# 1984

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**Date :** Jan 01, 1984

# Volume No

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#### AFGHANISTAN

#### Banking Agreement

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 29, 1984 on the Indo-Afghan Banking Agreement:

A banking delegation led by Mr. Khalil Siddiq, Deputy Governor, Da Afghanistan Bank of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan visited India from January 23 to 28, 1984 at the invitation of the Ministry of Finance (Banking Division), Government of India. They held discussions with the Indian delegation led by Shri A. Ghosh, Deputy Governor, Reserve Bank of India. This visit took place as a result of decisions taken at the sixth meeting of the Indo-Afghan Joint Commission for Economic, Trade and Technical Co-operation held in Kabul in May, 1982.

The delegations undertook a comprehensive review of banking relations between the two countries and agreed to establish closer links between the banks of the two countries in order to promote a closer and higher level of commercial exchanges between India and Afghanistan. The delegations arrived at specific decisions to establish direct correspondent banking relationships between the banks of the two countries, to open Afghan Banks' accounts in Indian banks for the purpose of facilitating trade and also discussed the possibilities of opening branches of their banks in each other's countries at the appropriate time. The Indian side also offered training facilities and expert services which were welcomed by the Afghan side. Finalisation of the arrangements envisaged during the discussions is expected to take place shortly during the forthcoming visit of the Indian trade delegation to Kabul.

#### GHANISTAN INDIA USA

**Date** : Jan 29, 1984

# Volume No

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BHUTAN

#### President Holds Banquet in Honour of King of Bhutan: Text of Giani Zail Singh's Speech

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 25, 1984 of the speech by the President, Giani Zail Singh, at a banquet, hosted by him in honour of His Majesty Jigme Singye Wangchuck, King of Bhutan:

We are extremely happy to welcome you and the members of your delegation today. It has given us immense pleasure to have Your Majesty in our midst as the guest of honour on this solemn occasion of the 34th Anniversary of the proclamation of the Indian Republic.

Your Majesty, the bonds of geography and culture, friendship and understanding between our two countries have existed for <pg-1>

centuries. Their contemporary dimensions were further strengthened by Your Majesty's late father and the first Prime Minister of India, Jawaharlal Nehru.

The lofty principles and the noble spirit which formed the basis of their joint endeavours in forging a model relationship between our countries as good neighbours continue to imbue our friendship which grows from strength to strength with the passage of times. Your Majesty's present visit will, I am sure, deepen and enrich the bonds of mutual friendship and understanding between Bhutan and India.

Under Your Majesty's enlightened leadership, Bhutan is making marked and rapid progress. We are aware of and we deeply appreciate, Your Majesty's profound interest in the welfare and well being of your people who have, in turn, unhesitatingly showered their affection upon you and other members of the Royal Family.

We are aware also of Bhutan's aspirations and Bhutan's endeavours in the matter of social and economic development without, at the same time, causing any damage to its own highly elevated cultural and social tradition and heritage. Bhutan's arts, her way of life, her colourful traditions and the profundity of her religion are a valuable part of the cultural heritage of mankind as a whole. Our people share a great deal in common with the people of Bhutan and we feel a natural respect for Bhutanese values and traditions. The love of peace and the spirit of tolerance are common to both our countries.

#### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Your Majesty, it is our privilege to be a participant in Bhutan's economic development. The Chukha project and the Penden cement plant are two examples of mutually beneficial Indo-Bhutanese cooperation. Several other schemes are in various stages of consideration or implementation and I would like to assure Your Majesty that to the best of their ability the Government of India will continue to participate in the development tasks you have undertaken.

The logic of history, geography, and economics of cultural kinship, of shared perceptions and experiences, has helped to fashion a unique relationship of warm friendship and unfailing understanding, of total mutual trust and sympathy between us. There is close identity of views between us on international problems. As members of the Non-Aligned Movement, we share the same values and ideals and we respect and observe principles in the conduct of international relations. In this troubled world of tension and strife and ever-accelerating arms race, we both stand for peace and cooperation among nations.

Your Majesty, as I said, it is our great pleasure and privilege to have you in our midst today. Your visit is, however, very short and we would have been happier if you would spare more time to see, some other parts of our country and the development activity going on there. I hope very much that Your Majesty will be able to come back to us for another, longer visit in the near future.

Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, may I ask you to join me in a toast to the good health and happiness of His Majesty, the King Jigme Singye Wangchuck, to the progress and prosperity of the people of Bhutan, and to everlasting friendship between India and Bhutan.

<pg-2>

UTAN INDIA USA UNITED KINGDOM

**Date** : Jan 25, 1984

### Volume No

1995

#### COMMONWEALTH

Shri Chavan's Address at Fifth Commonwealth Regional Conferenceon Educational Administration

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on the address by Shri S. B. Chavan at the fifth commonwealth regional conference on educational administration in New Delhi on Jan 05, 1984:

In the post war era most countries have been committed to the

policy of planned development In the ultimate analysis, development is not only for man but is also of man. It is the way in which human resources of a country are developed and mobilised that determines the quality of life in a country. This is not to under-estimate the importance of other necessary and complementary inputs. Without natural resources, without adequate food production, without requisite energy and without infrastructures of various kinds, development does not and cannot occur, stated Shri S. B. Chavan, Minister of Planning and Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission, while addressing the fifth Commonwealth Regional Conference on Educational Administration, here today.

Shri Chavan observed that infrastructures and physical facilities are essential and the problem that many under-developed countries among whom many were in the Commonwealth was that they had to built these infrastructures under extremely difficult conditions. Yet infrastructures alone did not constitute a sufficient condition for sustained development. Alongwith the building up of infrastructures they had to build up the men and women who make them productive and who make them serve the needs and aspirations of the people.

The Planning Minister said that in India a very high priority was given to development of education in all the Plans. A mere look at the size of India's educational system and the growth that had occurred over the last 30 years would indicate the importance that India had attached to educational development. Most of the developments had occurred through Government investment' with the result that Government's share of total educational expenditure was most substantial. It had been a period of extraordinary growth in-almost all levels and sectors of education.

Even today there was a tremendous and ever-growing demand for secondary education for higher education and for technical education. The planners and administrators faced a very difficult challenge in meeting this demand. How much priority had to be given to meet this natural demand and how much to other areas of national concern, namely, universal primary education and adult education, was a vexed question.

Shri Chavan said that faced as they were with severe constraints of resources, it was not an easy choice to make. But priorities are clear. The Prime Minister had included in her 20-point programme of national development two specific points namely, universal primary education and adult literacy. These therefore, constitute areas of highest priority in India's educational endeavour. This was also reflected in Plan allocations.

The Planning Minister pointed out that in the ultimate analysis, educational development was not conditioned so much by financial outlays and investments as by many other factors, socio-economic cultural as well as the quality of work put in by thousands of teachers. As there were severe constraint of resources, they must endeavour to utilise the resources optimally and obtain maximum results. Efficiency and effectiveness in use of resources thus became key objectives. It was here that educational administration becomes crucial and organisations like Commonwealth Council for Educational Administration and the Indian Association of Educational <pg-3>

Planning and Administration have an important role in trying to improve the capability and quality of educational administration.

Shri Chavan said that technical cooperation among developing countries, TCDC, was a concept they had supported. The Commonwealth countries had been pioneering in this area of mutual help. The Commonwealth countries bound as they were by many invisible threads can do a great deal to foster efficient management in education, by visits, projects, studies, training programmes and information systems.

Shri Chavan concluded that the most important question of the future today was whether man would have a future. In education they cannot but focus on issues relating to war and peace when so much depends upon man's sensible control of the destructive power that he had created. There may be no seminars on education of the future -- on any other subject -- if they failed to go into this question. Will man become a servant of the technology that he had created or will he remain a master of it? What was the kind of educational system that would preserve the great cultural traditions of humanistic value that man had fostered over centuries? How unique cultural identities of different nations can be preserved in the face of the onslaught of modern communications which threaten to bring about a dead uniformity Even in terms of management styles of different countries, should they be mere imitation copies in all the countries or should they not respond to the cultural traditions and ethos of the respective countries?

The Conference is being organised jointly by the Commonwealth Council for Educational Administration and the Indian Association of Educational Planning Administration. One hundred and fifty delegates including 50 from overseas are attending the conference.

DIA USA **Date :** Jan 05, 1984

## Volume No

#### CUBA

Cultural Exchange Programme between India and Cuba Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 24, 1984 on the cultural exchange programme between India and Cuba:

A programme of cultural and educational exchanges was signed here today between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Republic of Cuba for a period of three years 1984-86. Prof. C. L. Anand, Joint Educational Adviser, Ministry of Education and Culture, Government of India and H.E. Mr. Jose Perez Novoa, Ambassador of Cuba in India, signed the programme on behalf of their respective Governments.

The programme envisages the strengthening and developing friendly relations and cooperation between the two countries and their peoples through exchanges in the field of education art and culture, films, radio, T.V., press, sports, etc., more particularly through exchange of scholars, performing troupes, university teachers, social scientists, experts in sports, journalists and other media personnel; exchange of exhibition of arts and crafts and photographs, books and publications of mutual interest, etc.; and holding of film weeks of each other's films and participation in each other's film festivals and book fairs, etc.

The programme envisages providing facilities to teachers and scholars visiting <pp=4>

each other's country in pursuing their fields of specialisation and participation in conferences/seminars; award of scholarships by both countries to each other's nationals for pursuing postgraduate studies and research and award of two scholarships by India to Cuban nationals for study of Hindi at the university level.

BA INDIA **Date :** Jan 24, 1984

## Volume No

1995

#### FRANCE

#### Joint Communique on Indo-French Collaboration

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 04, 1984 on the joint communique on Indo-French collaboration:

On the conclusion of the French Agriculture Minister's visit to India, a joint communique was signed here today by Mr. Michel Rocard and the Union Agriculture and Cooperation Minister, Rao Birendra Singh.

In the joint communique the Ministers have expressed satisfaction at the progress made during the talks and gave their approval to reports of the two groups set up earlier on research and education and agricultural production and agro-industrial Projects. They agreed that in order to implement the agreed plan of Indo-French cooperation in the field of agriculture, expert from India will be visiting France between February and May 1984 with the following two main aims: (1) to finalise an amendment to the 1980 Indo-French agreement in the field of agriculture to clarify the procedures for agricultural cooperation in its scientific, technological and economic aspects. (2) prepare a detailed programme of cooperation in the field of agricultural research and development.

# BRIGHT PROSPECTS FOR INDO-FRENCH COLLABORATION IN AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Various proposals for wide-ranging collaboration between India and France in the areas of agriculture and rural development were discussed between the Union

Agriculture and Cooperation Minister, Rao Birendra Singh and the visiting French Agriculture Minister, Mr. Michel Rocard, at a meeting here today, according to a press release issued in New Delhi on January 1, 1984.

The areas of proposed collaboration include potato processing, olive cultivation, apple and grapes processing, dairy development, production of edible oils, solid state fermentation technology, deep-sea fishing and sea farming and agro-forestry. The transfer of French technology concerning animal and plant genetics, artificial insemination, production of vaccines, water management, aqua-culture, solar energy and energy from bio-mass and agricultural wastes was also discussed. The two countries agreed to cooperate in programmes for improvement in agricultural technology and industry for the production of small farm implements, solar energy water pumps, small turbines for irrigation, storage and processing of agricultural produce, heavy agricultural equipment suitable for Indian farming conditions and special equipment for cattle breeding. It was agreed that an Indian delegation of agricultural scientists and experts should visit France for exploring and identifying more areas of cooperation between India and France.

#### INDO-FRENCH INDUSTRIAL COLLABORATION IN FOOD PROECSSING

Joint Indo-French industrial ventures in the field of food processing were propos <pg-5>

ed during the discussions between the Union Minister of State for Food and Civil Supplies. Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad, and the visiting French Agriculture Minister, Mr. Michel Rocard during their meeting here today, according to the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on January 1, 1984.

The talks covered a wide range of subjects for possible cooperation between India and France. The projects likely to be finalised include a fruit and vegetable processing unit, aseptic storage and canning facilities, a cocoa processing unit in Kerala and import of agricultural products like edible oils and foodgrains from France. A project for deep processing vegetables is already under discussion between the two countries. French technology for aseptic storage of foodgrains and edible oil extraction is also likely to be made available to India.

The French Minister was requested to help in revival of the quota of 25000 tonne of Indian sugar exports to the European Economic community, which had been discontinued after 1980-81.

#### FRENCH AGRICULTURE MINISTER MEETS SHRI VASANT SATHE

The French Minister of Agriculture, Mr. Michel Rocard called on Shri Vasant Sathe, Minister of Chemicals & Fertilizer here today, according to the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on January 2, 1984.

During the 40-minutes meeting the two leaders discussed matters of mutual interest to the two countries. They felt that there was scope for further cooperation between the two countries.

The areas of collaboration and coordination which came up for discussion at the meeting included pharmaceuticals and chemicals. Indo-French collaboration in the proposed vaccine project also came up for discussion. They also discussed the possibilities of cooperation in the field of pesticides. The two leaders felt that experts from the two countries could identify areas of cooperation in the fields of allied chemicals and pesticides.

They also felt that the present visit of the French Minister would help in strengthening the existing ties of friendship and cooperation between the two countries.

FRENCH AGRICULTURE MINISTER CALLS ON SHRI CHAVANN The French Agriculture Minister, Mr. Michel Rocard, called on the Union Minister of Planning and Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission, Shri S. B. Chavan, here today. They exchanged views on various matters of mutual interest, according to the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on January 4, 1984.

Mr. Rocard informed Shri Chavan of his Government's priorities, notably in the matter of agriculture development. He also dwelt on the possibilities of Indo-French bilateral economic cooperation. Mr. Rocard said that it was a matter of gratification that both France and India were self-sufficient in foodgrains production and with more stress on land use planning and resource development, agricultural production would be further increased in India.

In the course of the talks Shri Chavan acquainted Mr. Rocard with the process of plan formulation in India, stressing, in this context, the importance of self-reliance as a major objective of development planning. He pointed out that at present 94% of the plan expenditure was met out of the indigenous resources and hoped that during the seventh plan, they would not have to rely upon any foreign aid.

Shri Chavan said that sixth plan targets of food production would be nearly achieved. More emphasis would be laid on priority items such as production of oil seeds, pulses and allied development programmes in the next plan.

Shri Chavan expressed satisfaction at the prospect of Indo-French economic cooperation especially in priority areas of India's agriculture and allied sectors and hoped that this would be further strengthened. <ppe6>

# ANCE INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC LATVIA **Date :** Jan 04, 1984

## Volume No

1995

#### FRANCE

Cultural Agreement between India and France Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 12, 1984 on the cultural agreement between India and France:

The 8th cultural, scientific and technical cooperation agreement was signed here today between the Government of India and the Government of the French Republic. Dr. (Smt.) Kapila Vatsyayan, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Education and Culture, Government of India and H.E. Mr. Christian Prettre, Additional Secretary, Directorate General for Cultural, Scientific and Technical Relations, Ministry of Foreign Relations, Government of France, signed the agreement on behalf of their respective Governments.

The highlight of the agreement is that the two sides will hold major manifestations of Indian art and culture in France during 1984-85 as part of the Festival of India.

Both sides have agreed to encourage translation and publication of each other's literary works; close cooperation between publishers in the two countries; participation in each other's book fairs/exhibitions and promotion of French books in India and Indian books in France.

There is provision for training of Indian producers/directors and technical personnel in the field of short films in France in areas like film news, animation, production, etc. and also for training of such personnel in the field of radio and TV in areas like news, current affairs, plays, musicals, children's programmes, etc. The two sides have also agreed to continue negotiations for an agreement on films.

The Agreement envisages closer cooperation between India and France in the field of higher education, school education, humanities and social sciences, archaeology and sports, etc. Award of scholarships to students and scholars of one country for study/research in the other country is yet another important feature of this agreement. Both sides have agreed to continue their efforts in the promotion and development of each other's language by way of providing French teachers for work in Indian universities and vice-versa. The two sides have agreed to explore the possibilities of helping in the compilation of French-Hindi and Hindi-French dictionaries as well as French-Urdu and Urdu-French dictionaries.

ANCE INDIA USA **Date :** Jan 12, 1984

# Volume No

#### FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

#### Indo-FRG Economic Relations

The following is the text of a press communique issued in New Delhi on Jan 13, 1984 on the Indo-FRG Economic and commercial relations:

Closely following the visit of Dr. Otto Graf Lambsdorff, the Federal Minister of Economic Affairs, Federal Republic of Germany, to India, the fifth meeting of the Indo-German Commission on Industrial and Economic Cooperation took place at New Delhi on January 11 and 12, 1984 under the joint chairmanship of Mrs. Helga Steeg, Director General for International Economic Issues in the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs, and Shri J. S. Baijal, Additional Secretary in the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance. <pp-7>

The agenda covered a wide range of areas and issues centering on Indo-German economic and commercial relations, with emphasis on measures to strengthen further the cooperation.

Both sides expressed appreciation over the place of t he Federal

Republic of Germany as one of the leading industrial partners of India. The German side stressed that the notable increase in the number of licensing agreements would need to be supplemented by an increase in joint ventures also as the best means to ensure transfer of technology on an effective and long term basis. The Indian side indicated that the framework of investment policy provided for this and joint ventures could be effective in transfering technology.

The Commission reviewed developments in the area of industrial cooperation and devoted time to consider possible improvements to the present framework. The German side welcomed the steps taken by the Government of India since the last meeting and urged for a practical and pragmatic application of the existing legal framework concerning industrial approvals. Discussions centred on steps to speed up the approval process with a view to promote increased collaboration and investment.

Both sides took note of the great potential and opportunities for Indo-German cooperation in major areas of mutual interest like coal, steel, petro-chemicals, fertilisers, telecommunications, automotive sector, fisheries, food processing, energy generation and the pharmaceuticals. Dealing with drug sector, the Indian side drew attention to the efforts of the Government of India to promote growth oriented drug sector and to the efforts being made by the National Council on Drugs and Pharmaceuticals. In the field of bilateral trade, the Indian side emphasised the need to narrow the present gap between imports from Germany and exports to Germany. Both sides agreed that continuing efforts are needed to maintain trade balance over the years by promoting exports of traditional and non-traditional items in a diversified way.

#### MULTILATERAL ISSUES

Both sides exchanged views over a number of multilateral issues. They agreed that there should be concerted efforts to roll back protectionism. The Indian delegation welcomed the assurance of the German delegation that the Federal Republic of Germany would continue its efforts in this behalf in the EEC and other multilateral forums.

Both sides agreed on the outstanding importance of India's participation as partner country in the Hanover Fair 1984 and expressed the view that this special exhibition, the biggest participation of India so far, displaying a whole range of her industrial potential will give a fresh impetus and momentum to the strengthening of bilateral economic cooperation. Both the Federal Minister for Economic Affairs, Dr. Otto Graf Lambsdorff, and the Indian Minister for Industry, Shri N. D. Tiwari, will be present on that occasion. They also agreed that an effective follow up was as important as effective participation in the fair. The German side extended an invitation to the Indian side to send a high level delegation consisting of representatives from the Government and the business community to the Federal Republic in 1985. The visit of the delegation of the Association of German Industry to India some time in 1984 was also suggested. The commission concluded its meeting with both sides expressing robust optimism that the economic climate of the two countries was conducive to further strengthening of bilateral economic cooperation. <pg-8>

RMANY INDIA USA PERU

**Date** : Jan 13, 1984

### Volume No

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FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

Economic Cooperation between India and FRG Discussed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 05, 1984 on economic co-operation between India and the F.R.G.:

The need to strengthen the bilateral economic and trade relations between India and Federal Republic of Germany was stressed during the discussions held today between the Union Finance Minister, Shri Pranab Mukherjee and the FRG's Federal Minister for Economics, Dr. Otto Graf Lambsdorff. Other issues which came up for discussion included international economic situation, role of multi-lateral lending institutions, access to fund resources, size of IDA-VII and the Conference on Money and Finance.

Explaining India's economic and trade policies, Shri Pranab Mukherjee pointed out that India was following a liberal trade policy to provide bilateral access to domestic industry for imports of technology and capital goods from developed world in order to bring about technological modernisation and expand our exports but the protectionism was denying India access to the markets of developed economies.

Reviewing the current developments in the international capital markets, Shri Mukherjee stressed the need for concessional aid to developing countries to start the process of rapid economic recovery in the international scene. Shri Mukherjee emphasised the need for further SDR allocations to ensure that the developing countries get at least the existing level of their share of developmental assistance. Both the Ministers agreed to identify new areas for joint ventures and collaborations to enlarge bilateral economic cooperation. Some problems of the drug sector were also discussed.

Recounting the close and friendly relations between India and FRG, Shri Mukherjee assured the visiting Minister that every effort will be made to expand cooperation between the two countries further. The talks lasted for more than 60 minutes.

Dr. Otto Graf Lambsdorff, Federal Minister for Economics of the Federal Republic of Germany called on Shri Vasant Sathe, Minister of Chemicals and Fertiliser here today. They talked matters of mutual interest to the two countries, according to the text of a Press release issued in New Delhi on January 6, 1984.

During the 60 minutes meeting, Shri Sathe informed Dr. Lambsdorff that a new drug policy is in the offing. This will be based on the recommendations of the National Drug Development Council. The Council has constituted three sub-groups to study pricing problem and procedure, industrial approvals and planning. The subgroups are expected to submit their reports by the end of this month. A new drug policy statement will be announced based on these reports.

Shri Sathe said that the basic philosophy behind the present drug

policy has been to make available all essential drugs to the people even in the remotest areas at reasonable prices. The drug industry can make reasonable profits but profitability as such is not allowed. This is the basis of the pricing system in India.

Other matters which came up for discussion at the meeting included R&D in the drug industry and the developments taking place in the fertiliser and chemical industry in India.

# POTENTIAL FOR GROWTH OF TRADE BETWEEN INDIA AND FRG

The vast potential for growth of trade between India and West Germany and the need to identify new items was discussed here today when the Federal Minister for Economics, Dr. Otto Graf Lambsdorif called on the Commerce Minister, Shri V. P. Singh, according to the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on January 6, 1984.

Dr. Lambsdorff spoke strongly against the ethics of using protectionism as an in <ppg-9>

strument against third countries and the Third World. The Commerce Minister appreciated the efforts made by the FRG Government and also the personal stand Dr. Lambsdorff had taken in allowing free access of Indian goods to the EEC market and to West Germany.

Both the Ministers felt that the trading atmosphere was congenial as recession was lifting. The West German Minister advised the Commerce Minister to take advantage of the favourable trends in the international market and to make a thrust into West Germany. In this context Dr. Lambsdorff made special mention of the Hanover Fair taking place this year in West Germany with India as a 'partner country'. He hoped that the sales at this Fair would help to considerably decrease India's trade deficit with FRG. The Commerce Minister said that he looked forward to the opportunity being offered at the Hanover Fair.

Dr. Lambsdorff commended India's prudent management of her fiscal policy and stated that India's purchasing power had created credit-worthiness in the world. Hence many countries were interested in collaborations with and investment in India.

The Commerce Minister observed that it was necessary to develop India's trade further to increase its purchasing capacity. He made mention of the study on trade which could identify the areas developed countries were moving out of and developed countries could take-over with the appropriate intermediate technology. The need for India to move from traditional to non-traditional exports was recognised by both the Ministers.

#### INDO-FRG TRADE

The Federal Republic of Germany is India's most important trading partner in West Europe after UK. Indeed among the countries with which we have trade in convertible currency FRG ranks just behind USA, UK and Japan. India's trade with FRG has been expanding very fast in the last few years. In 1978-79, India's exports were Rs. 273.37 crores and imports were Rs. 626.30 crores which went up to Rs. 334.37 crores and Rs. 786.80 crores respectively in 1982-83.

As importer of Indian goods, the Federal Republic of Germany ranked fifth behind USA, Japan, UK and USSR in 1982.

The major items of our exports are cotton goods, carpets, leather and leather goods, handicrafts, tea and precious and semiprecious stones, while our imports from Germany are machinery, iron and steel, chemicals and pharmaceutical products, electro technical goods and transport equipment.

