conveyed to me a message from our Ambassador in Warsaw that the Polish authorities are giving the Indian Embassy the necessary protection and that all the members of the Indian community in Poland are safe.

What is happening in Poland is primarily the concern of its Government and people. We earnestly hope that the present crisis will be overcome by them in the shortest possible time. We view such developments from the stand-point of our commitment to the principle of non-interference.

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DIA POLAND USA CHINA ISRAEL MALI SYRIA

Date : Dec 17, 1981

Volume No

1995

POLAND

Indo-Polish Trade Protocol Signed

Following is text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Dec 04, 1981:

India and Poland have signed here a Trade Protocol for 1982, envisaging a total turnover of approximately Rs. 280 crores both ways, which represent an increase of 20 per cent over the provisions made for the Trade Protocol in 1981.

The Trade Protocol was signed by Shri S. K. Sarkar, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Commerce, on behalf of India and by Mr.

Stanislawski, Director General, Ministry of Foreign Trade, on behalf of Polish People's Republic. The Protocol has been signed in terms of the provisions of the Trade and Payments Agreement of December, 1980.

In view of the special difficulties being faced by Poland, Trade Plan has taken note of the need to enable Polish side to generate rupee funds to absorb exports from India. Hence imports from Poland to India have registered an increase of about Rs. 250 million.

Items of exports from India in respect of which major increases have been provided in the Trade Plan are mica products, finished leather and leather goods, cotton textiles, raw cotton, handloom goods and oilseed extractions.

DIVERSIFICATION OF EXPORTS

An attempt has been made to diversify exports to Poland by introducing new items like surgical cotton, electric motors, steel pipes, industrial valves, v. belts, etc.

Exports from Poland for which increased provisions have been made relate to zinc, copper, equipment for power stations, fishing vessels, ship engines and equipment, and gas cylinders. The new items for export from India to Poland are high speed circuit breakers for railways, telephone components and rails.

The Indo-Polish trade is governed by bilateral Trade and Payments Agreement which envisages close bilateral trading and clearing account system in non-convertible Indian rupee. This system ensures an arrangement under which imports from and exports to Poland would be balanced over a period of time.

Amongst the Socialist countries of East Europe, Poland is the second biggest trading partner of India, next to USSR. The trade turnover between the two countries has increased from a level of Rs. 4 million in 1953 to Rs. 1241 million in 1980.

NON-TRADITIONAL ITEMS

In the fifties and sixties the structure of Indo-Polish trade was mostly of traditional type, covering mainly agricultural products in our exports and industrial raw material in our imports. In the seventies, the structure of our exports slowly shifted in the direction of non-traditional items. Our exports to Poland now include cotton textiles, finished leather, jute manufactures, and other miscellaneous manufactured products, besides traditional items like tea, deoiled cakes, etc.

Poland is our important source of supply for fertilizers especially urea, sulphur, rolled steel products, machine tools, power station equipment, mining machinery and capital goods.

Ships have also been one of the important items of exports to India from Poland.
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LAND INDIA USA RUSSIA

Date : Dec 04, 1981

Volume No

1995

ROMANIA

Indo-Romanian Trade Protocol Signed

Following is text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Dec 14, 1981:

India and Romania signed here today Trade Protocol for 1982, envisaging a trade turnover of Rs. 262 crores both ways, which represent an increase of about 10 per cent over the provisions of Trade Protocol for 1981. The Protocol has been signed in terms of the provisions of the Trade and Payments Agreement of December, 1980. A supplementary protocol annexed to it provides for additional export of goods worth about Rs. 650 million to Romania by March 31, 1982. India's overall trade with Romania will thus go up by 36% as compared to last year.

The Trade Protocol was signed by Shri S. K. Sarkar, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Commerce on behalf of India and by Mr. S. Voinov, Director General, Ministry of Foreign Trade on behalf of the Socialist Republic of Romania.

The Protocol provides for import from Romania into India of such items as fertilizers, rolled steel products, newsprint, railway equipment, oil prospecting and drilling equipment, tractor components, synthetic fibres etc. Exports from India include iron ore, machine tools, electronic components and other engineering goods, leather, jute, goods, coffee etc. New items such as woollen goods, chrome ore, castor oil etc. have also, been included in the Protocol.

SUBSTANTIAL GROWTH

With a view to assisting Romania in the liquidation of the surplus balances in their account in India, a Supplementary Protocol has been concluded simultaneously providing for exports of a number of items which are fast moving. These items include

oil seeds extractions, cashew kernels, manganese ore, jute bags and sacks, finished leather, coffee, pepper etc. It has been agreed between the two sides to assist the organisations and firms concerned for the expeditious implementation of the Supplementary Protocol by March 31, 1982 as far as possible.

India's trade with Romania, as with other East European countries, has grown substantially. The bilateral trade has increased from a small turnover of Rs. 38 million in 1959 to Rs. 2194 million in 1980. The hard core of our exports to Romania consist of traditional items such as iron ore, mica, hides and skins and certain leather products. Fertilizers constitute Romania's major bulk-volume export to India.

AN ROMANIA INDIA USA ITALY

Date : Dec 14, 1981

Volume No

1995

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's Interview With Tass

Following is the transcript of the interview granted by the Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi to Dr. D. I. Chekhonin, Tass correspondent based in New Delhi on Nov 26, 1981:

INDO-SOVIET RELATIONS

QUESTION: USSR and India will be celebrating their 35th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations in April 1982. How do you assess the major events and achievements achieved by both countries during this period?

PRIME MINISTER: Well, as you know that there was mutual regard and interest between our countries even before India gained independence. In the 35 years since
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independence and since we established diplomatic relations, friendship between our two countries has grown steadily. The Soviet Union has shown understanding of the independent policies which India has pursued and particularly of our adherence to non-alignment. Our two countries have worked together in various international forums to oppose colonialism, racialism and discrimination of different kinds. What we call the newly-freed

countries of Asia, Africa and the Caribbeans have been able to count on Soviet support on issues involving colonialism and its vestiges.

Our two countries have different political systems but the record of friendship between us proves the value of co-existence and cooperation amongst peoples regardless of their political systems. We feel that this is an essential pre-condition of peace and stability in the world. We have received principle support from the Soviet Union in many moments of difficulty. There has also been growing economic cooperation. Today, the Soviet Union is our largest single trading partner. We appreciate the help which the Soviet Union has given us in the development of our basic and leading industries in the State Sector. The Soviet Union has also assisted us in various other development programmes. All over India there are many projects which stand as concrete and productive witnesses to this fruitful cooperation of Indo-Soviet technology. The recent launching of an Indian satellite for the second time from a Soviet launching station and the troposcatter link established recently between us are examples of new forms of scientific cooperation between us. Then of course there is growth in cultural relations. Authors, artists and scholars of our two countries have many opportunities of meeting and of coming closer. We hope this will continue.

CONTRIBUTION OF JAWAHARLAL NEHRU

QUESTION: What do you think of the 'great contribution made by the outstanding leader of India, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and personally by you, in development of friendly relations between our two countries?

PRIME MINISTER: The Great October Revolution made a deep impression on my father, Jawaharlal Nehru. He hailed it as a major turn in human history. Throughout his political life he continued to be interested in the work of social reconstruction undertaken by the Soviet Union. He was also a consistent exponent of the idea that the West should come to terms with the Soviet Union and that the two should work together to maintain peace. Our own policy of non-alignment was intended to make a contribution towards this objective. The leaders of the Soviet Union apart from correctly evaluating the policies which India had adopted, they also developed close bonds of personal friendship with my father. I am glad that this has continued and that I have the same privilege with the Soviet leaders. I particularly value my contacts with President Brezhnev.

ROLE OF L. I. BREZHNEV

QUESTION: In December, it will be the 20th anniversary of Mr. Brezhnev's visit to India, as well as the first anniversary of Mr. Brezhnev's last visit to India. What is your esteemed opinion about the role played by Mr. L. I. Brezhnev, in improving the

Soviet-Indian cooperation?

PRIME MINISTER: President Brezhnev's personality and the leadership he has given to the Soviet Union are well known. The people of India hold him in respect and regard him as a friend. He has contributed greatly to making Indo-Soviet friendship an important stabilising factor in international life. The people of India will welcome any steps that your country takes under President Brezhnev's distinguished leadership to reduce tensions and to promote trust and stability in the world.
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DIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Nov 26, 1981

Volume No

1995

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Indo-Soviet Protocol on Expansion of Machine Building Plants in Ranchi, Durgapur and Hardwar

Following is text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Dec 16, 1981:

India and USSR have agreed to set up an Expert Group to go into the desirability of expanding and deepening cooperation between the machine building plants in Ranchi, Durgapur and Hardwar and come up with concrete recommendations by the middle of next year, according to a Protocol signed here this afternoon. The Protocol was signed by Shri D. V. Kapur, Secretary, Department of Heavy Industry and Mr. E. Y. Zvizhulev, Deputy Minister of Heavy and Transport Engineering, USSR.

A 12-Member Soviet Delegation headed by Mr. E. Y. Zvizhulev, Deputy Minister of Heavy and Transport Engineering was in India from December 9 to 16, 1981, to take part in the Third Session of the Indo-Soviet Working Group on Machine Building.

During the present session of the Working Group, BHEL signed a contract with V/O "Promuashexport" for supply of Hydro Turbine Runner Profiles. Heavy Engineering Corporation, Ranchi and Mining and Allied Machinery Corporation, Durgapur, have also signed contracts with V/O "Metallurgimport" for supply of metallurgical and mining equipment as well as rolls, castings and forgings, to the USSR in 1983 amounting to Rs. 13 crores and Rs. 8 crores respectively.

Tentative volumes of equipment, castings and forgings, for supply from machine building plants at Ranchi, Durgapur and Hardwar to the USSR during the years 1983 to 1985 were also identified which will progressively lead to placement of further orders by USSR on the above three Indian enterprises.

The delegation visited Heavy Electricals Equipment Plant (BHEL), Hardwar and Heavy Engineering Corporation, Ranchi, and Mining and Allied Machinery Corporation, Durgapur. They took particular note, of the improved production of these units, during the current year compared to last. year.