India's participation in the Hanover Fair with the status of the 'partner country' is considered to be an acknowledgment by FRG of India's capability in the technological field. The TFAI has been designated the authority to coordinate this participation.

There are good possibilities of cooperation between Indian and German firms particularly in third country projects. India has built up a strong infrastructural base of technical and managerial competence covering vital areas of economy and industry. The lower costs of engineering services in the country coupled with technical competence has provided India's engineering construction organisations a distinct advantage particularly in servicing the needs of developing countries. The FRG has been setting up a large number of industrial projects in various countries and there exists great potential for joint collaboration between India and the FRG. The areas identified for third country cooperation between India and the FRG include steel projects, petro-chemical projects, jute mills, cement plants, power generation equipment etc.

#### INDO-FRG INDUSTRIAL COOPERATION

Out of a total number of foreign collaborations approved during the period 1957 to 1982, the share of the FRG in foreign collaborations amounted to 1282, next only to USA and UK. During the <pg-10>

period January to September 1983, out of a total of 482 collaborations approved, the share of the FRG comes to 92.

The fourth session of the Indo-FRG Joint Commission was held in Bonn on December 1-3, 1982.

# RMANY INDIA USA UNITED KINGDOM JAPAN CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC **Date :** Jan 05, 1984

## Volume No

1995

#### HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Four Years of Sustained Effort to Strengthen Country, ReviveEconomy: Prime Minister's Broadcast to Nation

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 15, 1984 of the broadcast by the Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi, on the completion of four years in office:

Brothers and sisters, we have just celebrated Sankranti. It is the harvest festival in many parts of India. In Tamil Nadu it is known as Pongal. To my fellow citizens all over the country, I give my warm greetings.

Also yesterday, my Government completed four years. We pledged ourselves anew to our historic endeavour of building a strong, self-confident, self-reliant independent India. Now is the time to take stock of what we have done. Now is the time to think about the next stage of our long journey.

These four years have not been easy. We inherited a damaged infrastructure and a shattered economy, marked by high inflation rates, slow growth and severe problems of balance of payments. Our difficulties were compounded by two successive years of drought. The failure of rains in 1982-83 was the most widespread known in this century. The international economic environment was, and continues to be, one of exceptional difficulty for developing countries. India's security is threatened as never before. The defence burden has increased enormously. These challenges we have faced resolutely, without any slackening of our development effort.

Taken together, the four years illustrate what our country can do when Government works with a will towards a clear goal Let us look at some examples of our achievements. May I tell you where we were then and where we are now? Foodgrain production this year is expected to touch an all time high, crossing the 140 million tonnes mark. The credit for this goes to Indian farmers, who have taken advantage of the improved facilities which we provided. As one example, 8 million hectares of additional irrigation potential has been created. It would take too long to go into every aspect of our progress. I shall mention a few. Power generation has increased by 50 per cent because of the substantial increase in installed capacity and better utilisation. This has not been generally appreciated, because demand has grown and is growing even faster, as a result of the revival in our economy. Petroleum production has risen sharply from 10.51 million tonnes to 26 million tonnes. Similarly the production of coal, cement and fertilizers has registered significant increases.

Under the revised 20-point programme, the Integrated Rural Development Programme has helped 15 million families and generated employment of 1,240 million man-days. The two new schemes I announced last Independence Day - employment guarantee for the rural landless and self-employment for the educated young -- have made a solid beginning. The level of our investment in <pg-11>

the Sixth Plan in the last four years is 65 per cent or twothirds higher than in the Fifth.

The world is caught in the whirlwind of unprecedented technological changes. Can India afford not to keep in step? We have to revolutionise our production structure to absorb the new technologies. Our scientific and technological infrastructure can meet the challenge of modernisation. There is new dynamism among our scientists. With their help, we have put our own satellites in space, and have commissioned the first Indian designated nuclear power station. Although highly sophisticated, these projects are closely linked with the needs of the common people.

#### SEVENTH NON-ALIGNED SUMMIT

Two major international conferences were held in Delhi. In March 1983, the seventh Non-Aligned Summit provided new direction to the international community in its search for peace. It also gave a framework for the restructuring of international economic relations on the basis of equality and justice. In November 1983, the Commonwealth Heads of Government Conference carried further the process of bringing the industrialised and the developing countries together for the larger good of all humankind. We have restored the original thrust of our foreign policy with its commitment to non-alignment and peace, to friendship and cooperation. India is once again in the forefront of the common struggle of nations for peace and development for all.

Coming to the present, we are now in the process of formulating the Seventh Plan. Each stage of development must carry the growth process farther. Indeed, I should like the process of growth itself to be basically altered and so structured as to progressively reduce social and economic inequality. In this Plan we want to help the poor to get greater employment and increase their productivity, to earn more. In agriculture, we proopse to take up a special programme for regions where the yield is low in rice. The wheat revolution will be extended to areas which have not so far benefited. Dry-land farming will be put on a secure basis. Social forestry will be emphasised to meet the basic fuel, fodder and construction needs of village communities.

#### PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

I share your worry about the price situation. In particular, women who have to manage households, have had to grapple with increasing difficulty in recent months. Our efficient management of the public distribution system prevented shortages and mitigated distress. But a natural calamity of such vast proportions was bound to leave adverse effects. One, is the rise in prices, although inflation had been brought down earlier from 23 per cent at the end of 1979 to less than 3 per cent in 1982-83. I am only too conscious of the hardship of families with low or fixed incomes. Tonight I should like to assure you that the Government is making every effort to maintain price stability. We have taken action to strengthen fiscal discipline, to drastically cut down unproductive expenditure and to intervene with suitable policy instruments to control price of commodities which are important to family budgets. Last week, instructions were given to Ministries and agencies of the Central Government. I need your cooperation to combat the unhealthy and anti-social activities of a section of the community which manipulates scarcity to its advantage but to the cost of millions of households.

#### WHEAT SUBSIDY

We have several programmes to help the unemployed and the irregularly employed. Even so, their incomes are uncertain and inadequate and their minimum nutrition needs must be ensured. So, we have decided that for persons working in the National Rural Employment Programme or in the Rural Employment Guarantee Programme, wheat will be made available at Rs. 1.50 per kg. throughout our country. This subsidy will be borne entirely by the Central Government. For its successful implementation we need the cooperation of State Governments.

#### BALANCE OF PAYMENTS

From the previous regime, we inherited a severe crisis of balance of payments. <pg-12>

We had to have orderly adjustment which would not cut into growth. We asked for assistance from the International Monetary Fund for support of our balance of payments. An extended arrangement was woked out under which India was expected to receive 5 billion SDR for its adjustment programme. At that time I assured my fellow citizens, that in no circumstances would the adjustment programme mean the slightest deviation from our basic economic and social policies. I assured them also, that we would use the foreign exchange facilities extended by the IMF prudently and in keeping with our strong commitment to our policy of selfreliance. These promises we have kept. Our policies of import substitution and of building indigenous capabilities in key areas have paid rich dividends. The policies and programmes, followed since 1980, have generated capabilities to adequately meet our external obligations. Much has still to be done. However what is important is that the direction has been set. As a result of the careful management of our foreign exchange resources during the last four years, we have now reached a position where we do not have to draw the balance of over 1.1 billion US dollars available under the credit arrangement with the IMF. Early this month, after several weeks of studying the various aspects involved, Government took the formal decision to inform the IMF that because of our improved foreign exchange situation, we have voluntarily decided not to avail ourselves of the balance and last week a senior official was sent to Washington to convey this.

#### IMF

We appreciate the cooperation of International Financial Institutions. The IMF, has problems in meeting mounting demands from other developing countries whose balance of payments position are acute. I hope that India's decision not to draw the balance of credit will help the IMF, though in a small way, to give more help to other developing countries. By no means are our problems at an end, but we have successfully resolved the crisis into which the previous Government had led our country, and had bequeathed to us, in 1980.

#### FOREIGN POLICY

One of the major objectives of our foreign policy is cooperation with other developing countries. But we can pursue our plans of development only if the atmosphere of confrontation in our neighbourhood and internationally is changed. Unfortunately, the cold war is at our very doorstep.

Let us beware of anything which causes division amongst ourselves and weakens our country. We must work together to make it strong and prosperous. We must stand together the unity and integrity of our country. We must stand together in its defence. Each one of us, every group, every region will gain when our country is strong. And, a strong and stable India will be a staunch champion of peace and friendship among nations.

Brothers and sisters, the time is one of challenge and of opportunity. Let our country not find us wanting. Jain Hind.

#### A INDIA LATVIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

## Volume No

1995

#### NON-ALIGNED INFORMATION MINISTERS' CONFERENCE

Prime Minister's Message

The following is the message to the Non-Aligned Information Ministers' Conference in Jakarta from Mrs. Indira Gandhi, Prime Minister of India and

Chairperson of the Non-Aligned Movement:

I congratulate the Government of Indonesia on its initiative in holding this cpg-13>

Conference in response to the call given by the Seventh Non-Aligned Summit which met in New Delhi in March last year.

Non-Aligned countries want greater friendship and closer economic and technological cooperation among themselves and with countries belonging to both blocs. This necessitates a better balanced flow of information. That is why Non-Aligned countries have pioneered and effectively promoted the cause of a new International Information and Communication Order. This is being strenuously opposed by some countries and vested interests. Our efforts to reduce dependence on rich and powerful transnational information agencies are an integral part of our struggle for a new world order based on justice and equality.

Non-Aligned countries are conscious of the special contribution that the media can make to development and social change. In this field, we can learn more from one another's experience than from that of affluent societies. We have already devised certain useful instruments for this purpose, prominent among which are the Non-Aligned News Agencies Pool and the Broadcasting Organisation of the Non-Aligned countries. It has not been an easy task and has brought considerable organisational and financial burdens. Yet these arrangements have contributed to the decolonization. of information. The seventh Non-Aligned Summit agreed on certain specific measures to increase the exchange of information.

I hope that the Ministerial Conference in Jakarta will give further impetus in this direction.

Problems left over from past colonialism must be overcome. At the same time we must look to the future.

The space age has revolutionised the technology of information. Non-Aligned countries must not be left behind, for failure to keep up will only make us more dependent. The space programme in India is finding new ways of using satellites for speedier communications in remote areas, for mass education and to provide a variety of information directly relevant to the lives of our people. I am sure other developing countries are also devising plans to use new processes of communication to support the nation-building process.

My good wishes for the Conference.

DONESIA INDIA USA

**Date** : Jan 15, 1984

## Volume No

1995

#### NON-ALIGNED INFORMATION MINISTERS' CONFERENCE

#### Speech by Information Minister

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 26, 1984 of the speech of Shri H. K. L. Bhagat, minister for Information and Broadcasting at the Conference of Ministers of Information of Non-Aligned Countries in Jakarta, January 26 to 30, 1984:

Mr. Chairman, distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen, it is indeed a privilege to address this august assembly gathered in the Capital of one of the founding members of the Non-Aligned Movement. At the outset, I must express my warm felicitations to His Excellency, Gen. Suharto, President of the Republic of Indonesia for giving a positive direction to this Conference through his inspiring speech this morning. We are grateful to the Government of Republic of Indonesia for hosting this conference and making such excellent arrangements for it. It gives me great pleasure to join the preceding speakers in extending sincere congratulation to Your Excellency for your unanimous election to the Chairmanship of this Conference. We are confident that under your experienced and wise guidance, our deliberations will be purposeful and productive. I also congratulate those who have been elected Vice Chairmen of the conference.

#### KNOWLEDGE AND INFORMATION

Mr. Chairman, science and its myriad applications are constantly affecting and changing the quality of our lives for better or for worse. There is also an unprecedented explosion of knowledge and information. The Communication Revolution today is exerting a profound influence <pp-14>

on mankind. The Industrial Revolution took more than two centuries to transform our way of life. As yet, its benefits are spread neither in full measure nor evenly. The communication revolution has, however, come upon us with dramatic suddenness. Its impact is all pervasive and unparalleled in history. It has shrunk the world to the size of a "tribalised global village" highlighting the essential closeness and interdependence of all countries.

But the new revolution has given to those with advantages of wealth and power, a head start. The effect is highly unsettling. The process of change with its unforeseen possibilities has immediately tended to widen disparities, enabling the strong to be stronger. By its very nature, the communication revolution and swiftly changing technologies have opened up new ways of coping with legacies of backwardness as well as of the possibilities of creating a New World Order of Information and Communication. They have the potential to democratise truly both national and international life. In this age of nuclear weapons when there is no alternative to peaceful coexistence and cooperation among nations, these new developments can reinforce the maintenance of world peace.

#### POWER OF INFORMATION

An early awareness of the immense power of information and communication, and its potential both for good and for evil, prompted the United Nations and other international organisations to strive for better and more effective exchange of information through various means. The wide ranging debates in international forums in the past two decades have focussed attention on the problems of imbalances in information flow, and disparities in communication capabilities, and have highlighted the urgent need to remedy them in the interest of peace, cooperation and progress. At its 20th General Conference in 1980 in Belgrade, UNESCO took a major step forward in adopting the recommendations of the International Commission for the Study of Communication Problems

(popularly known as the McBride Commission) and set up the International Pro

gramme for the Development of Communication (IPDC) under the aegis of UNESCO to promote communication development in the

developing countries.

In these achievements, the Non-Aligned Movement, a powerful and dynamic force that has brought together nearly two-thirds of mankind, has played the role of a catalyst and pathfinder. The Movement has regarded information as a national resource and has correctly characterised monopolistic practices in information flow as an out-growth and instrument of the existing inequitable order of international economic relations. The Non-Aligned Movement views a new order in information and communication as an integral element of the New International Economic Order.

#### NEW INFORMATION ORDER

Stemming from its appreciation of the potentiality of information and communication as tools of development, of economic, social and cultural emancipation and transformation of international understanding and cooperation, the Non-Aligned Movement has attached great importance to changing the present unequal and inequitable relations in these spheres. It was the first to call for a new, more just and more effective order of information on the basis of world-wide cooperation. In its Algiers Summit in 1973, the Movement called for decolonisation of information as an essential step towards correcting imbalances in information flows and disparities in communication capabilities. Successive summit conferences thereafter at Colombo in 1976, at Havana in 1979, and at New Delhi in 1983, as well as other meetings at Governmental and professional levels, have enunciated the principles of a New Order. The Non-Aligned countries have been in the forefront at UN, UNESCO and elsewhere in creating world awareness of the uneven development and distribution of world resources, including communication resources.

NEWS AGENCIES POOL

The creation of the News Agencies Pool of the Non-Aligned Countries, the Broadcasting Organisation of the Non <pg-15>

Aligned Countries (BONAC), as well as regional news exchange systems like the Organisation of Asia-Pacific News Network, the Pan African News Agency, the Federation of Arab News Agencies, AIASEI and ASIN in Latin America, and other such bodies, shows the shared concern of the developing countries, particularly the Non-Aligned countries, to promote a better, more balanced and more effective dissemination of information. The task before us, Mr. Chairman, is to strengthen and carry this process forward, and especially to give a further impetus to collective selfreliance among the Non-Aligned and developing countries.

The Political Declaration of the 7th Non-Aligned Summit in Delhi in March, 1983, has spelt out the basic guidelines in this regard. In para 192 of the Political Declaration, the 7th NonAligned Summit observed that the Heads of State or Government agreed on certain steps for cooperation in economic, information and other fields with the object of strengthening their independence and also of reinforcing the position of the developing countries in negotiations with the developed countries on the basis of equality and mutual benefit. They also adopted a Declaration on Collective Self-Reliance among Non-Aligned and Developing Countries. The Declaration said, inter alia, that collective self-reliance is an integral part of our efforts to restructure international economic relations with a view to establishing the New International Economic Order.

#### NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER

Mr. Chairman, I need hardly reiterate that the establishment of the New International Economic Order is inextricably linked with the establishment of a New World Information and Communication Order, and that steps taken towards one will also help our progress towards the other. Let me also recall that in para 22 of the Political Declaration of the 7th Non-Aligned Summit, the Heads of State or Government noted with satisfaction that cooperation among Non-Aligned Countries in information and mass communication is successfully contributing to reducing dependency on trans-national information agencies, despite obstacles and opposition to the establishment of a New World Information and Communication Order. What is more important, they noted with particular satisfaction that an international consensus is emerging on this concept which had its genesis in the Non-Aligned Movement. It should be our aim, Mr. Chairman, to preserve this consensus and go on to concrete action based on collective selfreliance and mutual cooperation. We should do our best to take concrete steps, however small they might appear to be, by using the agencies/organisations already set up or available in the international sphere for mutual benefit and endogenous development. Our efforts should be focussed on improving the performance of these agencies and removing the obstacles that hinder their development.

#### BANDUNG CONFERENCE

Being here in this great country, Indonesia, which has played an important and creative role in the crucial formative years of the Non-Aligned Movement, my mind is drawn to the historic Bandung Conference, the spirit of which remains so relevant to our gathering today. On that occasion, Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru voiced our sentiments and aspirations, and I quote:

"Our primary consideration is peace. All of us are passionately eager to advance our countries peacefully. We have been left behind in the race, and now we have a chance again to make good. We have to make good rapidly because of the compulsion of events. If we do not make good now, we shall fade away not to rise again for a long time to come. We are determined not to fail." In pursuit of these wider objectives, the Non-Aligned News Agencies Pool as well as the regional news exchange systems like the Asia-Pacific News Network, and the Pan African News Agency, should be further developed and strengthened so that they might play their role more effectively. The recommendations of the 7th Summit urging speedy action to lower communication tariffs, accelerate the development of communication infrastructure and <pg-16>

strengthen and establish national news agencies, are very relevant in this context. As you are, no doubt, aware, Mr. Chairman, India has taken keen interest in the operation of the News Agencies Pool from its very beginning. I might mention in this context that an international seminar on improving the Pool performance is going to be held in Delhi in the near future.

#### BONAC

Mr. Chairman, this Conference may also like to take note of the achievement of the Broadcasting Organisation of the Non-Aligned Countries (BONAC). The electronic media-Radio and TV -- are increasingly becoming more significant for exchange and dissemination of information as an input in the developmental process. I may mention, in this context, that with the successful launching and operation of the Indian National Satellite -- INSAT-IB, we are now poised for a rapid expansion of our TV network. INSAT-IB happens to be our first multi-purpose satellite combining broadcasting, TV, telecommunication and meteorological operations, and its system concept was designed entirely by Indian. scientists. Programmes are now under way to extend by the end of 1984 TV coverage to 70% of the population from its present coverage of 23%. Informal as well as formal education would be the main areas to be covered through the national TV network. A new world of awareness will open for millions of our people, enlarging their vision and enriching their lives.

The areas of co-operation for mutual benefit among our countries are many and varied. Apart from cooperation through the New Agencies Pool and BONAC, the 6th meeting of the Intergovernmental Council at Valetta (Malta) in June 1982 had suggested certain other areas for cooperation, including, for example, joint ventures in newsprint production, and exchange of films. We have not made much progress in these spheres and we must now take concrete steps to extend our cooperation to these and other areas, for mutual benefit. In India, however, we have recently taken a significant step in this direction. In our noncompetitive Film Festival held in Bombay this year, we introduced a

special section on Third World Cinema. The emphasis was on African Cinema this year. This will also continue in future with the focus shifting to various other countries or groups of countries in the Third World from time to time.

I may refer in this context to the significant impact that the International Programme for the Development of Communication (IPDC) under the aegis of UNESCO had made on the media scene in the developing countries, even in its initial period of operation. The growing number of requests of varied nature for IPDC assistance highlight the credibility and regard which it has deservedly earned. This also reflects the great expectations it has aroused among the developing countries. Urgent steps, however, need to be taken to bridge the gap between the requirements and the limited resources of IPDC to enable it to play its proper role. As an earnest of its commitment to the aims and objectives of UNESCO and the IPDC, India has made a contribution of US \$ 200,000 during the last two years. The 7th Summit has called upon all member-countries to make their full contribution, commensurate with their resources, to the IPDC. We sincerely hope that there will be a good response.

This Conference has also been given a mandate by the Summit to determine the criteria for and proceed with the constitution of the Inter-Governmental Council. Our deliberations in the past few days give us confidence that we will carry out this mandate purposefully by constituting an effective Inter-Governmental Council which would translate into action the identified areas of cooperation amongst us. I take this opportunity of expressing our great sense of satisfaction at the work done by the previous I.G.C. under the distinguished Chairmanship of H.E. Mr. Latif Nisayif Jassim, Minister of Culture and Information of the Republic of Iraq.

#### NAMEDIA

The Media Conference of the Non-Aligned (NAMEDIA) held in New Delhi in December 1983 gave a call to the Non-Aligned Countries to do much more than what they have done so far to increase the <pp-17>

flow of information among their own people and among the Non-Aligned Countries. The discussions in the NAMEDIA Conference, a non-official conference of media personnel, professionals and specialists from Non-Aligned Countries, served to focus attention on the relevant issues in this field in a spirit of mutual understanding and goodwill. I am sure, this Conference would like to take note of these deliberations and welcome the initiative which resulted in the convening of the Conference. We hope this will be followed by similar gatherings of professionals.

I would like to conclude, Mr. Chairman, by stating that we in the Non-Aligned Movement are firm believers in using information and communication as tools of economic and social development. It should be our endeavour to strive for a better, more balanced and more effective New World Information and Communication Order and take pragmatic and concrete steps towards it through collective self-reliance and mutual cooperation. I am sure, the deliberations in this Conference would be of great help to us in fulfilling our objectives. No matter what the difficulties are, we have to persevere. In the words of Smt. Indira Gandhi, our Prime Minister and Chairperson of the Non-Aligned Movement, and I quote:

"Let us not be daunted. Our very cooperation will increase our capacity to withstand pressures. With unity we can hope to move ahead to a future of freedom, peace and prosperity".

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

# DIA INDONESIA USA YUGOSLAVIA ALGERIA CUBA SRI LANKA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC MALTA IRAQ

**Date** : Jan 26, 1984

# Volume No

1995

#### NETHERLANDS

India and Netherlands Keen to Escalate Bilateral Trade

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 31, 1984 on the Dutch Foreign Trade Minister's visit to India:

India and the Netherlands have evinced keen desire to escalate bilateral trade to a much higher level. Although the 1982-83 trade figures between the two countries represent a 12 per cent increase over the previous year both the Commerce Minister, Shri V. P. Singh, and the Netherlands Foreign Trade Minister, Mr. F. Bolkestein, agreed that there was potential for further expansion and growth.

This was discussed here today when the Netherlands Foreign Trade Minister, who is here on the invitation of the Commerce Minister, called on the latter.

The Netherlands Minister also expressed his country's desire to organise programmes for Indian exports and to have discussions with the Trade Development Authority. He was in favour of increasing Indian participation in Dutch Fairs and said his country was undertaking an action programme for Indian exporters to Netherlands. Mr. Bolkestein felt that Indo-Dutch trade was not commensurate with the size and importance of India. He said that his country was greatly interested in developing the two-way trade. There were some imbalances in the trade, however, he stressed the sincerity of his Government to convince India that if there were any barriers on the Netherlands side he would make all efforts to remove them. Primarily he felt that these imbalances were due to lack of market penetration on both sides. He offered help from the Netherlands through the Centre of Promotion of Exports from <pp-18>

developing countries to encourage Indian exports. Mr. Bolkestein mentioned that very shortly they would be inviting a delegation of Indian manufacturers to Holland to make both sides aware of commercial possibilities.

#### DYNAMISM

The Commerce Minister, Shri V. P. Singh, stated that as long as there was dynamism and growth in bilateral trade occasional imbalances were not important.

Mr. Bolkestein also made suggestions for collaboration in principal sectors such as agriculture, drinking water, shipping and transport and waterways. He said that several projects for Indo-Dutch collaboration had been indicated to different departments in India. Such projects include the improvement and development of seeds for domestic use and for exports, dredging repair facilities, deepening of Madras Harbour and sand by-pass of Paradip Port. Development assistance and cooperation, he reiterated, should be built up for a durable relationship between the two countries.

Shri V. P. Singh suggested areas of collaboration such as horticulture, and in this specifically apples and mushrooms. He also suggested collaboration in the field of orchids and roses.

Mr. Bolkestein also offered cooperation in third markets. The Commerce Minister agreed that Dutch expertise and technology and low Indian costs could certainly come together in the consultancy and engineering sector.

It was also decided by the two Ministers that the next Indo-Netherlands Mixed Commission would meet at the same time as the Joint Business Councils in The Hague in June this year.

#### INDO-NETHERLANDS TRADE

The Netherlands is an important trading partner of India, occupying almost the same position as that of France and Italy in India's trade with Western Europe. The two-way trade turn-over has been showing an increasing trend. In 1981-82, 1982-83 and 1983-84 (Apr.-June, 1983) the exports figures are Rs. 151.28 crores, Rs. 113.60 crores and Rs. 30.86 crores respectively. The import figures for the same period are Rs. 246.41 crores, Rs. 251.92 crores and Rs. 36.35 crores respectively.

Major items of exports from India to Netherlands are feeding stuff for animals, articles of apparel and clothing accessories, floor covering, etc. (including carpets and tapes, etc.), textile yarn fabrics and related products, leather and footwear, and meat and meat preparations.

Major items of imports from Netherlands are urea, chemicals and related products, machinery and transport equipment, non-ferrous metals, metalliferrous ores, and metal scrap, milk and cream, iron and steel, butter and cheese, and fixed vegetable oils.

There is a bilateral Economic and Technical Cooperation Agreement between the two countries. The Dutch Minister for Foreign Trade, Mr. F. Bolkestein visited India in February, 1983. Subsequently, the first meeting of Indo-Netherlands Joint Committee on Economic and Technical Cooperation was held in New Delhi during March 21-23, 1983. Separate Working Groups, on Shipping and Transport and Agriculture were constituted and discussions held for identifying areas for cooperation in these fields.

A Joint Business Council between FICCI and Central Board of Foreign Economic Relations of the Netherlands was established in February, 1982. The first meeting of the Indo-Netherlands Joint Business Council was held in New Delhi on March 22, 1983.

The Netherlands Centre for the Promotion of Imports from the Developing Countries, known as CBI, Rotterdam, an autonomous organisation financed by the Netherlands Government, extends financial and organisational assistance to exporters of developing countries for participation in some of the specialised trade fairs in the Netherlands, participating in their training schemes, seminars and product promotion <pg-19>

meets; and displaying samples of products in their show-rooms.

Approvals for 120 industrial collaborations with the Netherlands have been accorded till end September, 1983. These are mainly in the fields of electrical and electronic industries, power transformers, gas condensers, welding electrodes, petrochemical items, etc.

The Netherlands, as a Member of the Aid India Consortium, has been providing assistance to India since 1963. Between 1963 and 1983, the total bilateral financial assistance extended by the Netherlands has amounted to 2,614 million guilders (including 148 million guilders for debt relief), of which 677 million guilders has been in the form of grants and 1,937 million guilders by way of concessional loans.

# DIA THE NETHERLANDS USA RUSSIA FRANCE ITALY CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC **Date :** Jan 31, 1984

# Volume No

1995

PAKISTAN

Foreign Secretary Inaugurates Indo-Pakistan Sub-CommissionMeetings

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 19, 1984:

Inaugurating the meeting of Sub-Commissions III and IV of the India-Pakistan Joint Commission here today, the Foreign Secretary, Shri Maharajkrishna Rasgotra said:

The first and second Sub-Commissions of the India-Pakistan Joint Commission met for the first time earlier this week. From all accounts, the meeting achieved some progress. That should be a matter of satisfaction to us.

This meeting of the third and fourth Sub-Commissions here in New Delhi is a welcome and happy occasion, which I feel privileged to inaugurate. I have great pleasure in extending a warm and friendly welcome to the members of the Pakistan delegation. I wish them a pleasant stay here. I hope the discussions they are going to have with our officials will carry this constructive dialogue between our two countries a long step forward and the results of this meeting will impart meaningful content to the relations between our two countries in the fields covered by the two Sub-Commissions.

I hope that our friends from Pakistan will not grudge me the thought - and the hope - that this meeting will register even greater achievement than the Islamabad meeting earlier this week. I say this not from a sense of rivalry but from the desire, so often demonstrated by our leaders, for a positive and cooperative turn in India-Pakistan relations. For too long and far too often has the world heard only of differences and disagreements between India and Pakistan: We think it is time for a change.

#### FORUM

It was in this spirit that our Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, proposed the setting up of the India-Pakistan Joint Commission as a forum for forging constructive and mutually beneficial ccoperation between our two countries which would help transcend the differences and misunderstandings of the past.

As you know, the Prime Minister of India and the President of Pakistan agreed to set up the Joint Commission and this decision was brought into effect when a formal agreement was signed by the two Foreign Ministers in March 1983. The Commission's first meeting took place in Islamabad in June 1983. It was a good <pg-20>

beginning and we were happy that we made some useful, though modest progress. The goals that we set out to achieve last year were the same as those enshrined in the Simla Agreement of more than a decade ago.

The two Sub-Commissions meeting here deal with information and culture, education and social sciences, travel and tourism. These are important areas of extensive potential contacts between the information media, the academic, intellectual and the ordinary citizens of our two countries. The progress achieved in our meetings will help generate understanding between our peoples. Larger interaction between them is bound to be beneficial to both.

#### POSITIVE APPROACH

Our approach, might I repeat, is positive and constructive. We are anxious to give meaning and substance to the relations between our two countries in different areas. We are anxious to do so because Pakistan is our neighbour; and a strong tradition of good neighbourliness characterises our history and our culture.

The Prime Minister of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, said some time ago; neighbours are a gift of geography. India and Pakistan are neighbours; that is a reality and it is given to neither to change it. India desires normal and friendly relations with Pakistan as between two sovereign, equal and independent neighbouring countries.

Our country is blessed with many neighbours. We have differences over some matters with some of them, and that is but natural. But the general tenor of our relations with each one of them is excellent and our cooperation with them is diverse and extensive. We work together with them as good neighbours: where we differ or disagree, we do so as friends. As friends, we try to narrow differences and widen the areas of understanding and cooperation. Why should the situation between India and Pakistan be any different? In appropriate forums both countries should give careful thought to this question.

This is the spirit in which our delegations to this meeting of the two Sub-Commissions in New Delhi will discuss issues with their counterparts from Pakistan. We wish to work for greater contacts among wider cross-sections of our two peoples.

We seek cooperation in the largest possible number of areas of common interest for mutual benefit on the basis of agreed priorities.

I am confident that cordiality and the spirit of friendship will prevail in these meetings and your talks will be productive and useful. Looking beyond these meetings, I hope that the agreements reached here will be acted upon by the respective agencies and organisations of the two Governments so that we can move forward to the full achievement of the aims in pursuit of which the Joint Commission was established.

I wish all success to your endeavours. May your work lead to the opening of new vistas of understanding and cooperation between our two countries.

KISTAN INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC **Date :** Jan 19, 1984

# Volume No

1995

#### PAKISTAN

Indo-Pakistan Joint Sub-Commissions III and IV Concludes -Press Statement

The following is the text of a press statement issued in New Delhi on Jan 21, 1984 on the Indo-Pakistan Joint Sub-Commissions III and IV:

The second meeting of Sub-Commission III on information, education, social sciences, culture and sports and Sub-Commission IV on travel, tourism and consular matters of the India-Pakistan Joint Commission was held in New Delhi between January 19 and 21, 1984.

The meeting of the two Sub-Commissions was inaugurated by Shri M. Rasgotra, Foreign Secretary of India. H.E. Mr. Riaz <pg-21>

Piracha, Ambassador of Pakistan was present on the occasion.

The Pakistan delegation for the meeting of the two Sub-Commissions was led by Mr. M. A. Beg, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Culture and Sports and Mr. Mohsin Kamal, Joint Secretary, Tourism Division, Government of Pakistan. The Indian delegation was led by Shri J. K. Bhatacharya, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting and Shri Surjit Singh, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs.

During the discussions, which were held in a cordial and constructive atmosphere, the two sides reviewed the progress of the implementation of decisions made at the last meeting of the two Sub-Commissions held at Islamabad in June 1983 and exchanged views on specific proposals aimed at promoting mutually beneficial cooperation in these fields.

In response to an invitation extended by his Pakistan counterpart, the Information and Broadcasting Minister of India will be visiting Pakistan from February 15, to 18, 1984.

A protocol on promotion of group tourism, the text of which has now been finalised, will be signed soon.

In the course of deliberations in Sub-Commission III, various other proposals were discussed and decisions reached in regard to exchanges in the fields of information, education, culture, sports, performing arts, etc. It is hoped that this will facilitate visits of artists, poets, writers, performing artists and experts in various fields between the two countries.

The meeting considered further measures to implement decisions taken at the last meeting in regard to cooperation among national libraries, national archives and national museums and for the preservation of cultural property, prevention of illegal exports of antiques etc.

Fresh proposals have been made to give further impetus to the tempo of exchanges in the field of sports and plans have been made for exchanging teams of sportsmen in different fields during 1984. Exchange of exhibitions of paintings, photographs, handicrafts and folkcrafts are also envisaged.

In Sub-Commission IV steps to streamline modalities in respect of return of civilian detenus who have completed their sentences were further discussed. It was agreed that measures would be considered to increase the number of shrines for visit of pilgrims of both countries. It was decided that, in future double entry transit visas would be issued by both countries.

All the four Sub-Commissions of the India-Pakistan Joint Commissions will meet again in New Delhi during the 2nd Meeting of the Joint Commission.

# Volume No

1995

### PAKISTAN

Indo-Pakistan Sub-Commission-I Meets in Islamabad

The following press release was issued in Islamabad on the conclusion of the meeting of Sub-Commission-I of Indo-Pakistan Joint Commission:

Sub-Commission I of the Indo-Pakistan Joint Commission, which deals with economic matters has completed its deliberations, the highlights of which are as follows:

#### PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

A working group consisting of Secretary Planning and two senior officials of the Planning Commission of both countries has been constituted to formulate suggestions for economic cooperation. A seminar on long term economic cooperation is to be held in Islamabad in April 1984.

### AGRICULTURE

The two sides exchanged drafts on agricultural cooperation between the Indian Council for Agricultural Research and the Pakistan Agricultural Research Council. A revised draft has also been prepared for final approval by the two governments. <pp-22>

### RAILWAYS

It has been agreed to introduce through bookings for the passengers travelling between Pakistan and India to seven designated railways stations in both countries. Passengers will be able to buy tickets in their own currency journey. These arrangements are expected to come into effect in July 1984.

### HEALTH

Both sides agreed to exchange delegations for discussions between the Directorate General Health Services and Medical Research Council of both countries. Areas of cooperation would include control of communicable diseases, control and prevention of goitre and other water borne diseases, as well as research and training of teachers for the handicapped. A Pakistani delegation is to visit India in April 1984 and an Indian delegation would visit Pakistan subsequently.

### INDUSTRY

Progress was reviewed regarding i) exchange of visits ii) technological cooperation and supply of machinery iii) joint ventures and iv) exchange of information. A proposal to set up a Joint Business Council was noted for consideration. A delegation of industrialists and officials would visit India to explore prospects of industrial cooperation and exchange of information. Both sides agreed to encourage their entrepreneurs to invest in the Export Processing Zones of the other country.

### SHIPPING

It was agreed that it would be mutually beneficial to expand the scope of the 1975 "Protocol on Resumption of Shipping Services between India and Pakistan" to cover carriage of third country exchange cargo. A Pakistani delegation is expected to go to India to discuss further liberalization of the Protocol and related issues.

#### **TELECOMMUNICATION**

It was decided to add one more telephone carrier system between Lahore and Amritsar for which the terminal for installation at Lahore will be loaned by India.

A radio telephone link in the VHF range will also be installed shortly for which the terminal for installation at Amritsar will be loaned by Pakistan.

It was decided that the coaxial cable system between Lahore and Amritsar which is a part of the Asia Telecommunication Networks should be completed by end of 1984. After this system is installed better quality circuits would be available.

Auto telex circuits would also be expanded over the terrestrial and satellite telex traffic.

Both sides further agreed to examine the introduction of semiautomatic telephone working and try to overcome the related technical problems in this connection.

#### POSTAL

The two sides expressed deep appreciation at the reduction of postal rates for mail between the two countries. It was agreed to hold a meeting of the two postal administrations by mid-1984 for settlement of postal accounts prior to 1971.

### SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

It was agreed to exchange visits for exploring cooperation in clean energy, marine science genetic and bio-technology medical research, environment and optics with a view to sharing each other's experience.

### KISTAN USA INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date** : Jan 21, 1984

### Volume No

1995

PAKISTAN

Indo-Pakistan Sub-Commission II Meets in Islamabad - AgreedMinutes

The following agreed minutes were signed by Shri Abid Hussain, leader of the Indian delegation and Mr. Izharul Haque, leader of the Pakistan delegation in Islamabad on Jan 17, 1984 after the conclusion of the meeting of Sub-Commis-<pg-23>

sion II of the Indo-Pakistan Joint Commission:

The Pakistan and Indian delegations to the Sub-Commission II (Trade) consisted of the following members:

### INDIAN DELEGATION

H.E. Mr. Abid Hussain (leader), H.E. Mr. K. D. Sharma, H.E. Mr. S. K. Lambah, H. E. Mr. Santosh Kumar, H.E. Mr. A. K. Sen and H.E. Mr. A. K. Doval.

PAKISTAN DELEGATION

H.E. Mr. Isharul Haque (Leader), H.E. Mr. Towfiq Fehmi, H.E. Mr. Javed Burki, H.E. Mr. Mian Mumtaz Abdullah, H.E. Mr. Mohammad Hafiz Shaikh, H.E. Mr. Said K. Dehlavi, H.E. Mr. Iqbal Mueen, H.E. Mr. Ghulam Yazdani and H.E. Mr. A. Hamid.

Sub-Commission II (Trade) met in three sessions held in the Ministry of Commerce on the 15th, 16th and 17th of January, 1984.

The talks were held in a very cordial and friendly atmosphere.

The two delegations reiterated their keen desire to substantially

increase trade between the two countries. It was agreed that there was a considerable scope for increasing trade between the two countries, without incurring large trade imbalances.

In order to further increase the levels of trade, the following items were identified for bulk trading between the two countries:

### EXPORTS TO INDIA

Fertilizer (urea), low grade coal, pig iron, soda ash, fresh and dried fruits, petroleum products, fish, rock salt, onyx and industrial alcohol.

### EXPORTS TO PAKISTAN

Iron ore, steel mill rolls, stainless steel sheets, mica and mica products, selected chemicals, jute and jute products, tea, coffee, bidi leaves.

In the context of increasing its trade with India, the Pakistani side inter-alia reiterated its concern of affording protection to its industry. The Indian side took note of Pakistan's concern.

It was agreed to exchange market intelligence regarding commodities of common interest in their trade with third countries.

It was agreed to encourage technical cooperation in items of export interest of the two countries.

While expressing satisfaction over the existing cooperation between the two countries on issues of international trade in the various international trade forums, it was agreed to maintain and increase exchange of views on a regular basis on trade matters of common concern to developing countries.

It was agreed that more opportunities should be provided to the trading communities of the two countries in order to establish contacts with each other for the purposes of identifying possibilities of trade and learning from each other's experience.

It was agreed to find ways and means of gradually inducting the private sector in the trade between the two countries.

It was agreed that the two countries would make all possible efforts to meet each other's requirements of essential commodities caused due to unforeseen shortages.

Both the countries have set up export processing zones for promoting export oriented units. The investors of the two countries woud be encouraged to set up units in each other's Export Processing Zones in accordance with respective regulations.

#### <pg-24>

KISTAN USA INDIA

**Date** : Jan 17, 1984

### Volume No

1995

#### ROMANIA

Trade Pattern

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 19, 1984 on the need for diversification and spectrum pattern of trade which were discussed when the Romanian Foreign Trade Minister called on the Commerce Minister:

Greater efforts must be made by both India and Romania to diversify bilateral trade and to make it more broad based. This was discussed here today when the Foreign Minister of Romania, Mr. Vasil Pungan called on Shri V. P. Singh, the Commerce Minister. Mr. Pungan is here on a four-day visit leading his delegation on the invitation of the Commerce Minister. The present state of economic relations between the two countries and prospects for short and medium term cooperation will be reviewed. This visit is to followed by the seventh session of the Indo-Romania Joint Commission scheduled for February, 1984 in Bucharest.

The Romanian Minister expressed the interest of the Romanian side in supplying drilling rigs and cementing units to the Oil and Natural Gas Commission. He also referred to the Romanian offer of leasing drilling equipment to the ONGC on a charter basis, and to the transfer of technology and delivery of equipments to Indian Iron and Steel Company Ltd. Mr. Pungan was of the opinion that there was scope for greater Indo-Romanian cooperation in the field of metallurgy as in the soaking pits at Durgapur Alloy Steel Plant and in participation of the expansion of Bhilai and Bokaro Steel Plant. He requested the Commerce Minister for his help in pursuing these offers, he considered important for enabling Romania to sustain its import from India.

Romanian interest in collaboration in the energy field such as hydro, thermal and nuclear energy was also conveyed. The Commerce Minister stated that these areas were of great interest for India and power stations such as these required in the hills would be relevant to the country. Similar possibilities of collaboration in thermal energy based on low - calorie coal could be considered.

#### IRON ORE

The Romanian Minister expressed his desire to buy larger quantities of iron ore and iron ore concentrates, electrodes, chemical products, mica, glycerine, soyabean meal, ground-nut extractions, leather etc. if resources were made available through larger exports from Romania.

The Commerce Minister assured a follow up on these offers with other Departments. It was mentioned to the Romanian Minister that the State Trading Corporation would be in a position to supply ground-nut extractions, finished leather, shoe-uppers, shoes and other non-traditional items. However, he specially mentioned the need for Romania fulfilling its obligation both in iron ore purchases and urea supply. Possibility of cooperation in third markets were discussed. Both the Ministers agreed on the real possibility of collaboration in the power sector provided the complemenarities on both sides were properly identified.

#### INDO-ROMANIAN TRADE

Indo-Romanian trade is conducted under the long term trade and payments agreement signed between the two countries in 1959 which has been extended presently upto 1985. The trade between the two countries is to be on a bilateral balanced basis.

During 1981 and 1982, India's import from Romania were of the order of 1068 and 760 million rupees and exports of 795 and 1950 million rupees, respectively. The main items of imports from Romania were urea, chemical products, rolled steel pro-<pp-25>

ducts, oil prospecting and drilling equipments, railway equipment, machine tools and newsprint etc. The main items of export from India to Romania were iron ore, iron ore consentrates, leather, manganese ore, deoiled cakes, engineering goods. However, iron-ores from India and fertilisers from Romania constitute major products exchanged between the two countries.

The trade plan provisions for 1983 and 1984 are exports at Rs. 1560 million and 1832 million respectively and imports are evenly targetted at Rs. 1560 million and Rs. 1832 million for these years.

# EXPANSION OF TRADE AND ECONOMIC CO OPERATION BETWEEN INDIA AND ROMANIA DISCUSSED

The Romanian Minister of Foreign Trade, Mr. Vasile Pungan, called on the Union Finance Minister, Shri Pranab Mukherjee here today. Both the Ministers agreed to expand and diversify the areas of co-operation, according to the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on January 9, 1984.

The Romanian Minister referred to a number of offers which Romania had recently made for supply of Romanian equipments and services in such fields as oil exploration (on-shore and offshore), metallurgical field (steel), power generation (thermal and hydro-power projects) as well as for supply of a number of commodities like cement, newsprint, fertilizers, railway stores, etc. The Finance Minister responded by saying that he would fully reciprocate the desire expressed by the Romanian Foreign Trade Minister that both the countries should endeavour their best to expand areas of economic co-operation and trade between the two countries.

The meeting ended with an optimistic note that both the sides hoped that the economic co-operation between the two countries would grow in future.

### INDIA KEEN FOR LONG-TERM KUDERMUKH ORE EXPORTS TO ROMANIA

India today expressed a desire to have long-term agreement with Romania for the export of iron ore concentrate from Kudremukh to that country, according to a press release issued in New Delhi on January 10, 1984.

This was stated by Shri N. K. P. Salve, Union Minister of State for Steel and Mines. when Mr. Vasile Pungan, Minister of Foreign Trade, Romania, called on him here today.

To pay for the pellet plant at Mangalore, for which the equipment is being supplied by Romania, India is exporting Kudremukh concentrate to that country since 1981. Shri Salve said that since the Romanian steel plants had found the Kudremukh concentrate suitable, India was anxious for a long-term agreement with Romania. He said that pellets to be produced at Mangalore could also be exported to Romania. Mr. Pungan said that Romania was willing to sign a long-term trade protocol, covering specific areas of interest to the Ministry of Steel and Mines.

About the Romanian offer of a sinter plant for the Indian Iron and Steel Company, Shri Salve said that a team was evaluating the sinter technology available in different parts of the world and the Romanian offer was also being considered.

Shri Salve offered to export steel to Romania. Mr. Pungan said that experts from his country and from the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) should discuss this matter. Those steel items, which India was producing but were not being produced in Romania, could be exported to Romania, while Romanian steel items, which were not being produced here, could be imported from Romania. Mr. Pungan referred to the recent visit of a team of experts from the SAIL and the Metallurgical and Engineering Consultants (India) Limited (MECON) to the steel plants in Romania and said that his impression was that the team was very appreciative of Romanian achievements in <pg-26>

metallurgy. The visit, he said, had opened a new chapter of bilateral co-operation between the two countries. Shri Salve said that India would make every effort to expand the areas of bilateral co-operation between the two countries.

### AN ROMANIA INDIA USA UNITED KINGDOM

**Date** : Jan 19, 1984

### Volume No

1995

SARC

Co-operation in Meteorology Among South Asian Nations to beStrengthened

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 10, 1984 on South Asian Regional Cooperation programme:

The technical committee on meteorology set up under the South Asian Regional Co-operation Programme has recommended intensification of areas of co-operation in the field of meteorology. The committee has worked out details for the implementation of the programme for co-operation among Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. The first meeting of the technical committee was held in New Delhi for four days under the Chairmanship of Shri S. K. Das, Director General of Meteorology.

Research activity for improving weather forcasting services in the region was considered as an urgent need. The committee decided to prepare a report in respect of short, medium and long range forcasting, tropical cyclones, thunder-storms, monsoon and entrusted the work to different members.

To encourage research activities in meteorology, a regional research award has been instituted, to be given annually to young scientists of the region. Plans have also been drawn for exchange of scientists, conducting seminars/workshops during the next one to three years. Another important aspect was on identification of the training requirement of different meteorological services in the Region. Effective steps were suggested for improving and standardising the meteorological equipments for monitoring the routine meteorological data in the region.

# DIA BANGLADESH BHUTAN MALDIVES NEPAL PAKISTAN USA **Date :** Jan 10, 1984

### Volume No

1995

SOVIET UNION

Soviet Assistance in Energy Development

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 31, 1984 on Soviet assistance in energy development:

The Soviet Union is keen to further strengthen cooperation with India in various sectors of energy like oil prospecting, coal mining and power generation and would be glad to extend whatever assistance it can offer to promote energy development. This view was expressed by Mr. Y. P. Ryabov, Chairman of the USSR State <pg-27>

Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, who called on Energy Minister, Shri P. Shiv Shanker, here today.

The Soviet delegation promised all possible assistance for collaboration projects in exploratory drilling in West Bengal basin, work-over of low productivity wells in the Gujarat region and supply of deep drilling rigs, spare parts and the training of personnel. A team of Soviet oil experts is already here having discussions with ONGC officials in these areas of cooperation.

The Soviet delegation fully appreciated India's desire to go in for more and more indigenisation in the manufacture of equipments for coal mining projects and coal washeries and promised to supply whatever equipment could not be manufactured in India at present. India is getting latest designs for coal washeries from Soviet Union. In the Mukanda coal project which is expected to produce 12 million tonnes of coal, India has already entrusted the design of two washeries to the Soviet Union. India's efforts to make use of Soviet expertise in open-cast mining and underground shaft driving will be based on the principle of using as much of equipment and spares produced indigenously as possible. The Soviet team evinced interest in collaborating in the setting up of new thermal power stations as back-up for the expansion programmes in Bhilai and Bokaro steel plants. Negotiations are already on for Soviet collaboration in the Kahlgaon power project in Bihar.