DIA USA

Date : Dec 16, 1981

Volume No

1995

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

India, USSR Trade Protocol Signed

Following is text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Dec 24, 1981:

India and USSR signed here today a Trade Protocol for 1982.

The Protocol was signed by Shri Abid Hussain, Commerce Secretary, on behalf of India and by Mr. I. T. Grishin, Deputy Minister for Foreign Trade, on behalf of USSR.

The Trade Protocol for 1982 provide for a total trade turnover of Rs. 3260 crores as against the 1981 Trade Protocol projection of Rs. 2940 crores. This represent a growth of about 11 percent. Projections for exports from India to USSR have gone up from Rs. 1440 crores in 1981 to about Rs. 1760 crores, which means an increase. of Rs. 320 crores i.e. by about 22 percent.

The trade between India and the USSR has been growing steadily. The actual performance over the years has been very close to the planned projections. It is expected that in 1981 the actual trade turnover between the two countries is likely to be of the order of Rs. 2600 crores as against the, projection of Rs. 2940 crores i.e. 90 percent of the projections. Manufactured and non-traditional items account for more than 60 percent of the total exports from India to the USSR. The variety and volume of

commodities in the basket of exports from India is diverse and large. The items selected for export by both the countries are com-
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plementary to the needs of their planned economies. The demand and supply are thus well matched in Indo-USSR Trade. In the list of exports from India where substantial increases have been recorded include power cables, dry batteries, steam boilers, machine tools, freight containers, textile machinery, garage equipment, machinery and equipment from Soviet-assisted projects, ready-made garments, bed linon and towels, printed cotton cloth, woollen carpets, finished leather, shoe uppers, cosmetics, detergents, fresh and canned fruits, fruit juices, cigarettes etc.

DIVERSIFICATION OF EXPORTS

Several new items have been added for the first time, like water purifying plants, pumps and compressors, spectacle lenses, shoe polish, woollen fabrics and blankets, natural silk fabrics, cut-flowers, etc. Imports from Soviet Union largely consist of petroleum and petroleum products, fertilizers, newsprint, DDI, non-ferrous metals and machinery and equipment especially those required for Soviet-assisted projects. USSR is now the largest trading partner of India and the largest customer for Indian exports.

The trade talks were held in an atmosphere of complete friendship and cooperation.

DIA USA RUSSIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Dec 24, 1981

Volume No

1995

YEMEN

Agreement on Rs. 10 Million Indian Credit to Yemen

Following is text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on Dec 29, 1981:

India has extended a credit of Rs. 10 million to the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen. An agreement to this effect was signed here today by Shri S. V. S. Juneja, Additional Secretary,

Ministry of Finance and Mr. Othman Abdul Gabbar Rashed, Deputy Minister of Industry and Leader of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen Delegation.

Yemen will use this credit for importing from India machinery and equipments for setting up an Industrial Estate in that country. The credit will carry interest at the rate of 5 per cent per annum and repayable in 24 instalments commencing from July 1, 1985.

India has also agreed to send a multi-disciplinary team of experts to Yemen for identifying and evaluating the need of machinery and equipments to be financed under the credit. India has further agreed to supply long-term experts to Yemen under Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation Programme for erection and commissioning of some of the projects in Yemen.
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MEN INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Dec 29, 1981

Volume No

1995

ZAMBIA

Jawaharlal Nehru Award Fitting Tribute to Nelson Mandela

Following is text of the letter dated Dec 01, 1981 by the Secretary General of the Zambian United National Independence Party, Mr. H. Mulemba, addressed to Shri K. V. Rajan, India's Acting High Commissioner at Lusaka:

I wish to thank you most sincerely for your letter of 9th September, 1981 and attached letter from Mr. Nelson Mandela to the Indian Council for Cultural Relations.

As Mr. Mandela has stated in his letter India has always been an inspiration to the oppressed masses the world over.

During our struggle for Independence we received encouragement, inspiration and practical assistance from India. His Excellency the President of the Republic of Zambia Dr. Kenneth D. Kaunda, himself a recipient of the Jawaharlal Nehru Award for the outstanding statesmanship and the selfless service to MAN will be pleased to be informed of this very inspiring letter. It is gratifying to note that India has continued, to play her role in

the eradication of oppression and colonialism wherever these evils still existed. India's efforts to improve international economic order and peace at the United Nations, Non-Aligned Conferences and for us in Zambia, at the Commonwealth Conferences presents clear inspirations she gives to others.

Mr. Mandela as you have followed his leadership, is a selfless man. He endures suffering but never yields to despair. We thank the Indian Council for Cultural Relations for recognising this rare quality in leadership of Mr. Mandela a great son of Africa. Despite the dehumanising experiences, he is undergoing at the Robben Island Prison his mind still remains clear. The, Jawaharlal Nehru Award is a fitting recognition for him. We pay tribute to Jawaharlal Nehru himself, he stood for peace. Long, live the struggle for the Freedom of South Africa and the whole oppressed mankind.
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MBIA INDIA USA SOUTH AFRICA

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