The Energy Minister was assisted in the discussions by Sarvashri A. S. Gill, S. S. Lal, S. Venkitaramanan and B. N. Swarup, Secretaries in the Departments of Petroleum, Coal, Power and Non-Conventional Sources of Energy.

### DIA USA RUSSIA UNITED KINGDOM

**Date** : Jan 31, 1984

### Volume No

1995

SOVIET UNION

Indo-USSR Working Group on Oil Industry Meets

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 30, 1984 on the Indo-USSR Working Group on oil Industry:

The Soviet delegation to the Indo-USSR Worrking Group on Oil Industry led by Mr. D. A. Takoev, USSR Deputy Minister of Oil Industry had discussions with Shri A. S. Gill, Secretary, Department of Petroleum, here today. The Working Group set up under Indo-USSR Joint Commission identified areas for intensifying cooperation. These include: seismic exploration and exploratory drilling onshore; work-over of low productivity wells in the western region with Soviet assistance; deputation of Soviet specialists to India and Indian specialists and technicians to USSR; and scientific and technical cooperation in petroleum geology between scientific and research institutions in the Soviet Union and institutions under the ONGC.

The group will also discuss prospects of cooperation in oil industry within the framework of the seventh plan and delivery of Soviet equipment and spares.

The Soviet team will be visiting Dehra Dun, Baroda and Ankleshwar and having discussions with ONGC officials. A protocol is expected to be signed after the second round of talks on the return of the team to Delhi.

### A INDIA **Date :** Jan 30, 1984

### Volume No

1995

SOVIET UNION

Enhancement of Indo-Soviet Trade on a Mutual Basis

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 16, 1984 on the enhancement of Indo-Soviet trade on mutual basis:

The enhancement of Indo-Soviet trade on a mutual basis was emphasised today when Mr. N. N. Smelyakov, the Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade in the USSR called on the Commerce Minister, Shri V. P. Singh here today.

Mr. Smelyakov is leading the Soviet delegation whose purpose is to explore pos-<pg-28>

sibilities of enhancing the trade between the two countries. This is particularly with a view to expand India's imports of Soviet machinery and equipment.

The Commerce Minister stressed that a long term, stable and realistic trade relationship can be based on mutuality. He further emphasised that enhanced exports from the Soviet Union are a guarantee for greater Indian exports to the Soviet Union since the two are linked in the trade arrangement between the both countries.

The Soviet Union delegation consists of representatives of specific Soviet enterprises in a machinery and equipment sector. The delegation will be having detailed discussion with FICCI which is also organising a seminar on Indo-Soviet trade.

This is the first Soviet delegation to India following the signing of the Indo-Soviet trade protocol for 1984 which envisages a total trade turn-over of Rs. 3,840 crores. This target represents a 24 per cent increase over 1983's actuals of Rs. 3,100 crores.

### Volume No

1995

SWEDEN

### **Energy Cooperation**

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 16, 1984 on Indo-Swedish cooperation in the field of energy discussed during Energy and Petroleum Minister's visit to Sweden from January 12 to 14, 1984:

Prospects of Indo-Swedish Cooperation in the field of energy were discussed in detail between the visiting Indian Minister of Energy and Petroleum, Shri Shiv Shankar and his Swedish counterpart Mrs. Birgitta Dahl. Shri Shiv Shankar was paying a two day visit form January 12 to 14, 1984 to Sweden at the invitation of Mrs. Dahl.

The importance of the visit can be judged by the fact that Shri Shiv Shankar was accompanied by a delegation which incuded Shri A. K. Sah, Chairman and Managing Director, National Thermal Power Corporation. Moreover, even during the short visit, Shri Shiv Shankar visited Gothenburg, Vaesteros and Stockholm. At Vaesteros, he visited the factories of the Swedish Energy Giant ASEA, whose technology of high voltage electric transmission is considered extremely relevant to India and which ASEA is willing to transfer to India and set up manufacturing facilities in joint collaboration.

At Gothenburg, the Minister visited the shipyard where off-shore equipment is manufactured by Sweden for world-wide exports. In Stockholm, the Minister was briefed by the public sector body Swedyards as also the Royal Institute of Engineering Sciences. The Minister spoke to the Academy on India's energy needs and prospects. Apart from this conventional, non-conventional and renewable sources of energy were also discussed. It is well-known that Swedish technology in these areas is not only modern but also relevant for developing countries like India.

The next step in Indo-Swedish collaboration in energy and other areas would be to work out concrete prospects and plans. This is expected to be furthered at the next meeting of the Indo-Swedish Joint Commission which is being held in New Delhi in February 84. For the first time the Commission would be meeting at the political level. <pg-29>

EDEN INDIA USA RUSSIA **Date :** Jan 16, 1984

### Volume No

1995

TANZANIA

India Offers Steel to Tanzania

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 03, 1984 on India's offer to sell steel to Tanzania:

Shri N. K. P. Salve, Union Minister of State for Steel and Mines, today offered to sell steel to Tanzania on favourable terms and on a long-term basis.

The offer was made when a three-member delegation, headed by the Tanzanian Minister for Mines, Mr. Paul Bomani, called on him here to discuss cooperation between the two countries in the steel and mineral sectors. Mr. Bomani said that his country was importing steel items from some European countries but was prepared to discuss imports from India. Shri Salve said that the Steel Authority of India would get in touch with the Tanzanian authorities for further discussions in this matter.

Shri Salve inquired about the availability of power in Tanzania and said that if it could be spared for aluminium industry then India would be happy to help Tanzania in setting up an aluminium smelter. He said that India could also export alumina to that country. Mr. Bomani said that every effort was being made to generate cheap hydro-electric power in Tanzania and three such projects were coming up.

The Tanzanian leader said that labour-intensive technologies, developed by India were more appealing to his country and Tanzania wanted to profit from India's experience.

Mr. Bomani said that Tanzania was interested in getting its personnel trained as mining-engineers and geologists in India. Shri Salve said that India was ready to help Tanzania in this field.

The Tanzanian delegation, which includes the Chief Chemical

Engineer of State Mining Company of Tanzania (STAMICO), is visiting India for a fortnight on an invitation from Shri Salve.

During its stay, the delegation will familiarise itself with the expertise developed by India in coal and gold exploration, diamond cutting and polishing, and mineral beneficiation techniques. It will have discussions with the officials of the Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited, Indian Bureau of Mines, Geological Survey of India, Bharat Gold Mines Limited and the Hindustan Diamond Corporation.

Shri Lovraj Kumar, Secretary, Department of Steel and Shri P. K. Basu, Secretary, Department of Mines, also attended today's meeting.

### NZANIA INDIA OMAN USA

**Date** : Jan 03, 1984

### Volume No

1995

### THAILAND

Possibilities for Further Investments in Joint Ventures in Thailand

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 20, 1984 on the possibilities for further investments in joint ventures in Thailand:

There is a adequate potential for further investment in joint ventures in Thailand judging by the success of the performance of the eight operational Indian joint ventures in that country. This conclusion was arrived at when by Smt. Ram Dulari Sinha, Minister of State for Commerce, when she took a review of the joint ventures in Bangkok. She also visited three of the ventures in operation in Thailand. <pp-30>

The Minister urged the joint ventures managements to keep the local Embassy and the Ministry of Commerce regularly informed of their progress so that proposals requiring additional finances could be received well in advance. She also assured the joint venture representatives that she would convey their request regarding obtaining loans from Indian banks in Thailand to the Department of Banking. The Minister was pleased to note that the latest technology is being adopted in a joint venture producing carbon black. In those cases, where the joint ventures are having operational problems, the Minister advised the Indian Ambassador in Bangkok to review the ventures regularly and to keep the Ministry informed.

There are twelve joint ventures approved in Thailand - eight in operation and four under implementation. These ventures are in the fields of paper pulp, cutting tools, synthetic yarn, carbon black, viscose staple fibre, steel bars, steel wire ropes, dye stuffs, contraction of rail road projects, pigments, processing of textiles, cigarette tissues and other speciality paper.

AILAND INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date** : Jan 20, 1984

### Volume No

1995

### UNITED KINGDOM

Rs. 294 Million British Aid to Three Indian Projects

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 04, 1984 on Indo-U.K. economic cooperation:

Mr. Timothy Raison, the visiting British Minister for Overseas Development, met the Union Finance Minister, Shri Pranab Mukherjee, here today. They discussed various issues relating to Indo-UK economic cooperation. Three agreements for UK assitance to cover rupee costs of three projects in India were concluded.

The three agreements totalling Rs. 29.4 crores were signed by Shri P. K. Kaul, Finance Secretary and mr. Robert Wade-Gery, the British High Commissioner in India in the presence of Shri Pranab Mukherjee, Union Finance Minister, and Mr. Timothy Raison, British Minister for Overseas Development.

Under the agreements, UK Government will provide œ3.907 million (Rs. 5.9 crores) for the Orissa Fisheries Project, œ5.1 million (Rs. 7.8 crores) for the Hyderabad Slum Improvement Project and œ10.35 million (Rs. 15.7 crores) for the MPM Forestry Project.

The allocation for Orissa Fisheries Project is to reimburse the local cost on the project which involves construction of fishing harbour, related shore facilities and 80 mechanised fishing vessels for the Nuagar harbour in the Puri district. The allocation for Hyderabad Slum Improvement Project is for reimbursement of the local cost of the second phase of a development plan for slum upgrading in Hyderabad and Secundrabad through the provision of basic infrastructure including sewerage, drainage, roads and pavements refuse disposal, water supply and street lighting. The amount for MPM Forestry Project which is aimed at improving MPM's silvicultural operations to achieve self-sufficiency in raw materials by developing captive plantations in degraded or deforested land by MPM, improving the management of existing bamboo forests, and associated research and development. This project is to be completed by 1987-88.

India is the largest recipient of bilateral aid from UK. India's share in the overall UK country programme is about 25 per cent. Since June 1975, the assistance given by UK to India is in the form of outright grants. The UK Government has so far extended assistance amounting to œ1717 million (Rs. 2610 crores at current exchange rate). In financial year 1982-83, the total UK aid received by India was œ105 million (about Rs. 160 crores). <pg-31>

### DIA UNITED KINGDOM USA

**Date** : Jan 04, 1984

### Volume No

1995

#### UNITED KINGDOM

#### Indo-British Economic Committee Meeting

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 09, 1984 on the Indo-British economic committee meeting

The desire to expand the area of common values and common interests between India and Britain is a sentiment shared by both countries. This expansion is particularly desirable in the area of trade and industry. This sentiment was expressed here today when the plenary session of Indo-British Economic Committee was jointly inaugurated by Shri V. P. Singh, Union Minister for Commerce and Mr. Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry of Britain.

Both the Ministers were of the opinion that this session would provide an opportunity for advancing mutual interest and clearing up pending issues. The Commerce Minister, Shri V. P. Singh felt that India could be a fruitful ground for British firms and entrepreneurs for setting up production lines for making components and ancillaries at low cost and then buying back or exporting to third countries. He expressed his happiness that some exercises had already been done in identifying precise area for this purpose.

Referring to the India's Free Trade Zones, the Commerce Minister said that India would welcome participation by British industry and business in this scheme. Equity participation in the free trade zones scheme allows for a greater deal of flexibility and investor could even hold upto 95 per cent of participation. Shri Singh further said that there was need to identify micro sectors and potential partners for technological collaborations. There was need to devise a machinery not merely as clearing house of information but dynamic instruments for active and aggressive promotion of industrial link-ups and technological partnerships.

Shri Singh said that Britain has been an active partner in India's development having the highest number of industrial Collaborations. The 1700 Indo-British collaboration consists 35 per cent of the foreign investment in the country. While the total trade between India and Britain has since 1975-76 doubled standing at 1323 crores in 1982-83 there had been more than three-fold rise in British exports to India during the same period rising from Rs. 268 crore in 1975-76 to Rs. 877 crore in 1982-83. He felt that though the trade cannot be balanced totally, the gap could be reduced considerably.

Referring to the growth in world trade, Shri Singh said that the problem of developing countries compounded by protectionist stances and recovery would remain an isolated phenomena for them unless access to industrialized market was not ensured. He said that the compulsions would bring the two countries together to find common solutions.

Earlier when the British Minister called on the Commerce Minister in his office he commended India on its exports performance and growth of economy. The British consumers high regard for Indian tea and textiles was conveyed. This quality, supremacy could also be extended to other commodities he felt. Britain being an open market, the success of Indian goods would depend on their reliability competitiveness and quality.

Mr. Tebbit congratulated India on the impressive strides she had made in reducing oil import duty and this area could provide collaboration in development as it was familiar to Britain. Telecommunications and electronics were other areas whose progress had given confidence regarding the ability of Indo-British industries to work together.

The two sub-committees on trade and industry will be meeting during the next two days and the agreed minutes will be signed on January 11, 1984.

INDO-BRITISH TRADE

Britain is one of India's major trading partners in the E.E.C. accounting for 31 cpg-32>

per cent of her exports to EEC and 27.5 per cent of her imports from EEC during 1982-83. The trend of Indo-British trade from 1975-76 indicates a rise in exports.

The exports from India to UK rose from Rs. 394 crores in 1980-81 to Rs. 446 crores in 1982-83 and to Rs. 97 crore upto (April-June) 1983-84. While the imports from UK were Rs. 731 crores, Rs. 877 crores and Rs. 184 crores respectively during the same period.

The main items of Indian exports to UK are textile, tea, tobacco, leather and leather manufacturers, engineering goods, oil cakes, jute. spices and crustaceans. Textiles and clothings constitute the major items of India's exports to UK accounting for about one fourth of total exports followed by tea, tobacco and engineering goods.

The major items of Indian imports from UK are transport equipment, machinery, rough diamonds, iron and steel, textile fibres and chemicals. Rough diamonds and machinery and transport equipment are by far the most important items of import from UK.

Monitoring of trade and economic relations with UK is being done through the Indo-British Economic Committee (IBEC) which functions as a Joint Commission for discussing all bilateral commercial and economic matters between the two countries. The Committee was established through exchange of letters dated January 6, 1976 signed by Commerce Minister and the British Secretary of State for Trade. There are two sub-committees under the IBEC - one on trade and the other on industrial cooperation which are headed at official level.

DIA USA UNITED KINGDOM RUSSIA

**Date** : Jan 09, 1984

### Volume No

1995

UNITED KINGDOM

#### Diversification for Enlarging Scope of Bilateral Trade

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 11, 1984 on the expansion of trade promotion programme for balanced Indo-UK trade:

The Indo-British Economic Committee (IBEC) has decided to substantially expand its trade promotion programme to help India alleviate its adverse balance of trade with U.K. This is in addition to œ250,000 available for a period of three years which the Government of UK had offered at the last IBEC meeting in London in 1982 for India's export promotion efforts.

A major thrust for correcting India's adverse balance of trade with UK was given at the signing of the agreed minutes here today. The minutes were signed by Shri R. Dayal, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Commerce and Mr. Peter Corley, Under Secretary in the Department of Trade and Industry, Government of U.K. in the presence of Shri V. P. Singh, Commerce Minister and Mr. N. Tebitt, Secretary of State for Industry and Trade, U.K.

The Indian and British delegations agreed to devise a sustained aggressive strategy for market development. They have identified specific economic and commercial sectors and broad ranges of products for export which would be promoted for exchange of trade missions and delegations and specific product targetted conferences where purchase missions from the U.K. will participate. In addition, there will be expansion of trade promotion programmes by way of additional training facilities in U.K. for exporters from India in marketing including quality control, packaging and distribution systems. For this trade promotion programme to be substantially expanded, the Economic Sub-Committee have realised, there would be a need for additional funds under the U.K. Technical Assistance Programme for India. The British delegation accepted the need in principle and the British Government is expected to give urgent favourable consideration for additional funds.

In his opening remarks the Commerce Minister stated that he was glad the two countries had emphasised on specific sectors and identified areas where the economic and industrial collaboration between

<pg-33>

India and Britain would help derive the maximum benefits in mutual interest. He hoped that Indo-British relations would further improve the frontiers of cooperation to be extended.

Mr. Tebitt envisaged a dynamic growth of Indo-UK trade to mutual advantage and was glad for the candid and practical suggestions.

The Economic Sub-Committee dealing with Indo-British trade and other commercial relations took stock of these important aspects

and mapped out a action plan for diversifying range of products which can be exported from India to U.K. and for enlarging the scope of bilateral trade in mutual interest. Indo-U.K. bilateral trade during the last eight years has shown a steady growth in turnover: Indian exports to U.K. have been of the order of about Rs. 400 crores and the British exports to India of the order of Rs. 800 crores. Upto 1977 India used to have favourable balance of trade with U.K. and since 1977, U.K. exports have been far larger than India's exports to U.K.

The British delegation also agreed to support the Indian position in regard to preferential treatment for Indian tobacco to be exported to EEC and to enlarge the global quota for tobacco imported by European Community countries. The Economic Community recently too partially restored the sugar quota for import from India to the extent of 10,000 tonnes per annum. India had also had a quota of sugar of 25,000 tonnes per year for export to EEC. Britain has agreed to support India's case for full restoration of the sugar quota to EEC countries.

### INDUSTRIAL SUB-COMMITTEE

The Industrial Sub-Committee of the IBEC has also identified specific areas for technical collaboration to be pursued between the two countries. There will be a machine tool mission from U.K. fielded in India in March next. There are expectations of Turnkey projects being taken up by some U.K. companies in conjunction with the BHEL. A special Working Group has been set up for Indo-British cooperation in electronics. A group of Indian industrialists is also likely to be invited by UK to visit Britain in connection with the telecommunication technology. Among some of the other industrial sectors, automative and parts have been specially identified for transfer of technology from Britain. The Pilkington of UK is expected to negotiate for collaboration with Bharat Opthalmic Glass Limited.

For consultancy and third country projects, a group of industrialists from Britain who accompanied the official delegation to the IBEC meeting to Delhi and the Indian industrialists and entrepreneurs have identified 23 sectors. Each case will be examined and firm proposals taken up in due course. The U.K. have also agreed to vigorously pursue participation by the British firms in India's free trade zones and 100 per cent export oriented schemes.

The three-day meeting of the Indo-British Economic Committee in its sixth session concluded today at New Delhi. The Secretary of State for Trade and Industry from U.K. and the Minister of Commerce of India led the two national delegations.

DIA UNITED KINGDOM USA **Date :** Jan 11, 1984

### Volume No

#### 1995

#### UNITED KINGDOM

#### Indo-British Cooperation in Computer Education

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 12, 1984 on an agreement between the two countries on cooperation in computer education:

An agreement between India and the United Kingdom for cooperation between the two countries in the field of educational software for introducing computer education in Indian secondary schools was signed here yesterday.

The agreement is based on the Memorandum of Understanding, signed between the two Governments in April 1981, mak-<pg-34>

ing specific reference to the application of computers in education and training. The agreement has been signed specifically for sharing the experience of British schools where computer education was launched a few years ago. The programme for introducing computer education in secondary schools has been formulated by the Department of Electronics and will be launched soon as a pilot project.

The agreement was signed by the Secretary, Department of Electronics, Dr. P. P. Gupta, and the British High Commissioner, Sir Robert Wade-Gery. The signing ceremony took place in the presence of the Minister of State for Science and Technology, Shri Shivraj Patil, the Deputy Minister for Electronics, Dr. M. S. Sanjeevi Rao, and Mr. Norman Tebbit, British Secretary of State for Trade and Industry.

DIA USA **Date :** Jan 12, 1984

### Volume No

### UNITED KINGDOM

#### British Collaboration in Underground Mines Development

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 17, 1984 on the Indo-U.K. Joint Steering Group Meeting:

India and the U.K. broke fresh ground during the eighth meeting of the Indo-U.K. joint steering group on coal here when the two sides agreed to collaborate in setting up two large modern underground mines at Bharatchak and Radhamadhabpur, each with a capacity of more than one million tonnes of coal per year.

The two collieries will belong to the Eastern Coalfields Ltd., a subsidiary of Coal India Ltd. operating in West Bengal.

The collaboration arrangement is considered important and meaningful because of the difficult and complicated mining condition in these two collieries and the superior quality of non-coking coal which can be tapped from the available seams in them.

#### SINGRAULI COALFIELDS

The two-day meeting of the Joint Steering Group concluded here on Tuesday. The Indian delegation was led by Shri S. B. Lal, Secretary, Department of Coal, while the British side was led by Mr. C. B. BenJamin, Under Secretary, Department of Trade and Industry of the U.K. Government.

India and the U.K. also agreed that they would associate further in the second phase of the Almori Project in the Singrauli Coalfields where the two sides are already collaborating in the joint open cast mine which can yield 4 million tonnes of coal per year. The project is being funded by British loan and aid. The second phase of the project would increase the capacity of the mine to 10 million tonnes per year.

The two sides undertook a detailed review of existing arrangements for collaboration and cooperation between India and the U.K. in respect of the coal sector, laying particular emphasis to a joint review of the performance of some major coal mining equipment from the U.K. The Joint Steering Group also discussed with the U.K. manufacturers the aspect of maximising coal production from mines using, especially longwall mining equipment from the U.K.

The British side, which is already associated with modernising and technical updating of the coal industry, also agreed to extend help in dealing with environmental problems at the Jharia Coalfield and the Amlori project, since reclamation of land after mining operations poses serious environmental challenges.

The two sides also agreed to continue their collaboration in the area of development of training in India and the training of coal industry personnel in the United Kingdom. cyg-35>

### DIA UNITED KINGDOM USA RUSSIA

**Date** : Jan 17, 1984

### Volume No

1995

#### UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Indo-US Collaboration in Agriculture to be Strengthened

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 28, 1984 at the conclusion of the third session of the Indo-U.S. Sub-Commission:

The third session of the Indo-US Sub-Commission on Agriculture has decided to strengthen further collaboration between the two countries in the field of agriculture. A joint-communique on the conclusion of the session was signed here today by the Union Agriculture Secretary, Shri S. P. Mukerji, on behalf of India and Dr. Orville Bentley, leader of the American delegation, on behalf of the United States of America.

The joint communique issued today recalled the meeting between President Reagan and the Prime Minister, Smt Indira Gandhi, in July 1982 affirming their desire to strengthen the scientific, educational and cultural exchanges. The communique reiterated the commitment of both India and USA to democratic values and the importance of increasing agricultural production through mutual collaboration with particular reference to agricultural research, natural resource management, inputs and allied technology and agricultural extension and training. The Sub-Commission through its four working groups identified specific areas of collaboration and sources of funding. The projects on biotechnology including viral genetic engineering, tissue culture, on-farm water management, integrated pest management, energy management in agriculture, forestry research, efficiency in the production and use of fertilisers, facilities for soil test and tests for purity of fertilisers, seeds, pesticides have been specially identified. Other areas identified are water-shed management, dryland farming, surface and ground water hydrology, flood management, training of master trainers for agriculture extension and communications system for transfer of technology. Arrangements for expediting the processing of the identified projects and their implementation were also discussed.

A INDIA UNITED KINGDOM

**Date** : Jan 28, 1984

### Volume No

1995

#### UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Indo-US Sub-Commission on Agriculture Joint Communique of theThird Session

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 28, 1984 on the third session of the Indo-US Sub-Commission on agriculture:

The third session of the Indo-US Sub-Commission on Agriculture was convened in New Delhi, India, 24-28 January 1984 at the Ministry of Agriculture (Krishi Bhavan). The meeting was hosted by Shri S. P. Mukerji, Secretary, Agriculture, Government of India, and Indian Co-Chairman of the Sub-Commission. The US delegation was headed by Dr. Orville G. Bentley, Assistant Secretary for Science and Education in the Department of Agriculture.

The respective delegations stressed the commitment of India and the USA to democratic values and the importance of the Sub-Commission as the key official forum for the development and enhancement of bilateral agricultural programmes between two major world democratic nations and agricultural producers, India and the United States. They reaffirmed their earnest desire to strengthen and expand areas of cooperation in the Sub-Commission where mutual benefits can be achieved.

Major priority areas were identified that would allow a wide range of activities in areas of research and development.

In July 1982, President Ronald Reagan and Prime Minister Indira Gandhi affirmed <pg-36>

their desire to strengthen cultural, educational and scientific exchanges and to seek new avenues through which these activities may be placed on an enduring basis. They therefore designated the period 1984-85 as one of special focus for this collaboration. In keeping with this decision both sides agreed to explore still further ways in which agriculture could serve as such a focus.

The Sub-Commission recognised the increasing importance of food and agricultural sciences in preserving the world's resource base and improving economic well being. Further, because of the bredth of agricultural issues in the relations between our two countries, there is interest in broadening the scope of the Sub-Commission's activities. The Sub-Commission will look for opportunities for universities and other organizations to participate appropriately, and contribute to the long-term success of its activities. The two sides further agreed to develop collaboration in the area of agricultural education. A beginning could be made by establishing centres of post-graduate education and research in selected agricultural universities and ICAR Institutes on the model of on-going projects in India. Such centres will build upon the significant developments that have occurred in both the United States and India in agricultural research and education, including the development of institutional infrastructure. There are some issues related to agricultural trade that may also be appropriate for the Sub-Commission to consider.

Four working groups operate under the authority of the Sub-Commission to determine priorities in research, development, training and extension, and scientific exchange activities. The working groups met following the opening plenary to consider proposals suggested by each side, and to identify priority areas of activity to which each country can contribute. Emphasis was placed on realistic assessments of activities which can be developed and carried out, and on identifying funding sources.

#### 1. Research and Education

The working group on agricultural research and education reviewed progress since the last meeting of the Sub-Commission in June 1982 at Washington. The group took note of the signing of the GOI-USAID Agricultural Research Project Grant Agreement and establishment of a project implementation unit at ICAR Headquarters. The group noted the good progress made in processing the two sub-projects viz. (i) soyabean processing and utilization, and (ii) post-harvest technology for fruits and vegetables. The Indian side hoped the final decision about the third sub-project viz., 'groundnut research' would be taken by the US Government at the earliest.

The working group reviewed the collaboration in agricultural research between the two Governments under the Indo-US Senior Scientific Panel (SSP) also called 'Science and Technology Initiative' (STI) and agreed that the projects identified by the SSP would complement and not duplicate the work envisaged under projects identified by the Sub-Commission. The working group felt the need and potential for developing suitable collaboration in the area of agricultural education. It was agreed to collaborate by developing centres of post-graduate education and research at selected agricultural universities and ICAR institutes on the model of the already on-going projects in India.

The working group identified six new areas of high priority for future project preparation:

1. Bio-technology.

- (i) vital genetic engineering; and
- (ii) tissue culture in plants.
- 2. On-farm water management.
- 3. Development of post-graduate agricultural education.
- 4. Integrated pest management.
- 5. Energy management in agriculture.
- 6. Agricultural economics.

The working group also identified additional project themes for future collaboration any of which could be advanced in relative priority for project formulation depending on mutuality of interest and availability of resources on each side. The pg-37>

group also agreed that the areas identified in the first meeting of the Sub-Commission held in September, 1980, but not considered so far, would also stand to be carried over.

The working group agreed that the priorities identified by the sub-commission while not limiting the scope of US held-rupee funded projects, should serve as areas of mutual interest and should receive priority even in projects of the latter type.

2. Inputs and Allied Technology

### A. FERTILISERS

(1) The working group recommended that an Indian team visit to the United States to identify elements of the US fertiliser distribution system which are applicable in India.

(2) The inputs working group recommended that research be undertaken in the following areas:

(a) Testing the efficiency of experimental forms of nitrogen, e.g. neem coated urea and urea super granules;

(b) The effciency of secondary and micro-nutrient; and

(c) Research to determine patterns and economic characteristics of farmlevel fertiliser use.

(3) FERTILISER PRODUCTION: The working group recommended that an Indian fertiliser engineers team visit United States plants where revamping in existing plants and effective maintenance management programme has resulted in energy conservation in order to learn techniques which are applicable in Indian context.

### **B. PESTICIDES**

The working group recommended that US Indian Joint Research on Pest Management be strengthened and include examination of the best approach to monitor pesticides residues.

### C. SEEDS

The working group recommended that Indian seed technicians obtain training on seed testing in US Institutions and that a team of Indian experts visit United States to study training programmes in seed technology wherever applicable for Indian needs.

### D. AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS AND MACHINERY

It was agreed that India's agricultural implements testing and safety programmes could benefit from visits by Indian experts to US Institutions responsible for conducting programmes in these areas.

Recognizing the predominant roles of private firms, including cooperatives, in the U.S. inputs sector, the US side reaffirmed the desirability of associating private sector involvement in Working Group activities.

### E. AGRICULTURAL CREDIT

The working group recognized the necessity of Integrated Approach to agricultural inputs. Credit, being one of the most important agricultural inputs, may also be included as an item to be covered by the Sub-Commission.

### 3. Natural Resource Management

The working group on natural resource management reviewed the progress achieved with respect to the proposals identified during the second session of the sub-commission and noted with satisfaction that progress has been made in implementing some proposals, for which funds were available from on-going projects. It was also noted that training and expert components of the majority of the proposals could be met out of the 'development and management training' project for which an agreement was signed between the Government of India and the USAID, in September, 1982.

While stressing the need for vigorously pursuing implementation

of the proposals listed during the second session in 1982, in the light of developing technology in various fields, the working group identified five further initiatives as indicated below for focussing further efforts:

1) environmental and ecological evaluation <pg-38>

2) forestry research education and training.
 3) watershed management including erosion and sedimentation control, water harvesting and drainage
 4) management of marginal and unproductive lands including grazing grounds and grass lands.
 5) surface and groundwater hydrology, river mechanics and flood

4. Extension and Training

management.

The development of a professional extension system in India depends critically upon human resources development, that is training the large numbers of field extension personnel and subject matter specialists, both in technology and its transfer. Therefore, without adequate training, extension cannot become strong and without extension, research itself cannot be valid and relevant.

In training, the working group recommends a short-term strategy as well as long-term strategy. The short-term strategy consists of training a few master trainers in USA in identified priority areas so that these masters trainers, on their return to India can train others. The long-term strategy, however, should be to develop training institutions within India. The working group, therefore, recommends strengthening the existing extension education institutes and the setting up of a National Institute of Extension Management.

The working group recognises the need for a strong information and communication support for professional agricultural extension and recommends that projects in these areas be identified for funding.

The recommendations of the working groups were endorsed by the Sub-Commission.

The Sub-Commission recommended that its activities be coordinated with those of other Sub-Commissions through the Executive Secretaries and that such coordination can enhance the value of these activities. It was also agreed that the activities of the working groups operated under the sub-commission on agriculture will be closely coordinated through the respective working group chairman or their designates.

The sub-commission agreed to hold its fourth session in Washington at a mutually convenient time in 1985.

New Delhi, 28th January, 1984.

(Dr. Orville B. Bentley) Assistant Secretary, Science and Education, Department of Agriculture, United States of America.

(S.P. Mukerji) Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India, New Delhi.

A INDIA UNITED KINGDOM CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date :** Jan 28, 1984

### Volume No

1995

ZAMBIA

Double Taxation Avoidance Convention between India and Zambia

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 18, 1984 on the double taxation avoidance convention between India and Zambia:

A convention for the avoidance of doube taxation and the prevention of fiscal evasion with respect to taxes on income has been entered into between the Government of India and the Government of the Republic of Zambia and has been notified today. The convention came into force on January 3, 1984, and shall have effect in India in respect of income assessable for any assessment year commencing on or after April 1, 1979. 92-39>

MBIA INDIA **Date :** Jan 18, 1984

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**Date** : Feb 01, 1984

# Volume No

1995

AFGHANISTAN

India and Afghanistan to Expand Bilateral Trade

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Feb 20, 1984 on the Indo-Afghanistan agreement to expand bilateral trade:

An Indian trade delegation today concluded its three-day discussions in Kabul with Afghan authorities.

After five rounds of discussions, an agreement was reached on measures for expanding and diversifying bilateral trade and for establishing direct operational contacts between Indian and Afghan Banks. The Indian delegation had representatives from the Ministries of Commerce, External Affairs and Finance, as well as representatives from the State Bank of India and other nationalised banks.

The discussions were held in a cordial and friendly atmosphere and a number of specific measures were agreed on for expanding and diversifying Indo-Afghan trade, and for establishing direct banking operations between banks of Afghanistan and banks of India; the latter with a view to facilitating smoother bilateral trade and technical cooperations.

GHANISTAN INDIA USA

**Date** : Feb 20, 1984

### Volume No

1995

### ASIAN FORUM OF PARLIAMENTARIANS

Conference on Population and Development -- Prime Minister's Inaugural Address

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Feb 17, 1984 of the speech by the Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi while inaugurating the first Conference of the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development in New Delhi on February 17, 1984:

I am glad to welcome to India, and to this important conference, fellow-parliamentarians from various parts of Asia and other countries. As legislators, our foremost concern is to improve the lives of our peoples and to make the world more peaceful, more understanding and more friendly towards one another.

Our continent is the world's largest and most populous. It is the home of ancient civilisations. Yet most of our nations are beset by problems of economic backwardness unemployment, and inadequate opportunities of health care and education. Only a few Asian countries have comparatively high per capita incomes. But rich or poor, we are all subject to the stresses of contemporary life in a highly competitive and distrustful world.

Foremost among the world's resources is the human resource. Other creatures, too, live on natural resources and indeed add to them.

Observation on birds, insects and animals has proved how they < pg-41 >

have inbuilt patterns of behaviour which assist seed propagation, pollination and help plant species to grow, how they recycle waste and help mother earth in a variety of ways. Human beings have conciously through brain power enlarged resources and converted them into usable, expanding wealth. Civilisation, as we know it, would not have evolved had human beings remained hunters and exploiters, had they not become farmers, builders and inventors. But minds and hands can do more when they are trained. Unemployment is a phenomenon of technological progress in affluent countries. in poor ones, the causes are different but the results much more damaging.

### AUGMENTATION OF GOODS

Development means augmentation of goods and services of which there are acute shortages. There are also problems of housing, energy, environment and urban migration. Increase in food production must keep ahead of the growing numbers of mouths to feed. The volume of employment must steadily keep pace with the statistics of those who need to earn. In no other way can poverty be lessened and eliminated. The rapid expansion of population erodes the gains we make in development. The burden of this falls on the poor and under-privileged, increasing their hardships and narrowing their range of choices.

Despite variations in systems of Goverment, all of us here can have a common approach to this particular problem - that of population control, although the strategies may necessarily differ from country to country.

Development was easier for those who are now advanced. When they derived the benefits of the Industrial Revolution, their populations were smaller and because of the still high mortality rates, were growing at a lesser rate. Several had slave labour or colonies to exploit. Expectations also were more modest. These countries did not have to adopt a conscious population policy. But we do. For many of the affluent countries, prosperity itself worked as a contraceptive. But we cannot leave things to be sorted out by such a long drawn process of fertility control. We just don't have the time. To achieve faster progress we in Asia need a breakthrough in our population control programmes in a limited time-frame. The crucial stage is now, in the life cycle of the present generation.

### GLOBAL RESOURCES

It is the prerogative of the rich to accuse the poor of improvidence and to reproach us for not working hard enough. The affluent who disapprove of the fecundity of developing countries, forget that until a century ago, families used to be large in Europe and the USA too. Smaller families became the norm with schemes of public health, hospital hygiene and when the discovery and spread of antiseptics reduced infant mortality. They also overlook the reality that although their rates of growth are relatively low, it is they who put far greater strain on global resources because their life styles are conditioned to wasteful consumption. Big overcrowded cities breed their own different problems. The spurt in population in Asian countries, specially after they regained independence is partly due to their public health programmes and the necessary use of modern drugs. Mortality rates have come down. Birth rates also have fallan in countries like China, India and Indonesia, not to mention Japan, Korea and Singapore. But most Asian countries are suffering from the consequences of the differential between the rates of decline of mortality and fertility. China and India have extra burden of a monthly addition of around a million people.

### EDUCATION

Fertility control needs the participation of millions of men and women. In most countries this has necessarily to be voluntary. Even Governments which use powerful disincentives have ultimately to rely on education in the widest sense of the world. Education should inculcate attitudinal and behavioural changes in couples and should be accompanied by organisational arrangements for contraceptive advice, equipment and medical services. India was one of the earliest countries to adopt family <pg-42>

planning as national policy. Our experience has shown that there is motivation when people feel that the policy works to the fulfilment of their perceived needs.

### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

In India, family planning is part of our plan of economic development and occupies a crucial place in our 20-Point Programme which is meant to raise the standards of living of the poorest. We are trying to create a favourable climate for family planning with the help of the mass media, folk media and interpersonal communication by trained personnel. Parents are more likely to restrict their families if they have reasonable assurance of the healthy survival of their two children. The prevention and cure of childhood disease thus acquires special importance. Nutrition and immunisation need particular attention. Diseases such as diarrhoea are easily cured, a proportion of blindness is preventable.

#### SOCIAL CHANGE

Close linkages are being forged with agricultural development and programmes of social change. We are emphasising environmental cleanliness, the provision of safe drinking water, sanitation and other such factors which concern the health and welfare of all section of the people. Opinion leaders, especially elected representatives of the people, from the level of village councils all the way upto the national Parliament have a special responsibility. Camps where such leaders can get together for discussion would be an important extension education strategy. The Indian Association of Parliamentarians on Problems of Population and Development has given a welcome lead. And so far, some 130,000 such camps have been organised in our country with an approximate participation of five million influential individuals.

Primary health care is being steadily augmented and streamlined so as to take counselling, and supplies and services for family planning to people in the remotest areas. Eligible couples are offered a choice of contraceptive methods according to their inclination. Sterilization has become popular because of its relative reliability. But people are shy to talk of it although they may boastfully give details of other surgical operations they have undergone. I might say that a lot of propaganda was done that we had a policy of forcible sterization. There is no truth in this whatsoever. The government had always relied on what we call motivation, but is trying to persuade people to take to one or other methods of family planning. Today we find that laparoscopy is a popular method and, but for the lack of resources, it could be used much more widely.

The effectiveness of the programme depends on the understanding shown of local customs and predilections and support to sound bio-cultural traditions. Apart from the hazards of unwashed bottles breast feeding is cleaner, more convenient and more emotionally satisfying for mothers and baby. It is also said that prolonged breast feeding has done more for birth control in developing countries than other methods.

### CHILD CARE PROGRAMME

Our own Maternal and Child Health Care Programme, which is considered essential for the acceptance of the small family norm, has also made headway in the last three years. Important elements of this programme are: the care of pregnant women and the newborn; the control of tetanus in the new born; immunization of children against various diseases, especially polio; the promotion of breastfeeding; ensuring proper growth by nutritional supplements; the prevention of anaemia and blindness which are due to deficiency of Vitamin A, and the training of personnel of various categories. As a result of this programme, the infant mortality rate after remaining static for many years at 127 has come down in 1980 to 114 per 1000 live births. Our target is to reduce it to 60 by the end of the century.

1971-81 DECADE

It is estimated that as a result of our family planning programme, around 39 million births were prevented during the decade 1971-81. Had these births taken <pp-43>

place, the resultant rate of growth would have been about 30 per cent instead of 25 per cent in the 1971-81 decade.

Young people must be in the vanguard of the movement to restrict population growth and to promote sustained development. In schools and colleges and through non-formal education they must be made conscious of the dynamics of population growth and its implications for their own future well-being and that of the nation. Properly planned population education programmes need be introduced at various levels so that when young people marry, they are fullyaware of their responsibility to themselves, to future generation and to society. Every occasion and festival, be it religious or otherwise, where people get together affords excellent opportunity to reach out to them to explain the importance of these programmes.

India wants to learn from those Asian countries which have succeeded in their population control programmes. I am told that long-acting injectables which provide immunity for two to three months have been successfully used in some other Asian countries, notably Thailand, and we should like to profit by their experience. In India also there is research in this area as well as in several new methods of contraception such as the immunological approach to fertility regulation. Whatever we have gained over three decades and the pool of personnel whom we have trained can be of assistance to others.

#### WORLD PEACE

In different countries we encounter different kinds of obstacles. In some countries, religious beliefs come in the way. In my country some political parties have made family planning a political weapon, propagating that by practising family limitation, caste and religious groups will jeopardize their numerical advantages. Some propaganda has been made that there was a set-back, because there were such antifamily planning rumours earlier, that we have slackened since we return to power. I would like to assure this honourable house that this is not so. We are following the policy indeed, inspite of all the publicity and wrong propaganda earlier, it continued in large parts of India especially South. But we have not slackened in this. What we have done is, which I think is a wise move, is to divert some of the money spent on publicity which we thought was not paying dividends to providing more equipments and greater support in other ways to the programme. Abroad, some people criticise us for being soft because we rely on persuasion, and others blame us for being hard, implying that we are flouting human rights if we implement our programmes with vigour! It seems you can't win

either way! In seminars and conferences, we talk of numbers. But let us always keep in mind that we are dealing not with statistics but with living people -men and women, and with an issue which is intensely personal and of the greatest intimacy. So we have to proceed with tact. We have to involve people in our planning and our programme. As a mother and as the Head of the Government, I am deeply aware of the child's right to love, careful handling and to essential services and also of the burden which mothers themselves bear. If we favour family limitation, it is because we care for the mother's health, because we love our children and want them to have opportunities for the full flowering of their personalities in a world that is peaceful, prosperous and imbued with human values. For this we need peace in the country, we need peace in the family and peace within ourselves and for all of that perhaps peace in the world.

May I welcome all our foreign delegates, I hope that some of you have already been here for sometime. I hope you have an interesting stay and that you are not being worked too hard but that as a result of your deliberations and of your meetings here this important programme, which is crucial for the world but specially for developing countries will take several steps forward and by attracting the attention of the world and of young people specially will help to persuade more and more people to take these ideas more seriously even to think of new <pg-44>

ideas, new methods which could help to improve the situations. So once more, I welcome you. I give you my greetings for this Conference and for any work which you undertake. And I wish you happy landings back home.

May I inaugurate your deliberations with great pleasure.

# DIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC CHINA INDONESIA JAPAN KOREA REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE PERU THAILAND

**Date** : Feb 17, 1984

### Volume No

1995

#### BANGLADESH

Joint River Commission Meeting

The following is the text of a press release of the Joint Press Statement issued in New Delhi on Feb 16, 1984 after the 26th meeting of the Indo-Bangladesh Joint Rivers Commission:

The 26th meeting of the Indo-Bangladesh Joint Rivers Commission was held in New Delhi from 13th to 16th February, 1984. His Excellency Shri Ram Niwas Mirdha, Minister of Irrigation, Government of Republic of India, presided over the meeting. His Excellency Mr. A. Z. M. Obaidullah Khan, Minister of Agriculture, Government of Peoples' Republic of Bangladesh and Co-Chairman of JRC led the Bangladseh delegation.

Discussions were held in an atmosphere of cordiality, frankness and full understanding. The subjects covered included the augmentation of the Ganga/Ganges flows at Farakka, sharing of the Tista/Teesta waters, problems of embankments and river training works on common/border rivers and utilisation of water of small common/border rivers.

The JRC considered the report of the Secretary level meetings regarding the augmentation of the ad-hoc sharing of Teesta waters. The Commission noted that the Secretaries had agreed to establish three joint observation points. The JRC further noted that they agreed to set up a Joint Committee for monitoring the joint observations at the three stations and to frame the terms of reference for scientific studies as also to immediately initiate the scientific studies.

The Commission expressed satisfaction on the further progress achieved by the Standing Committee and its various local level committees on issues relating to embankments and river training works. The Commission directed that the decisions taken by the Standing Committee and its local level committees should be appropriately followed up for an early solution of the problems.

#### STANDING COMMITTEE

The Commission noted the work of the Standing Committee of the JRC on issues relating to water utilisation of Manu, Muhuri, Khowai, Gumti and Dharla/Dudhkumar rivers. The Standing Committee was directed to continue its discussions and complete its recommendations as early as possible for submission to the JRC for its consideration.

Under the Memorandum of Understanding of October, 1982, the Joint Rivers Commission was directed to complete the pre-feasibility study of the schemes on the augmentation of the dry season flows in Ganga/Ganges at Farakka proposed by either side and decide upon the optimum solution within 18 months of the signing of the Memorandum. The JRC at its 25th meeting had recognised that in addition to the technical aspects, wider economic and implementational aspects of the proposals needed to be studied. Following the 25th meeting, the two sides had presented their updated proposals. During the current <pg-45> meeting, the two sides made available their comments on each other's proposals. In view of the need for consultations, it was agreed that the current meeting would be adjourned to be held in Dhaka from 29th March to 31st March, 1984.

NGLADESH INDIA LATVIA USA

**Date** : Feb 16, 1984

### Volume No

1995

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Prime Minister's Dinner for Dr. Lubomir Strougal

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Feb 21, 1984 of the speech by the Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi at the dinner hosted tonight (February 21) in honour of Dr. Lubomir Strougal of Czechoslovakia:

It is indeed a pleasure to have visits from good friends. Excellency, we appreciate your acceptance of our invitation. I extend a warm welcome to you and to the distinguished members of your delegation. Your visit will further strengthen the mutual esteem and cooperation between our two countries and our common work for world peace.

Czechoslovakia and India discovered each other a long time ago. Indologists like Winternitz and Lesny did much to interpret the Indian heritage to Europe. They earned our respect. There was deep friendship between Prof. Lesny and Poet Rabindranath Tagore and with my father, Jawaharlal Nehru. Although I was a young girl, this extended to me also for I still remember the beautiful book about your great city, Praha, which the Professor sent to me then. I had already made acquaintance with your country through the comic classic, "Good Soldier Schweik". Later I was to discover the delight of Anton Dvorak's music.

#### VIVID MEMORIES

I have vivid memories also of my father's first visit to Czechoslovakia, when I accompanied him. At that time the clouds of war darkened your sky and the jackboots of Nazism were marking time outside your borders, itching to cross over. We ourselves were fighting for freedom and our hearts went out to you. Of that visit my father wrote: "I returned full of admiration for the admirable temper of the Czechs ... who in face of grave danger and unexampled bullying, kept calm and cheerful, eager to preserve peace and yet fully determined to keep their independence".

Thus it was on the anvil of adversity that a deep bond was forged between us. After our independence, that feeling of sympathy has grown stronger. We applaud your personal contribution and that of President Husak to this growing relationship.

#### **BIG CHANGES**

In the years since you were last here, there have been big changes in India. Our economy, in agriculture as well as in industry, has gained further strength. Selfreliance, greater production and more equitable distribution have been the objectives of our development plans. Our farmers have enabled the country to withstand the rigours even of successive years of widespread droughts. As for modern technology, the last year provided evidence of the progress of our scientists when an Indian satellite was put in the sky to serve our national communication needs, and an Indian-designed nuclear power station began operating. Both are examples of our determination to use science for peace and for the well-being of our people.

Yet we are only half way through the process of modernisation. A great deal <pp=46>

<pg-40>

remains to be done. Our agriculture has to become even more productive, our industry more self-reliant, sophisticated and internationally competitive. We have to create millions of more jobs, moden and remunerative. Development in India, as well as in other developing countries, can progress only if the international climate is one of peace.

#### NON-VIOLENCE

We stand for peace not only because of the legacy of non-violence left to us by Mahatma Gandhi, but because peace is a practical necessity for carrying forward and completing the transition from a traditional to a self-reliant, technologically modern economy to which Jawaharlal Nehru was committed. It is because of this that free India follows the policy of non-alignment and peaceful co-existence and seeks active friendship and co-operation with all countries, irrespective of divergences in forms of Government. The socialist countries have given us friendship and tangible help in our developmental programmes.

#### INDUSTRIAL SKILLS

Czechoslovakia enjoys a high reputation for its industrial skills. We have benefited from your expertise in machine building

and I acknowledge your assistance in the expansion of our own basic industries. When I was in your country twelve years ago I personally saw the progress which your engineering industries have achieved. Equally impressive are your artistic attainments and the care you bestow on preserving your architectural treasures.

#### CULTURAL TREASURES

Your as well as our, great cultural treasures, your and our future, all are threatened by the fearful growth of nuclear stockpiles and preparations for war. Tension spots have grown. The Palestinian situation is grave. Lebanon is rent by strife. There is increasing interference and intervention in the domestic affairs of several independent countries and their sovereignty is receiving scant regard. In South Africa, apartheid still reigns, causing untold mental and physical suffering to the majority of its people.

#### DISARMAMENT

In India we favour disarmament, and efforts to begin immediate negotiations for the reduction of nuclear and other weapons, aiming at their eventual elimination. An earnest beginning in this direction will also create an atmosphere for the solution of many local conflicts. It will also support efforts to reduce economic disparities among peoples.

India has consistently worked to improve its relations with all countries adjoining us and to establish a climate of confidence in our region. We believe it is in our own interest to have stable neighbours. We are concerned at the continuing efforts from outside to militarise our region. Weapons have not brought a sense of security even to the strong. They will damage the economically weak even more.

#### SPIRIT OF HARMONY

Humankind can turn away from the road to disaster by seeking and deepening the spirit of harmony. Friendship does not demand identity of views. It asks only for sincerity of purpose. Indo-Czechoslovak friendship is an example of how two countries following different systems can cooperate for their own mutual benefit as well as the good of others. Friendship, as an ancient Indian book has put it, is the gem that protects us from sorrow, pain and danger.

Excellencies, friends, I invite you to raise your glasses to the health and happiness of His Excellency Dr. Lubomir Strougal, Prime Minister of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic; to the health of the distinguished delegation accompanying him; and to the prosperity of the Czechoslovak people and growing friendship and cooperation between our two countries. <pg-47>

# RWAY SLOVAKIA INDIA USA PERU CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC LEBANON SOUTH AFRICA **Date :** Feb 21, 1984

### Volume No

1995

#### CZECHOSLOVAKIA

#### Text of Dr. Lubomir Strougal's Speech

Speaking at a dinner hosted in his honour by the Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi here tonight (New Delhi, Feb 21, 1984), His Excellency Dr. Lubomir Strougal, the Prime Minister of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic said:

May I express first of all my pleasure over my repeated visit to the Republic of India, and at the same time, my delight over the manifestations of friendship and care extended to us in proof of the profound feelings which have linked our two nations. May I convey to you on this occasion cordial greetings of Mr. Gustav Husak, the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia and the President of the Republic, of the Czechoslovak Government and express also the admirations of our people who - using your own words, Madame Prime Minister - "see India according to what it achieved, according to the dimensions and resolution of the struggle it wages".

It is appropriate to say on this festive occasion that the friendship which the people of Czechoslovakia cherish towards the peoples of India has been deeeply rooted since the times of the struggles for independence.

#### INDUSTRIAL BASIS

As a matter of fact, we have not forgotten and shall not forget the manifestations of solidarity of the representatives of India at the time of threat to our Republic by Fascism. Moreover, the first stones for the foundations of the solid structure of our togetherness were laid by the great personalities of both our and your people, scientists and thinkers as Vincenc Lesny and Rabindranath Tagore. At the same time a significant contribution was made by common people of the two States who have linked their efforts in dozens of construction works, indeed in a whole hundred of works that have expanded the industrial basis of

#### India.

We are very close to each other, particularly since the memorable August 15th, 1947, when the bold vision of Mahatma Gandhi expressed in a simple word Satyagraha, deteating the oppressors by the strength of the truth of the people, became true, and when finally Jawaharlal Nehru could proclaim Swaraj, hence the independence of the country. Said in the words of your Father, Madame Prime Minister, since that time "the eyes of the whole world are fixed on us and carefully watch the paths of freedom in the East."

We perceive a profound togetherness even today when the earth has found itself on the fateful crossroads, when a new round of armaments started and when, at the same time, tensions and the threat of nuclear destruction have increased. Unfortunately, we witness the fact that some imperialist countries and some top politicians, considering war as greatest heroism, want to achieve unilateral advantages and to reverse the existing military balance. They forget that peace is indivisible, so that they prepare a global castastrophe.

#### SECURITY

After several warnings, Czechoslovakia together with its allies has taken a number of measures and, among other things, deployed on its territory operational and tactical missiles in order to ensure its security and the security of fraternal countries, in response to the threat posed by U.S. medium-range missiles targeted at us from the direction from which we were repeatedly endangered for a thousand years.

In India which knows well the price of national sovereignty and independence, we wish to demonstrate in public the desire for a true peace, for co-existence of nearby and remote countries, for cooperation for the benefit of nations of the East and of the West, of the South and of the North because we honour our obligations ensuing from our signature under the Charter of the United Nations and the Helsinki Final Act.

#### NEW DELHI DECLARATION

Among you, we intend to voice again our sincere desire that peace be preserved not only in Europe and Asia, but also on other continents, that we may live to see the signing of peace and disarmament agreements presented by the Socialist countries and the Soviet Union as well as those proposed by the Non-Aligned in the New Delhi Declaration.

There are many things we want to do together on the road towards deepening and expanding Indo-Czechoslovak cooperation in all directions and spheres. Yet none of them should be neglected by us, neither today, nor tomorrow. We are also at one with you in the matters of peace and a resolute condemnation of war as well as in our efforts aimed at halting the arms race and at eliminating useless expenditures which so far have prevented the establishment of an equitable economic order among States.

Our present talks may constitute at least a small contribution to the efforts of all people of goodwill for a better world, for a world of peace and cooperation, for the very simple reason that, though so very remote, two countries of two different continents but of the same historical experience, join their hands.

Before concluding, may I, Madame Prime Minister, say a few words to you personally. Taking this opportunity, I wish to express on my own behalf and on behalf of our nations our admiration and respect for your work done for the benefit of the people of India and for a better world around us. In your person we respect a friend of Czechoslovakia and a great politician of the developing world. After all, it was not by chance that you have been appointed to the responsible post of the Chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement in which we wish you much success.

Your Excellency, Distinguished Madame Prime Minister, Distinguished Guests, now I have to fulfil my last duty -- to wish the President of the Republic, to you personally, to your Government and to all people of India much success in the construction of your beautiful country. May the friendship between the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic and the Republic of India flourish. May peaceful cooperation throughout the world strengthen. I drink to your health, to peace and friendship among nations.

RWAY SLOVAKIA INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC USA FINLAND **Date :** Feb 21, 1984

### Volume No

1995

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Indo-Czechoslovak Joint Press Release

The following is the text of the Indo-Czechoslovak joint press release issued in New Delhi on Feb 23, 1984:

At the invitation of the Prime Minister of the Republic of India, Smt. Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, Dr. Lubomir Strougal paid an official visit to India from February 21 to 23, 1984. He was accompanied by the Deputy Prime Minister, Mr. Ladislav Gerle, the Minister of Foreign Trade, Mr. Bohuslav Urban, the First Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Jindrich Rehorek and other senior officials.

The Prime Minister of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic was received by the President of the Republic of India, Giani zail Singh, and by the Vice-President of the Republic of India, Shri M. Hidayatullah. The Prime Minister met the Minister for External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao.

The talks between the two Prime Ministers were held in an atmosphere of friendship and understanding. They informed each other of the progress achieved in economic development in their respective countries. The two leaders expressed their satisfaction at the steady development of bilateral relations and also reviewed in detail the present international situation. Both sides agreed that high-level exchanges have contributed to the strengthening of the traditional friendship between the two countries.

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They assessed the results of cooperation achieved so far in the economic field, in trade, in science and technology and agreed that there were broad possibilities for its further growth and diversification. In this context, they positively appraised the role of the Joint Commission for Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation. They also expressed satisfaction at the development of relations in culture, education, science and public health and agreed that these would continue for mutual benefit.

During the exchange of views on the international situation, the two Prime Ministers expressed serious concern at the present tensions in the world involving the danger of confrontation and stressed the need to create a climate of understanding and confidence. In this context, both leaders called for an immediate halt to the nuclear arms race and for the restoration of detente. The two sides emphasised the particular importance of renouncing the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, putting a freeze on the production of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction, and implementing concrete measures leading to general and complete disarmament. They expressed apprecation of each other's efforts at promoting peace and international cooperation.

The two sides shared the view that the resources released through disarmament should be used for social needs and economic development.

The two Prime Ministers agreed that the implementation of the decisions taken at the 7th Summit Conference of Non-Aligned countries in New Delhi would contribute to a better international

atmosphere.

During the talks they informed each other of the developments in their respective regions. Other subjects which came up for discussion were the situation in West Asia, Lebanon, Southern Africa, and international economic problems.

The two Prime Ministers expressed satisfaction with the results of their talks and are convinced that they have contributed to the strengthening of the traditional friendship between Czechoslovakia and India and have given a new impulse to strengthening of relations in all areas.

The Prime Minister of Czechoslovakia expressed sincere thanks to the Government and the people of India for the warm reception and hospitality accorded to him and invited the Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi, to pay an official visit to Czechoslovakia. The invitation was accepted with pleasure.

RWAY SLOVAKIA INDIA USA PERU LEBANON

**Date** : Feb 23, 1984

### Volume No

1995

#### CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Indo-Czechoslovak Joint Commission

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Feb 22, 1984 on the forthcoming Indo-Czechoslovak Joint Commission Meeting:

The eleventh session of the Indo-Czechoslovakia Joint Commission for Economic, Trade and Technical Cooperation will meet in May, 1984, in New Delhi, to make various recommendations for the expansion and diversification of trade and commercial relations between the two countries. This was mutually agreed to, here today, when the Minister of Foreign Trade of Czechoslovakia, Mr. B. Urban, called on the Commerce Minister, Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh.

The Czechoslovak Minister further invited Shri Singh to visit Czechoslovakia later this year. It is understood that the trade and payments agreement which is valid upto December 31, 1984, will be renewed for another five years when the Commerce Minister and Mr. Urban are expected to sign the agreement in Prague. This is indicative of both countries being in favour of continuing the existing rupee trade arrangements as they have led to expansion and stability of trade between them.

Mr. Urban also gave a working paper to the Commerce Minister, which he suggested could be the base for preparation <pg-50>

for the next session of the joint commission. Shri Singh stated that this paper would be given serious consideration by the Indian side.

Both the Ministers agreed that officiallevel meetings should continue during the year as they were necessary for constantly reviewing trade performance.

#### INDO-CZECHOSLOVAK TRADE

Czechoslovakia is an important trade partner of India amongst the East European countries. India has had trade relations with Czechoslovakia even before Independence. The first formal trade agreement between the two countries was signed in 1959. Thereafter, the first five-year Trade and Payments Agreement providing for bilateral, balanced trade in non-convertible Indian rupees, was signed in 1963 and has been renewed thrice. The present Trade and Payments Agreement which was signed in December, 1979, is valid upto December 31, 1984, and is likely to be renewed for another five years.

Since the signing of the first trade agreement, the volume of Indo-Czechoslovak trade has grown steadily. It has increased from Rs. 47 crores in 1963 to Rs. 66 crores in 1973 and is expected to have reached a record level of Rs. 162 crores in 1982.

More than three quarters of India's imports from Czechoslovakia consist of engineering products, the remaining consist of chemical products and other goods. Main items of imports thus are steel and steel products; seamless pipes; tubes and casings; machine tools; ball bearings; diesel generating sets; organic and inorganic chemicals; textile machinery; shoe-making, tanning and leather making machinery; components and spares 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 yarns, iron ore, jute manufactures, tanned and semi-tanned hides and skins, mica, manganese ore, castor oil and shellac. Traditional items constitute about 60 per cent of the total exports from India to Czechoslovakia.

The trade plan for 1984 (Jan.-Dec.) was concluded on November 16, 1983, at New Delhi. The plan envisages a total turn-over of Rs. 411 crores (imports from Czechoslovakia being Rs. 196 crores, and

exports to that country being Rs. 215 crores). It aims at increasing the trade turn-over by 6.5 per cent as compared to the target set in 1983.

RWAY SLOVAKIA INDIA USA CZECH REPUBLIC RUSSIA **Date :** Feb 22, 1984

### Volume No

1995

#### ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

India to Set up Projects in Africa

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Feb 22, 1984 on co-operation between India and the Economic Commission for Africa:

For the first time three concrete projects are being set up in Africa through the Indo-Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) Cooperation.

India has offered Activity Grant Agreements totalling approximately Rs. 10 million for the execution of three projects. It is the largest amount given by any contributing country. The three projects are the Engineering Industry Development Programme, African Regional Centre for Engineering Design and Manufacture, and <pg-51>

the Development Demonstration and Replication of Rural Technology.

The first two projects will be executed by the Hindustan Machine Tools Limited (HMT) and the third one by the National Research Development Corporation (NRDC).

Shri N. R. Laskar, Minister of State for Commerce, will sign the three Activity Grants Agreements at the ECA Headquarters in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on February 24, 1984. The Minister is leaving tonight for Addis Ababa on a four-day official visit.

It is also expected that the Minister will utilise the visit to have discussions with Ethiopian authorities concerned with industry and trade in order to expand and diversify India's economic relations with Ethiopia. The Minister is being accompanied by Shri Santosh Kumar, Director of Africa Division in the Commerce Ministry.

#### INDO-ECA COOPERATION

Sharing of technology and expertise have become the corner stone of growing bilateral Indo-African cooperation. India is pursuing programmes of regional cooperation through the ECA. India was the first non-African developing country to contribute to the U.N. Trust Fund for African Development. In 1979, India contributed Rs. Five million to ECA projects in the fields of training and consultancy as a token of India's support to the African developmental efforts. Subsequently, in the Addis Ababa Conference in May, 1983, India announced a further contribution of Rs. 10 million in view of the enthusiasm with which the earlier contribution has been utilised.

India has signed trade agreements with Senegal, Cameroon, Kenya, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Uganda, Liberia, Zambia, Ghana, Ethiopia and Nigeria. Trade Agreement with Ethiopia and Nigeria were signed in 1982-83.

India's exports to Ethiopia have gone up from Rs. 744.33 lakhs in 1977-78 to Rs. 835.22 lakhs in 1980-81. Imports from Ethiopia are valued at Rs. 3.30 lakhs and Rs. 13.10 lakhs for the corresponding period.

# DIA USA RUSSIA ETHIOPIA CAMEROON KENYA SENEGAL GHANA LIBERIA MOZAMBIQUE UGANDA ZAMBIA ZIMBABWE NIGER NIGERIA

#### **Date** : Feb 22, 1984

### Volume No

1995

FINLAND

India and Finland Sign Cultural Agreement

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Feb 04, 1984 on the signing of a cultural agreement between India and Finland:

A cultural agreement has been signed between the Government of Republic of the India and the Government of the Republic of Finland here today for a period of three years (1984-86). Shri D. S. Misra, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Education and Culture, on behalf of the Government of India and H.E. Mr. Kalerve Siikala, Director, Department of International Affairs, Ministry of Education, on behalf of the Government of Finland signed the programme.

The programme envisages the strengthening and developing friendly relations and cooperation between the two countries and their peoples through exchanges in the field of culture, education and science, holding of film festival, etc. <pp-52>

The programme envisages providing facilities to teachers and scholars visiting each other's country in pursuing their fields of specialisation, etc; award of fellowships by both countries to each other's nations for pursuing post-doctoral studies research; and exchange of language teachers at the University level.

NLAND INDIA

**Date** : Feb 04, 1984

### Volume No

1995

#### HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

#### President Giani Zail Singh's Address to Parliament

The following is the text of the address by the President of India to Parliament on Feb 23, 1984:

Honourable Members, it gives me pleasure to welcome you to this first session of Parliament in 1984 and to extend to you my best wishes for the successful completion of the budgetary and legislative business ahead.

In the current year the economy has made impressive recovery and progress overcoming the adverse effects of widespread failure of rains. Agricultural production is expected to grow by 9 per cent as against a decline of 4 per cent in the previous year. The production of foodgrains is likely to exceed the target of 142 million tonnes, compared to the actual production of 128.4 million tonnes in 1982-83 and the previous best record of 133.3 million tonnes. The buoyancy in agricultural production reflects the soundness of the strategies and programmes followed over the years. The irrigation potential, which increased by 2.34 million hectares in 1982-83, is expected to increase further by 2.37 million hectares in 1983-84. Special efforts have been made to improve the utilisation of the potential so created. The high-

yielding varieties programme has continued to expand and the 1983-84 coverage is expected to be 52 million hectares. Fertiliser consumption during 1983-84 will be well above the Plan target.

Special attention is being paid to dryland farming; 4,246 microwatersheds have been identified for adoption of new technologies which will help the poorest rural communities. A centrally sponsored scheme for assisting small and marginal farmers was also launched in 1983-84.

The recovery of the industrial economy and the improvement of the infrastructure have maintained good tempo. Coal production has shown steady improvement after September and the output during 1983-84 will be close to 140 million tonnes. During the first nine months of 1983-84, power generation has grown by about 5 per cent over the previous year. The production of crude oil, which was 10.5 million tonnes in 1980-81 and 21.06 million tonnes in 1982-83, is expected to increase further to 26 million tonnes in 1983-84 Special efforts have been made to maintain railway freight at a level higher than the previous year's. Port capacity is being expanded and the total traffic handled by the major ports in 1983-84 is expected to be an all-time-high of over 101 million tonnes.

The growth of the industrial sector, which was sluggish in the first half of the year, improved in the second half and an overall industrial growth rate of 4.5 per cent is likely in 1983-84. The manufacturing sector has performed well; textiles, engineering and cement industries have shown substantial improvement.

The industrial relations situations also continued to be satisfactory during the year, in spite of various stresses and strains in different parts of the country. The common worker has responded to the Government's call to maintain the momentum in economic development, which is reflected in increased production. cpg-53>

#### GROWTH RATE OF GNP

The growth rate of GNP this year is expected to be 6 to 7 per cent, as compared with only 1.8 per cent in 1982-83. In the first four years of the Sixth Plan, the average growth rate of GNP will be about 5.4 per cent. The country can take legitimate pride in this achievement.

The price situation has caused us anxiety. On January 7, 1984, the annual rate of inflation reached 10.4 per cent. The inflationary pressures on the economy largely reflect the low growth of output in 1982-83 due to the drought. A number of measures to counteract these pressures and to bring down inflation have been taken. These include: incentives for

increasing production of foodgrains, oilseeds and pulses; the expansion and strengthening of the public distribution system; a vigorous procurement drive; timely marginal augmentation of domestic supplies through imports; incentives for increasing industrial production; and enforcement of fiscal and monetary discipline aimed at the reduction of excess liquidity in the system. The record crop of 1983-84 and the continuing improvement in the infrastructure and the industrial sector will help in bringing down the rate of inflation in the months ahead. The Government have also taken several steps to curtail expenditure while maintaining the stimulus to production, efficiency and full utilisation of capacity.

The situation regarding our external payments has improved. The trade gap is expected to decline for the second successive year. During April-October 1983, exports (excluding oil) grew by 9.9 per cent compared to the same period of 1982-83, and the value of imports (net of oil exports) declined by 2.5 per cent. The policy of building production capacities in critical sectors and reducing bulk imports has yielded dividends. Another encouraging factor is the substantial improvement in the flow of funds from Indians abroad.

#### FOREIGN EXCHANGE

As our foreign exchange reserves have increased, the Government have decided voluntarily not to make any further drawals under the Extended Fund Facility with the International Monetary Fund after the current year. Out of the total SDR 5 billion we are utilising only 3.9 billion, thus making SDR 1.1 billion available to the IMF to assist other developing countries. Our people can be proud of the success of our external adjustment policies.

Vigorous implementation of the Twenty-Point Programme, with its emphasis on anti-poverty measures, is transforming the condition of the rural poor. Under the Integrated Rural Development Programme, 9 million rural families, including 3.2 million families belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, have been assisted in the first three years of the Sixth Plan. The total outlay on this programme during the first three years has been Rs. 22,530 million. In the current year another 3 million families are being helped. Targets to generate additional employment under the National Rural Employment Programme were fully achieved during the first three years of the Plan and the progress during the current year is satisfactory. A new Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme was launched on August 15, 1983. Rs. 6000 million have been allocated for it. There has been excellent response also to the new programme of providing self-employment to the educated unemployed. A target of assisting 2.5 lakh educated persons has been set for 1983-84.

INDIAN SCIENCE

Honourable Members of Parliament are aware of the achievements of Indian science in 1983-84. On April 17, 1983, the Rohini satellite was placed in a near earth orbit. INSAT-IB was successfully launched on August 30, 1983. Since October 15, 1983 it has been serving our telecommunication, television, radio and meteorology programmes. A large expansion of television services has been planned to increase the coverage of population from 23 per cent in 1983-84 to 70 per cent by 1984-85. India has signed the Antarctic Treaty and has become the fifteenth consultative member state. So far three expeditions to Antartica have been organised and a regular <pg-54>

station established. For the first time two women scientists have gone to that continent. We have registered ourselves with the International Sea-bed Authority for a pioneer area for extensive survey of polymetallic nodules in the central Indian Ocean. The first unit of the Madras Atomic Power Station, which was designed and fabricated indigenously, attained criticality on July 2, 1983, and has been operating at power levels up to 200 MW.

#### NATIONAL HEALTH POLICY

Parliament has recently approved the National Health Policy which lays stress on preventive, promotive and rehabilitative aspects of health care. The core of the policy lies in community participation and the provision of health services through primary health centres to millions of families in the far-flung rural areas. Vigorous measures are being pursued for control of tuberculosis, leprosy and blindness. India's efforts in family planning received international recognition when our Prime Minister was given the United Nations Population Award at a special ceremony held on September 30, 1983, in New York. An alltime-high rate of around 25.9% has been achieved in couple protection. The number of acceptors of various family planning methods has increased by 15% in April-December 1983 over the corresponding period of the previous year.

#### **EDUCATION**

In education the focus of attention continued to be on universalising elementary education in the age group of 6-14, with emphasis on girls' education, and on eradicating adult illiteracy by 1990. Taking advantage of the growh of television and radio, a vigorous programme of non-formal education has been planned. In higher education, it has been our effort to improve the functioning of universities and institutions of higher technology. The work of the two commissions set up to study the role of teachers has made progress.

A National Council of Arts has been established under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister which will formulate policies to improve the national endeavour in various fields of cultural development and conservation of our heritage. A National Book Development Council has also been set up for the development of our book industry.

The country can achieve sustained progress only in a climate of harmony and determination to resist any threats to its unity and integrity. We can ill afford to ignore the harm done by disruptive activities of communal and secessionist elements, violent agitations and systematic efforts to denigrate the manysided achievements of our people. Together, these trends in our body politic are weakening national cohesion. Some internal as well as external forces are at work to undermine India's political and social stabbility.

#### INTERNATIONAL SITUATION

In today's complex international situation, it is essential to intensify our vigilance to preserve our economic and political independence. Every pariotic citizen must cooperate with the Government in putting down forces that seek to divide the people on the basis of caste, creed, region or Janguage. At the recent meeting of the National Integration Council there was a heartening consensus, cutting across differences of political outlook and ideology, that the fabric of national unity must be strengthened and the sense of Indianness promoted. There is agreement amongst most parties against the use of violence in support of agitations and the harbouring of anty-social elements in religious places. The use of places of worship by criminals affects their sanctity and harms the interests of the nation. apart from bringing a bad name to religion. I urge Honourable Members to convert this growing feeling into a national programme to bind different parties in the country and different sections of our people into a strong and vibrant national entity.

#### PEACE AND STABILITY

In Assam, the State Government have made strenuous efforts to promote peace and stability. This endeavour has been widely supported by the public who have realised that violence leads only to social cpg-55>

and economic dislocation on a large scale. Tribunals have started working to facilitate a resolution of the foreigners' issue. Firm measures have also been taken to check illegal immigration. I trust Honourable Members will help in the process of reconciliation.

Punjab has witnessed tragic violence against innocent persons. Some forces have sought to weaken the centuries-old fraternal bonds between communities. It is however heart-warming that the majority of the people, irrespective of the community to which they belong, have refused to be misled by the sinister propaganda of hate let loose. It is imperative to restore normalcy and peace in that State. The Government have always been anxious that the problems in Punjab be solved through dialogue between all concerned.

A distressing development is the recent spread of communal violence to Haryana. I hope that peace will be restored in the affected areas.

The Government have been seriously concerned over the acceleration of the activities of communal and anti-national elements which constitute a serious threat to the security and integrity of the country. The dastardly assassination of an Indian diplomat in the United Kingdom by a gang of terrorists who claim to represent a secessionist movement in Jammu & Kashmir has emphasised the need for vigilance and preparedness on our part. The wider repercussions of such developments should be kept in mind.

Our polity has sufficient strength and resilience to overcome these difficulties. The health of our democratic institutions is sound. The Indian people have time and again shown their ditermination to protect their hard-won freedom and unity. It is up to us to harness their unbounded energy and idealism for the strengthening of the nation.

#### DISARMAMENT

The international situation is disturbing. The arms race has continued unabated with the global expenditure on armaments exceeding \$ 600 billion annually. Disarmament negotiations have not registered any progress. The talks between the USA and Soviet Union on the limitation of the Intermediate Nuclear Forces have been suspended. The prospect of redressing economic disparities is equally bleak.

#### INDIAN OCEAN

The security environment in our own region has worsened. The militarisation of the Indian Ocean area continues. The induction of highly sophisticated weapons in our neighbourhood causes concern. We prefer to spend our scarce resources on development, but we cannot afford to be blind to our defence requirements. In spite of this build-up all around us, we have persevered in our policy of seeking friendship with all our neighbours. We should like the Government of Pakistan to respond positively to our desire for better relations and our proposals for friendship, peace and cooperation and to take steps to curb the propaganda directed against us. The ethnic violence in Sri Lanka, in which Indian nationals and Tamils and others of Indian origin suffered heavy casualties and loss of property, naturally caused deep concern to the entire country. It is gratifying that the Sri Lanka Government accepted our offer of good offices to facilitate

a viable political settlement. We hope that the All-Parties Conference will lead to a lasting and satisfactory solution. Efforts aimed at the normalisation of relations with China, including the settlement of the boundary question are continuing. A number of visits have been exchanged and discussions held with the countries of the region with a view to resolving outstanding problems and further improving bilateral relations. A positive development was the launching of an integrated programme of South Asian Regional Cooperation. We were privileged to have the King of Bhutan as our chief guest on Republic Day this year.

#### HIGH SIGNIFICANCE OF 1983

An event of high significance in 1983 was the Seventh Conference of Non-Aligned Countries in New Delhi. The Conference reaffirmed the continued relevance and validity of the policy of nonalignment.

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The Prime Minister, as Chairperson of the Movement, has already taken a number of initiatives to promote peace, disarmament and economic cooperation. The most significant initiative was the organisation of informal consultations at summit level in New York at the time of the UN General Assembly. These consultations were widely acclaimed as having contributed to a useful process of dialogue on some of the critical issues of the day. Another step was the sending of a non-aligned ministerial group to West Asia in connection with the developments within the Palestinian Liberation Organisation. The Government firmly adhere to the principled policy of extending every possible support to the PLO and to liberation movements in Southern Africa and Namibia. We also played host to the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in November. It brought together Heads of Government belonging to industrialised as well as developing countries and gave new support to initiatives for peace and international cooperation.

The tradition of friendly cooperation with the Soviet Union and the Socialist countries is growing. We were deeply grieved at the passing away of Mr. Yuri Andropov, the General Secretary of the CPSU and President of the USSR. The Prime Minister flew to Moscow to convey India's sympathy to the Soviet people in their sorrow. She had a useful meeting with Mr. Konstantin Chernenko, the new General Secretary of the CPSU, at which the desire to strengthen mutual relations was reiterated.

The Prime Mnister had a useful exchange of views with President Reagan in New York. Preparations are under way for the hoding of Festivals of India in the United States and France. Our relations with the countries of Western Europe were further strengthened by various high-level visits in both directions.

I paid State visits to Czechoslovakia, Qatar and Bahrain. The Prime Minister visited Yugoslavia, Finland, Denmark, Norway, Austria, Cyprus and Greece. She also met the President of France in Paris. In addition to the participation of Heads of StateGovernment at the NAM Summit and CHOGM, we also had the privilege of playing host to a number of distinguished visitors from abroad. Queen Elizabeth II combined a State visit to India with the opening of the CHOGM. The President of Bulgaria, the Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany, the President of the Republic of Maldives and the Prime Minister of Czechoslovakia were other distinguished guests. These visits have helped to strengthen the friendly ties and cooperation between India and these countries.

Honourable Members, the Republic is passing through a period of stress. Important national tasks require steadfast devotion on the part of its public servants and people's representatives. We must give more to the nation than we take from it. A rededication to national ideals is needed so that all of us may give of our best to the cause of national unity and progress.

I wish the Honourable Members all success in their strenuous endeavours that lie ahead. Jai Hind. <pp-57>

DIA USA LATVIA RUSSIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC PERU PAKISTAN SRI LANKA CHINA MALI BHUTAN NAMIBIA FRANCE BAHRAIN NORWAY QATAR SLOVAKIA DENMARK FINLAND YUGOSLAVIA AUSTRIA CYPRUS GREECE BULGARIA GERMANY MALDIVES

**Date** : Feb 23, 1984

### Volume No

1995

ITALY

Agreed Minutes of the Sixth Meeting of the Joint Committee Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Feb 29, 1984 on the signing of the agreed minutes of the sixth meeting of the Indo-Italian Joint Committee:

The full potential of economic and commercial cooperation between India and Italy can be realised through long-term policies taking advantage of the obvious complementarities and opportunities that exist between the two countries. As the objective of increasing bilateral trade was common to both sides it was agreed that there was need to stabilise the export of major commodities with simultaneous efforts to increase the range as well as the volume of exports. This was noted when the agreed minutes of the Sixth Indo-Italian Joint Committee for Economic Cooperation was signed by the Commerce Secretary, Shri Abid Hussain and the Director General of Economic Affairs of Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Italy, Ambassador Renato Rozziero, in the presence of Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh, Union Commerce Minister, and Mr. Nicola Capria, Foreign Trade Minister of Italy, here today.

There was also an exchange of letters on the avoidance of double taxation between Shri N. Subramaniam, Additional Secretary in the Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance, and Ambassador Renato Rozziero.

The Indo-Italian Joint Committee decided that a long-term approach was necessary rather than a sale and purchase approach in industrial relations. It was also recognised that optimum trade increase could be attained only through joint action, both at the private institutional level and at governmental level. Specialised missions and delegations from Italy and India in the fields of agricultural products, including food stuffs, engineering goods, leather goods, textile products and minerals would be sent by Italy to explore the possibilities of trade and collaboration. Italy also offered to provide grants and technical assistance in the fields of machine tools, leather and leather technology, gems and jewellery and fisheries.

#### TRADE FAIRS

The two sides recognised the role of trade fairs in facilitating market information. It was agreed that the institution of specialised fairs held in Italy could help Italian consumer and entrepreneurs to know Indian capabilities. Those identified for this purpose included MIPEL Fair for leather goods, Milano Vende Fair for textiles and garments, Como Immagina, Fair for silk fabrics and jewellery fairs at Vicenza and Valenza.

India laid emphasis on specific commodities for substantial increases in export such as agricultural commodities, especially processed foods, beverages, etc. which can be developed, processed, packaged and marketed to suit Italian specifications. Besides, specialised components and ancillaries for the engineering sector, minerals like additional quanties of iron ore, manganese ore and mica could be considered. Leather, footwear, garments and leather products, cut and polished diamonds and precious stones were other commodities identified for this purpose.

The Italian side has agreed that they would like to arrange seminars and conferences with Indo-Italian entrepreneurs specially for participation in free trade zones and 100 per cent export-oriented units for which they have asked additional information on facilities and concessions extended by the Government of India. The Italian side have also agreed to arrange for training facilities for Indian artisans and <pg-58>

supervisors in foot-wear technologies as well as other leather products.

India indicated some specified areas of high technology for Italian participation, particularly for joint ventures and third country projects, including sub-contracting and joint-tendering. Tuna fishing training schemes with trawlers have also been suggested for early finalisation.

ALY INDIA USA

**Date** : Feb 29, 1984

### Volume No

1995

ITALY

Potential of Indo-Italian Trade to be Fully Exploited

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Feb 27, 1984 on the plenary session of the sixth meeting of the Indo-Italian Joint Committee:

India and Italy have both recognised the vast potential which exists between the two countries for increased trade and have expressed a keen desire to escalate their trade to a much higher level. For this the two countries have identified the Joint Committee as the operational level for specifying areas and projects to improve the total trade turn-over. This view was emphasised today at the plenary session of the sixth meeting of the Indo-Italian Joint Committee which was jointly inaugurated by Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh, Union Commerce Minister, and H.E. Mr. Nicola Capria, Foreign Trade Minister of Italy.

Earlier when the Italian Minister called on Shri Singh he referred to his country's offer of \$ 700 million as commercial credits, soft loans and grants towards various development projects and stated that it was necessary to define specific areas to utilise these resources which are to be spread over the next three years, 1984-86. The Commerce Minister reciprocated by thanking Mr. Capria for Italian assistance and stressed that IndoItalian trade relations should be one of joint ventures and collaborations. The fields which Commerce Minister identified for joint ventures included energy, light engineering, fertilizers, telecommunications and transport. He, too, felt it was necessary to identify specific projects and interests as the Italian assistance offer had substance and content in it and was not just a mere formality.

The Commerce Minister invited Italian attention to 100 per cent export-oriented units and free trade zones, while highlighting the advantages of duty free imports of raw material, simpler procedures, 10 year tax holiday and a ready 25 per cent domestic market at these zones.

Mr. Capria expressed the hope that the Joint Committee would have a final and concrete say in the trade relationship between the two countries. He mentioned that he and his delegation had come fully prepared, anticipating everything to be able to define quickly, areas of cooperation as the complementarities existed between the two countries these should be developed. He further showed specific interest in the Farakka project, automobiles and off-shore projects.

Shri V. P. Singh indicated that these interests would be conveyed to his colleagues and he would return with initiatives which would be satisfactory to both countries. He drew Mr. Capria's attention to areas of interest such as leather, which he felt had great potential for collaboration, specially in leather goods marketing, leather projects, accessories and machinery, foot-wear accessories, jewellery and horticulture. He further invited Italian design development in leather and joint production in silk and woollen textiles.

#### COLLABORATION IN THIRD COUNTRIES

Collaboration in third countries, joint tendering and subcontracting, specially in civil construction, power generation, textile production and telecommunication were fields the Minister observed which the two countries could consider. He sought Italian assistance in the restoration of India's sugar quota in the EEC and a quota increase in tobacco, again in the EEC.

At the inauguration of the Joint Committee, both Ministers felt that the bilate <ppg-59>

ral relations between their countries were excellent and these should be developed and institutionalised to make them even more operative. Mr. Capria pointed out that flexibility of the Italian industry would be able to adapt itself to Indian needs. Utilisation of Italian assistance could be evaluated every six months, he suggested. His country was interested in a long-term trade policy and he felt that this could contribute to the trade exchanges.

#### DYNAMISM AND GROWTH

While it was mutually advantageous to look for a semblance of parity in bilateral trade, the Commerce Minister emphasised that trade between the two countries should be in a state of constant dynamism and growth.

Indo-Italian trade, Shri Singh said, had shown a decline of about 15 per cent, in the first nine months of 1983, in comparison to this period in 1982. Even in products like tea and low caratage diamonds, where India enjoys pre-eminence, her share in Italy's imports was only minimal. He observed that market and consumer information gaps needed to be bridged.

He perceived immense possibilities of larger areas of cooperation other than textiles and leather. No visible institutional symbol of cooperation existed between the two countries in these important sectors. There was potential for the Indian export basket to be enlarged and diversified. India has light engineering goods and components, minerals, spices and food products which may be developed, packaged and marketed to suit Italian requirements and specifications.

# ALY INDIA USA MALI FRANCE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC **Date :** Feb 27, 1984

### Volume No

1995

#### MAURITIUS

Indo-Mauritian Joint Commission - Foreign Minister's OpeningStatement

The following is the opening statement of the Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao at the second session of the Indo-Mauritian Joint Commission in Port Louis on Feb 16, 1984:

Your Excellency, It is a matter of deep satisfaction for me to participate in the second session of the Indo-Mauritian Joint Commission which your country is so graciously hosting. We hope during this session to have an in-depth review of the entire gamut of co-operation in different field between India and Mauritius, co-operation that has steadily increased over the years. I have no doubt that this will constitute an important milestone in the history of our bilateral relations. Some years have elapsed since the first meeting of our Joint Commission. These have been eventful years in the history of Indo-Mauritian relations. Several high-level visits have taken place between India and Mauritius during this time which have generated a great deal of activity, imparting further substance to Indo-Mauritian co-operation. My Prime Minister was last in Mauritius a year and a half ago. More recently, we have had the honour of receiving your Prime Minister in India. There have also been a number of other exchanges at the Ministerial as well as functional levels strengthening old contacts and forging fresh ones in new fields of activity. Inevitably, our on-going cooperation has expanded considerably during these years, both qualitatively and quantitatively. As indicated in our Tentative Agenda, these areas encompass the fields of agriculture, industry, education, health and communications. <pg-60>

India was one of the first countries to formalise a programme for South-South cooperation in the early sixties, many years before this concept was universally recognised. Despite her own limitations as a developing country, India has made available her expertise and technologly, adopted or adapted over the years, to a large number of developing countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America. Indo-Mauritian co-operation is, of course, an eminent example of TCDC. But it is not just that. The relationship that we have established is a very special one even within this context. One speaks usually of "friendly relations" between nations, but this term cannot adequately describe our close and warm relationship and, I might even say, our emotional ties, ties which originated not only in our common colonial past and in our situation as partners in development, but which are rooted in cultural, linguistic and ethnic affinities indelibly etched in history. It is hardly surprising, therefore, that Indo-Mauritian relations have continued to blossom and our co-operation in various fields has diversified and strengthened greatly over the vears.

We have before us for review a long and detailed agenda. I can state with confidence that this session of our Joint Commission in your beautiful country will provide not merely an occasion for a review of our bilateral co-operation, but also a springboard for a new impetus in our relations and a fresh point of departure in our common endeavour for the economic development of our countries and for the benefit and well-being of our people.

URITIUS USA INDIA MALI **Date :** Feb 16, 1984

### Volume No

#### MAURITIUS

Indo-Mauritian Joint Commission - Foreign Minister's Closing Statement

The following is the closing statement of Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, Minister of External Affairs, on Feb 18, 1984 at the Indo-Mauritius Joint Commission:

I shall begin with an under-statement; we are overwhelmed by the warmth of your hospitality, the beauty of the surroundings in which we find ourselves, and the spirit of friendship and sincerity which we have felt all around us during our stay in Mauritius. It is this spirit that has pervaded our deliberations during the session of the Joint Commission, and it is this spirit which is reflected in the decisions we have taken.

Technical cooperation between our two countries which includes the deputation of experts of medium and long-term assignments from India to Mauritius, feasibility and other studies by Indian experts in Mauritians. and training programmes for Mauritius in India in various fields has received a fillip at the current session. I do not believe that there is any area in which we have not responded positively to suggestions in this regard. In the months and years to come, we hope to see substantial increase in contacts between Mauritius and India in this all-important area. We have cooperated in the past on the specific projects. But here again, it is a matter of deep satisfaction for me that cooperation in this area will be greatly intensified as a result of our deliberations in the last two days. Among the projects for which equipments from India will be fully funded by my country are those pertaining to the silk weaving industry, fish farming and industrial centres for small-scale industries, handicrafts centres with emphasis on creation of employment for women, industrial trade training centres at Beau Bassin and Piton, strengthening of meteorological services and the hospitals at Rose Belle and Moka. Aside from that, a mix of goods and services is being furnished by India for Programmes in respect of the Mahatma Gandhi Institute, investment promotion for Mauritians in India etc. The total amount of assistance in respect of these projects will be in the vicinity of Mauritian Rupees 40 million.

Quantification in figures alone does not adequately represent our cooperation in these projects and in other ways. There are other factors which elude translation into figures. Among these, doubtless, will be the continuing spirit of cooperation and <pg-61>

sincerity which, I need hardly assure you, will underline our

continuing contacts in the future and efforts we will make towards implementation of these decisions in the days to come. Not long ago, during the visit of your distinguished Prime Minister to India last year, we had agreed to treat 10 cardiac cases from Mauritius at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences in New Delhi. A number of Mauritians have now been treated there. We are now going to double the number of 20 because we understand from your side that there is a need for this. Our facilities in the advanced field of medicine are, as one would imagine necessarily, not unlimited. Nevertheless, in the special relationship we enjoy with Mauritius, we feel that this is but one further step. The projects selected for Indian involvement, I am glad to note, are those which benefit the section of the people of Mauritius who deserve the greatest measure of assistance. Silk weaving and fish farming are pioneer areas in which we look forward to considerable progress in Mauritius in time to come. These, as well as projects relating to small scale industries in several different locations will create employment opportunities, aside from assisting industry in permeating to all levels. In assisting these ventures in the past, we were guided by our own experience in small scale industries in over three decades. We, ourselves, still have a long way to go, but the one million small scale units in India are ample testimony of what can be achieved in this all-important sector of development with social justice.

We have made progress in the important venture on shipping. Several details have been decided. This is the culmination of several meetings between the officials of the two sides following the feasibility report which was submitted early, last year.We have agreed to set up a joint shipping line and the officials will be meeting soon to finalise the details

As between many other developing countries, there is unfortunately a paucity of news regarding Mauritius in India and of India in Mauritius. We are dependent, in this vital area, on agencies which originate in neither of our countries and which cannot, therefore, give the same importance and attention to such news as the people in our two countries would desire. The setting up of a teleprinter and other equipment by India in connection with the sector on meteorology will, we hope, also serve as a news link between our two countries. This should bridge an important gap, and fulfil a deeply felt need on both sides.

It is gratifying to note that we will be able to supply the equipment not only for the first phase of the Rose Belle Hospital but also for the Moka Eye Hospital as a gift from my country. I am happy to say that India will also bear the cost of the construction of the Rose Belle Hospital amounting to Mauritian Rs. 9 million in your projections. We hope, thus, that aside from numerous smaller projects in your beautiful country which will blossom further, Indian assistance to Rose Belle Hospital will be the standing and enduring symbol of the bonds which unite us.

During my brief stay in Mauritius I also had an opportunity to visit Calebasses Infirmary where a group of young boys and girls have recently undertaken to look after about 130 old and infirm people. I was very impressed and moved by their zeal and spirit of service and I am glad to announce a donation of Rs. 50,000 as a token of recognition and encouragement for the good work Human Service Trust is doing in running this home for the old and invalid.

#### URITIUS USA INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date** : Feb 18, 1984

### Volume No

1995

#### MAURITIUS

#### Agreed Minutes

The following is the agreed minutes of the second session of the Indo-Mauritian Joint Commission on economic, technical and cultural co-operation held in Port Louis, Mauritius from 16th-18th, February 1984 and signed on Feb 18, 1984 by Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, Minister for External Affairs, Government of India and Co-Chairman of the Indo-Mauritian Joint Commission on Economic, Technical and <pg-62>

Cultural Cooperation: and Mr. Anil Kumar singh Gayan, Minister of External Affairs, Tourism and Emigration, Government of Mauritius and Co-Chairman of the Indo-Mauritian Joint Commission on Economic, Technical and Cultural Cooperation:

The second session of the Indo-Mauritian Joint Commission on economic, technical and cultural co-operation was held in Port Louis, Mauritius, from 16th to 18th February, 1984.

2. The Indian delegation was headed by Excellency, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, Minister for External Affairs. The Mauritian delegation was headed by the Honourable Anil Kumarsingh Gayan, Minister of External Affairs, Tourism and Emigration.

3. The discussions took place in an atmosphere of cordality, understanding and friendship, characterising the close, fraternal and very special relations existing between the peoples of the two countries.

4. The agreements and understanding reached on the various agenda items are set out in the succeeding paragraphs.

5. Agriculture:

Recognising that the general prosperity of Mauritius is inextricably linked with growth in the agricultural sector, the Mauritian side proceeded to present its proposals in the fisheries, sericulture, sugar and tea sectors.

#### i. FISH FARM AT LA FERME

The Mauritian side explained that the purpose of this project was to carry out experimental work on standardising polyculture methods of carp and prawn. The Indian side agreed to provide the necessary equipment manufactured in India to the tune of M Rs. 1.0 million.

#### ii. SERICULTURE

The Mauritian side explained that the setting up of the silk weaving industry would complement the sericulture project already undertaken under the Government's rural development programme. Assistance would be required for the setting up of a filature, a silk weaving centre and technical assistance for dyeing, weaving and for operating the handlooms. The Indian side agreed to provide the equipment for this project manufactured in India to the tune of M. Rs. 1.6 million as well as to make available the services of two experts for a two year period.

#### iii. PROVISION OF SUGAR-CANE CUTTINGS

The Mauritian side made a proposal to the Indian delegation to consider making available certain special varieties of sugar cane cuttings from India to be used in Mauritius for research purposes. The Indian side agreed to examine this request on receipt of details.

#### iv. EXPANSION OF TEA MANUFACTURING CAPACITTY, ETC.

The Mauritian side explained that in view of the expected increase in greenleaf production over the coming years, there would be a shortage in the processing capacity as from 1985 and made a proposal for assistance from the Government of India. The assistance would include:

(1) the construction of a new factory with a blending and packaging plant,

(2) increasing the processing capacity of the three existing factories of the Mauritius Tea Development Authority and

(3) the modernisation of the transportation system of three factories.

Total assistance required would be M Rs. 46.2 million of which plant, equipment, and vehicles would amount to M Rs. 10.2 million. The Indian side agreed to examine the proposal sympathetically. The two sides agreed to examine further the technical details of the project.

6. Industry

i. INVESTMENT PROMOTION IN INDIA In order to motivate Indian industrialists to invest in Mauritius, the <pg-63>

Mauritian side requested assistance in appointing an Investment Promotion Agency for an initial period of two years. The Indian side agreed to appoint the India Investment Centre as the nodal agency for the purpose.

#### ii. SETTING UP OF AN INDUSTRIAL CENTRE FOR SMALL-SCALE INDUSTRIES

The Mauritian side explained that the development of the small scale industries was a priority area and in that respect a small scale industries development organisation had been set up. The Mauritian side proposed the setting-up of an industrial centre to provide common workshop and training facilities for the small scale industries. The Indian side agreed to provide Indian manufactured equipment to the tune of M Rs. 3.5 million. The Indian side also agreed to provide the necessary experts and operators for the centre as recommended in the report of the consultant deputed under ITEC in February 1983.

#### iii. PURCHASE OF RAW COTTON FROM INDIA

The Mauritian side requested the Indian Government to sympathetically consider waiving the ban on exports of raw cotton for Mauritius as this would help to revive two large textile weaving units in the Mauritius export processing zone. The Indian side agreed to examine the request and give an early reaction.

# iv. ASSISTANCE TO THE HANDICRAFT SECTOR WITH EMPHASIS ON EMPLOYMENT CREATION FOR WOMEN

The Mauritian side highlighted the need to create employment opportunities for women especially in rural areas in the handicraft sector, and proposed the establishement of an emporium on the Indian model. The Indian side agreed to provide equipment to the tune of M 0.7 million, host a study tour and to extend training facilities.

#### 7. Education and Culture

## i. EQUIPMENT FOR THE PROF. UPPADHYAYA ITTC (PITON) AND THE BEAU BASSIN ITTC

The Maurtian side requested the provision of equipment to the tune of M Rs. 2 million to which the Indian side agreed.

## ii. PROVISION OF MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS TO THE 15 JUNIOR SECONDARY SCHOOLS

The Mauritian side had requested the provision of musical instruments for the Junior Secondary Schools to the tune of M Rs. 575,000. The Indian side had agreed to the request. It was noted that the instruments were presented to the Mauritian Minister of Education Art and Culture during the session of the Joint Commission.

#### iii. ASSISTANCE TO THE MAHATMA GANDHI INSTITUTE (MGI)

Bearing in mind that the MGI was set up in 1970 for the promotion of Indian culture with the assistance of the Government of India, the various requests of the Mauritian side for the expansion of the activities of the MGI were examined and it was decided as follows:

a. LINKS WITH THE INDIAN UNIVERSITES: the Mauritian side was requested to submit additional information for consideration by the concerned Indian authorities;

b. SETTING-UP OF A MUSEUM AT THE MGI: The Indian side agreed to provide the necessary exhibits and relevant materials to the tune of M Rs. 2.0 million;

c. SETTING UP OF A MAHATMA GANDHI BASIC SCHOOL: the Indian side agreed to the request for the provision of the services of experts and the supply of equipment of Indian manufacture, and asked for additional information; cpg-64>

d. CELEBRATION OF THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF INDIAN IMMIGRATION IN MAURITIUS: Organisation of Conference: The Indian side agreed to the Mauritian request for the production of a documentary film on Indian immigration in Mauritius by the Films Division of India by October 1984. The Indian side also agreed to provide a grant of M Rs. 150,000 towards the organisation of the Conference; and

e. The Indian side agreed to the request for the deputation of experts, provision of fellowships, donation of books and other educational materials, theatrical costumers, musical instruments, and the provision of expert services for the setting up of a Research Unit on Indians Overseas and the printing press. The Indian side requested further specific details on these items.

#### 8. Communications

The Mauritian side had requested assistance to the tune of M Rs. 925,000 for the strengthening of the meteorological and communication services. The Indian side agreed to provide the necessary meteorological equipment made in India. The Indian side also agreed to provide equipment for setting up a satellite communication channel.

#### 9. Strengthening of Telecommunication Services

The Indian side agreed to the Mauritian request for the supply of cables worth approximately M Rs. 4.8 million to be financed, on special consideration, under the Indian Line of Credit.

#### 10. Tourism and Civil Aviation

The Mauritian side reiterated the earlier request to the Indian Government to consider favourably the Mauritian proposal of traffic rights for Air Mauritius over the Mauritius-Bombay-Dubai sector. Since it involved, inter alia Fifth Freedom Rights, it was agreed that further discussions between the concerned authorities of the two Governments would have to be pursued. The Mauritian side undertook to present a fresh memorandum on the subject.

The Mauritian side also requested that the Indian Government consider granting preferential fares on the Mauritius-Bombay route in line with those being applied by Air Mauritius. The Indian side stated that this would be examined.

The Mauritian side suggested that the Government of India should take steps to encourage tourism from India to Mauritius. In this regard, the Mauritian side outlined several suggestions. The Indian side requested a memorandum on this for later examination with the concerned authorities in India.

11. Programme of Co-operation undere bilateral agreement economic, education and cultural exchanges of 1978

The two sides reached agreement on the programme of educational and cultural co-operation between the two countries for 1984-86.

#### 12. Plaisance Airport

The Mauritian side had requested the provision of consultancy services for the development of Plaisance airport. A technical team of the IAAI has recommended the services of two resident engineers for an initial period of two years, short-term experts in different areas and training of Mauritian personnel in India. The Indian side agreed to these recommendations.

#### 13. Indo-Mauritian Joint Shipping Venture (JSV)

Substantial further progress was made during the discussions towards the establishment of an Indo-Mauritian Joint Shipping Venture. It was agreed that the JSV will also be incorporated in Mauritius and its Head Office will also be located in Mauritius. The JSV would be set up on a sound footing, with regard particularly to technical, economic and financial aspects of the project.

The Board of the JSV would be constituted by four directors nominated by cpg-65>

each party. Each side will have the liberty to substitute its nominee by another person within the period of tenure of the nominee, taking care that while doing this, the need for maintaining efficiency is kept in view.

All employees of the JSV on shore or on board the JSV ships and the Directors of the Board of the JSV shall be either of Indian or Mauritian nationality; however, in case of non-availability of such nationals, the Board of Directors shall be empowed with the approval of both governments, to authorise the appointment of persons of other nationalities. The JSV would give preference to the employment of Mauritians on board the JSV ships. Mixed crews of two nationalities on a single ship will not be employed, except for officers.

The share capital of the JSV shall be contributed by the two sides on a fifty-fifty basis. Taking into account the developmental value of the JSV, special incentives given to the shipping industry all over the world, and the very substantial earning saving of foreign exchange estimated from the project, the JSV will be exempted from the payment of all corporate taxes, tax on dividends and customs duties in respect of all items used on the ships.

The JSV will commence operation with two ships which will form the equity capital, one ship to be contributed by each side. If required, the Shipping Corporation of India will provide a third ship to the JSV on a bare boat demise charter for a 10 year charter period on mutually agreed terms. Cargoes to be carried by the JSV will include sugar from Mauritius to Europe and rock phosphate fertiliser from Africa Europe to India.

The Chairman and the Managing Director of the JSV would be respective nominees of the two shareholders and these posts will rotate between the two sides on a tenure basis, the tenure being for a period of 3 years. The first Chairman of the Board of Directors of the JSV will be a Mauritian national and the first Managing Director an Indian national. The concept of rotation may be reviewed by the two shareholders and the two governments after the lapse of an appropriate period from the date of the commencement of the JSV.

Four officers from the SCI will be seconded to the JSV - two for the technical department and one each for the Finance and Commercial departments; the departments in which these officers will work may also be similarly reviewed. The Indian employees working for the JSV will be granted maximum possible income tax remission in accordance with applicable Mauritian rules and regulations on any emoluments paid to them; sixty per cent of the total emoluments paid to the employees can be repatriated by them.

It was felt that further study was needed on a few issues and it was agreed that discussions will be held between the officials of the two sides in India by end May 1984 with a view to establishing the JSV as early as possible.

#### 14. Lines of Credit

#### i. EXISTING LINE OF CREDIT

Progress in respect of utilisation of the earlier line of credit of M Rs. 50 million extended by the industrial Development Bank of India in 1977, which was subsequently taken over by the Export-Import Bank of India (EXIM Bank), was reviewed. It was noted that this line of credit had been utilised only to the extent of Rs. 31.7 Million and contracting up to Rs. 37.8 Million had taken place. It was also noted that the present extended validity period for utilization of this line would expire on March 31, 1984. At the request of the Development Bank of Mauritius, which is administering this credit, EXIM Bank agreed, in principle, to extend the period further till the end of December 1984, for opening letters of credit and till June 1985 for making disbursements. The Mauritian side agreed to make sustained efforts to utilise the credit line fully within the extended period.

#### ii. NEW LINES OF CREDIT

Discussions were held and agreement was reached on the terms and  $\langle pg-66 \rangle$ 

conditions of the two new lines of credit of IRS 50 million each offered to the Government of Mauritius by the Government of India and the EXIM Bank. It was recognised that blending of these two lines would result in a lower effective rate of interest and a longer maturity as compared to the EXIM terms. Several methods of blending these credit lines were examined. After detailed deliberations of various alternatives, it was agreed that drawdown under the two lines of credit will proceed simultaneously. Thus, contracts under the Government credit would not be approved beyond a limit of IRS 10 million unless contract for an aggregate amount of IRS 10 million are approved under the EXIM Bank line. A similar procedure of monitoring will be applied beyond this limit to ensure simultaneous and more or less equal utilisation of both these lines of credit. Drafts of the two agreements on the credit were finalised.

The Mauritian delegation enquired about the possibility of obtaining separate lines of credit for financing the Joint Shipping Venture over and above the two credits totalling IRS 100 million and indicated that they would wish to follow up this matter when they discuss the Joint Shipping Venture proposal in India as provided in paragraph 13. The Indian side noted the request and responded that while it would be difficult to offer additional Government- to - Government credit, possibility of extending an additional line of credit by EXIM Bank could be examined.

15. Requests for Technical Experts

The Mauritian side made requests for the services of experts for different durations under the ITEC Programme as per Annex IV. The Indian side agreed to the requests.

#### 16. Fellowships under SCAAP

The Mauritian side requested the Indian side to raise the number of slots under SCAAP for Mauritius. The Indian side stated that requests for fellowships which could not be met under SCAAP could be favourably considered under the ITEC programme.

#### 17. Indo-Mauritian Cooperation in Oceanography

It was recalled that India had agreed to a Mauritian request for the inclusion of a Mauritian scientists in the Indian expedition to the Antarctica. India had also agreed to the Mauritian request for the training of Mauritian scientists in various disciplines of Oceanography. The two sides also considered the proposal for exploration of polymetallic nodules in the Mauritian seabed area. In order to concretise details of the programme, the two sides agreed that the Chief Mauritian Coordinator should visit concerned institutions in India for detailed discussions.

#### 18. Import of Fresh Fruits from India

The Mauritian side has requested that the Indian Government extend assistance in the procurement of fresh fruits from India on a commercial basis. The Mauritian side mentioned that the first trial consignment of seedless grapes from India had just been successfully negotiated by the Mauritius Agricultural Marketing Board and that there were good prospects for the importation of other fruits from India. A Mauritian delegation would be shortly proceeding to India in this connection.

#### 19. Bilateral Trade

Both sides agreed to take steps to establish necessary trade links with a view to further promoting bilateral trade between the two countries. In this connection, the Indian side stated that an Indo-African seminar to promote co-operation in trade and economic and technical matters was proposed to be held in New Delhi in April 1984 and invited Mauritius to participate. The Mauritian side welcomed the proposal. <pg-67>

20. Court House Building in Port Louis

The Mauritian side requested assistance in the construction of a court complex.

The Indian side stated that India would be able to provide consultancy services for the design of the complex and the supervision of its construction.

21. Rose-Belle Hospital and Opthalmic Centre at the Moka Eye Hospital

The Mauritian side had made a request for assistance in setting up the Rose Belle Hospital. The Indian side had agreed to extend assistance to the tune of M Rs. 23 million, with respect of equipment, managerial services and experts. On further examination, it was decided that since M Rs. 14 million would be sufficient to cover the expenditure on these items, the remaining M Rs. 9 million would be utilised for the supply of equipment manufactured in India for the opthalmic centre at the Moka eye hospital.

The Indian Minister of External Affairs announced that India would also undertake the construction of the Rose Belle Hospital the cost of which was estimated by the Mauritian side at M Rs. 9.0 million. This would be a gift from the people of India to the people of Mauritius.

#### 22. Supply Procedure

It was agreed that, in the interest of efficiency, for equipment gifted from India in the field of small industries the nodal Point in India would be the NSIC. For all other equipment from India mentioned in these minutes and under the lines of credit, the nodal agency would be the PEC.

23. Treatment and Surgery of Cardiac Patients in India

The two sides noted that as per earlier understanding, India had undertaken to treat 10 cardiac patients annually in Indian Medical Institutions. In response to a recent request by the Mauritian side, the Indian side agreed to raise the number of such patients to 20.

24. Date and Venue of the Next Session of the Indo-Mauritian Joint Commission.

The Joint Commission decided to hold its next meeting in New Delhi, India on a date to be mutually agreed upon.

#### URITIUS USA INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC RUSSIA

**Date** : Feb 18, 1984

### Volume No

1995

OMAN

External Affairs Minister Hosts Dinner in Honour of Foreign Minister of Oman

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Feb 09, 1984 of the speech by the Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao at a dinner hosted by him in honour of His Excellency, Mr. Yousuf Al-Alawi Abdullah, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Sultanate of Oman here tonight (New Delhi, February 9, 1984):

We are privileged to have with us this evening an honoured guest, an eminent representative of a people with whom we in India have had long and historic association. Rooted in the very depth of time, the friendship between India and Oman has acquired a new, contemporary vitality. But this infusion of freshness and meaning continues side by side with the breadth and vision bequeathed by history.

Our contacts with Oman predate those with any other nation to our west. Nearly five thousand years ago the people of the Indus Valley had a vigorous trading partnership with Dilmun, the land we know today as Oman. Many many centuries later when a Portuguese sailor stood on <pg-68>

the shores of Mozambique searching for a safe route to India, it was an Oman sailor who showed Vasco de Gama the way. Contact and commerce diversified with time. Tipu Sultan's factory at Muscat, in the late eighteenth century was one example and, by the mid nineteenth century, more than a hundred Indian families had settled in Muscat.

#### RICHNESS OF HISTORY

Given this richness of history, it is natural that the present should seek to vindicate, and build upon, the past. There is so much we share, there is so much more we aspire to share. As nations of the developing world, we see peace and economic wellbeing not as abstract or indefinable, but as factors that are tangible, measurable. Prosperity is not a matter of perception alone. It is precise. It has contours. It makes demands of the environment within which it must thrive.

I have dwelt at some length on our history not for form or sentiment but because it is important to remember this. Communications and competing claims of a particular time to tend to create their own images. We may never regain the dedication, the single minded quest of the sailor

#### AN INDIA USA MOZAMBIQUE

**Date** : Feb 09, 1984

### Volume No

1995

OMAN

#### Text of Oman Foreign Minister's Speech

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Feb 09, 1984 of the speech by Mr. Yousuf-Al-Alawi Abdullah, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Sultanate of Oman at a dinner hosted in his honour by the Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao:

I thank Your Excellency for your valuable words and the warm hospitality extended to us since our arrival to this great country which holds a prominent place in the present international scene and specially as a leader of the Non-Aligned Movement. This is symbolic of the dynamic leadership of the Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi and her efforts towards world peace and a new economic order between the North and the South.

Your Excellency, the relations between our two countries date back to history and have since been growing in every sphere of activity. This is evident from the fact that thousands of your countrymen are actively involved in the development programme of the Sultanate of Oman. We are looking forward to further strengthen this bond of friendship in the course of our prosperity.

I, once again, thank Your Excellency for the warm welcome accorded to us. <pg-69>

AN INDIA USA

**Date** : Feb 09, 1984

### Volume No

1995

ROMANIA

Protocol of the Seventh Session of the Indo-Romanian JointCommission Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Feb 18, 1984 on the signing of the protocol of the seventh session of the Indo-Romanian Joint Commission:

India and Romania have agreed to explore the possibilities of collaboration in oil exploration, hydro-power and steel sectors. They have further agreed to conclude long-term contracts to provide stability and growth to the bilateral trade between the two countries. This was decided when the protocol of the seventh session of the Indo-Romanian Joint Commission was signed by Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh, Union Minister for Commerce, and H.E. Mr. Neculai Agachi, Minister for Metallurgical Industry, the Co-Chairman of the Joint Commission in Bucharest at the conclusion of the session.

The two sides also agreed to outline a strategy for increased trade and commercial exchanges so as to achieve a trade turn-over level of Rs. 360 crores as envisaged in the trade plan for 1984 and to further reach the level of Rs. 500 crores as agreed during the meeting between the Prime Minister of India and the President of Romania in October, 1981. The Joint Commission meeting also reviewed the implementation of the decisions taken in the previous session.

During his visit to Romania, Shri V. P. Singh, accompanied by the Commerce Secretary, Shri Abid Hussain was received by the Romanian President, H.E. Mr. Nicolae Ceausescu. Shri Singh also exchanged views on matters of mutual interest with the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Minister of Foreign Trade and International Economic Cooperation, and Minister of Machine Building Industry.

## SHRI V. P. SINGH ADDRESSES INDO-ROMANIAN JOINT COMMISSION SESSION IN BUCHAREST

Over the years the trade and economic relations between India and Romania have been growing, according to a press release issued in New Delhi on February 16, 1984. Between 1978 and 1982, the trade turnover had increased significantly, from a level of Rs. 721 million to Rs. 2710 million, stated Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh, Union Minister for Commerce. The Minister was addressing the seventh Indo-Romanian Joint Commission Session in Bucharest today. He said that it was necessary to make redoubled efforts to ensure further substantial annual growth in the bilateral trade between the two countries. Special efforts were required to explore new areas of cooperation.

The Commerce Minister said that in order to impart stability in the trade between the two countries, it was essential to diversify and to continually add new items to the two-way trade. The scope for more economic collaboration needed to be carefully assessed and periodically reviewed in order that the two countries might continually explore avenues for increasing collaboration and cooperation. All these, no doubt, would show up in rapidly enhanced trade between the two countries, he observed.

Shri Singh said that India was attempting to bring new ranges of non-traditional items, such as engineeing, electronics goods, chemicals and dyes, and processed food products for exports to Romania. He was confident that the trade plan target of Rs. 3664 million for 1984 would be achieved through efforts on both sides.

Referring to cooperation between the two countries like construction of tube oil refineries by Romania, Shri Singh said that there was considerable <pg-70>

potential for improving cooperation in such third country projects.

The Indo-Romanian Governmental Joint Commission for Economic, Technical and Scientific Cooperation was instituted in January, 1974. The basic objective of the Joint Commission is to foster and strengthen the bonds of trade, economic and technical cooperation between India and Romania. The meetings of the Joint Commission are held periodically and the sixth session of the Joint Commission was held at New Delhi in April, 1982.

AN ROMANIA INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC **Date :** Feb 18, 1984

### Volume No

1995

#### SARC

South Asian Regional Cooperation Standing Committee First Session - Inaugural Address by the Minister of External Affairs

The following is the text of the inaugural address by Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, Minister of External Affairs, in New Delhi on Feb 27, 1984 at the first session of the South Asian Regional Cooperation Standing Committee:

Your Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen, I have great pleasure in extending a warm welcome to all of you. We are particularly happy to see all our friends again in New Delhi so soon after the signing of the Declaration on South Asian Regional Co-operation.

We are meeting at a time when our civilization faces a crisis which is unprecedented in history. The world is witnessing an intensification of political tensions and armed conflicts and the arms race. Over the past few decades, the goal of political freedom from colonial rule has been by and large attained. But the domination of the weak by the strong still continues and constitutes one of the biggest obstacles to peace and progress. The world economy continues to face its gravest crisis in the last half century. The crisis has served to focus attention once again on the iniquity of the existing world order.

The developing countries have been struggling for a fundamental restructuring of international economic relations and the establishment of a New International Economic Order. Greater cooperation among developing countries must constitute an integral part of this process. The current uncertainties in international economic relations and the continuing stalemate in the North-South Dialogue make it even more imperative for us to intensify co-operation among developing countries. Such co-operation would not only bring greater benefits to these countries but will also greatly improve the prospects for co-operation with developed countries. The vast potential for South-South co-operation is only just beginning to be tapped. We must move forward rapidly towards the goal of collective self-reliance among developing countries. Our primary objective must be to strengthen our economic independence and to reduce the vulnerability of our economies to outside pressures. South-South cooperation is, of course, not a substitute for North-South co-operation, nor does it relieve the developed countries of their responsibility to support the development efforts of developing countries. It only

means increasing reliance on our own resources and skills to promote the self-reliant development of our economies. It must be seen as a key element in the role of developing countries in establishing a firmer, more equitable and enduring basis for global co-operation. <ppg-71>

#### <pg-/1>

#### COLLECTIVE SELF-RELIANCE

An important manifestation of our desire to realise the goal of collective self-reliance is the promotion of regional cooperation in South Asia. The countries of the region have realised that friendly political relations in the region must go hand in hand with co-operation in the economic, social and cultural fields. Indeed the two are mutually reinforcing.

Our countries share common values and common heritage. They are bound by age-old ties based on shared history, tradition and culture. They are engaged in a common struggle to improve the quality of life of their people and to establish a new world order in which all nations, big and small, can live together in peace and friendship. They are all committed to the principle of non-alignment. They are now engaged in adding a regional dimension to their co-operation in the greater interest of security, peace and development in this area.

There is often a tendency to question the possibilities of cooperation among countries which are at comparable levels of development and which seemingly lack complementarities in their economies. However, there are certain areas such as transport and telecommunications in which regional co-operation is not only desirable but is indeed unavoidable. Even in other areas, the countries of the region manifest complementarities in resource endowments, technical skills as well as other attributes conducive to increased co-operation to their mutual benefit. The South Asian countries also share common problems and common aspirations. Improved opportunities for co-ordinating their positions on global economic issues will, no doubt, help in focussing greater attention on their particular needs.

#### INFRASTRUCTURE

I am glad that the countries of this region have at last embarked upon a programme, howsoever modest at the moment, of regional cooperation. The programme covers important areas such as infrastructure and planning. Its implementation has already begun. The Technical Committees have held the first round of meetings and have initiated the necessary action in a time-bound framework. I wish to pay a warm tribute to the spirit of cooperation shown by all countries which has made this possible.

As we gain experience we would need to build upon the programmes already initiated and to enlarge the areas of co-operation. The potential in this regard is virtually unlimited. Among the most important areas which offer possibilities of fruitful cooperation are trade and industrial development. There is considerable scope for the expansion of mutual trade among the countries of the region. There are obvious advantages in increasing our purchases from neighbouring countries and to that extent reducing our dependence on countries outside the region for our essential requirements. Co-operation in the field of industrial development goes hand in hand with trade co-operation. There is considerable enthusiasm in the private sector for the promotion of trade and industrial co-operation in South Asia. This was evident from the encouraging response of the representatives of private trade and industry at the recent International Seminar on Trade and Economic Co-operation among South Asian Countries organised in Delhi by the Federation of Indian Export Organisations.

Another area which seems very promising for a pro-organised in Delhi by the Federation of Indian Export countries of the region are engaged in efforts to develop non-conventional sources of energy. They can profit a great deal by sharing their mutual experience in this regard. There is also a vast potential for regional co-operation in the area of tourism. The phenomenal growth of air transportation in recent times has made tourism the second largest export industry in the world. The countries of South Asia should get a greater share of the world market in tourist traffic.

#### **GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

Among the important guiding principles for the further development of the programmes of regional co-operation must <pg-72>

be the full involvement of the countries of the region. It is also necessary to ensure the involvement in this process not only of Governments but also the peoples of our countries, specially leaders of commerce and industry, scientists and intellectuals. A beginning in this direction has already been made. I referred earlier to the co-operation among the representatives of the trade and industry. Many academic and research institutions of the region are also co-operating in the framework of the Committee for Studies on Co-operation and Development. I would like to see such initiatives pursued further and grow in strength.

As we move forward on the path of regional co-operation, we should not under estimate the enormity of the task that lies ahead and the problems that might arise.

The prevailing international climate is a harsh one. The voice of the Third World continues to be ignored. Vested and narrow interests tend to obstruct co-operation. We must contend against these impediments and forge ahead meaningfully.

Together we constitute one quarter of mankind. Although we still have a long way to go on the path of economic and social progress, we possess vast human and material resources waiting to be developed. Our co-operation will not only give us confidence in ourselves and contribute to our well-being but will also enable us to contribute effectively to peace and progress throughout the world. With this faith in our future, I inaugurate this Session and I wish you every success in your endeavours.

DIA USA PERU

#### **Date** : Feb 27, 1984

### Volume No

#### 1995

#### SARC

#### Foreign Secretary Welcomes SARC Delegates

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Feb 27, 1984 of the welcome address by Shri M. K. Rasgotra, Foreign Secretary to the delegates to the first session of the South Asian Regional Co-operation Standing Committee meeting:

I have great pleasure in welcoming you to this first session of the SARC Standing Committee. Only seven months have elapsed since the Foreign Ministers of our seven countries took the historic step here in New Delhi of launching the programme of South Asian Regional Co-operation. In this relatively short period we have been able to move forward some way. The progress that this meeting will review augurs well, in my view, for the future.

#### WORK PROGRAMME

The launching of the programme in August 1983 was preceded by a good deal of preparatory work which enabled us to move quickly to the stage of implementation of the programme. Since August, the technical committees have accomplished much and I would like to pay a warm tribute to all Governments for their cooperation in arranging their meetings at short notice and for their efforts to ensure their successful outcome.

The work programme drawn up by each technical committee is extensive: the range of activities indicated varies from the

exchange of data, and the organisation of workshops and training programmes to the establishment of regional centres. There are proposals for the convening of a South Asian Archaeological Congress and for the organisation of South Asian Games. Studies have been initiated on a variety of subjects such as traffic flows in, the region and their inter-model distribution: intercountry analysis of rural development programmes, containerisation and standardization of shipping documents. All this is impressive indeed. But the programmes are ambitious, and if these are to be implemented within the time-frames envisaged, we should have to maintain the momentum already generated.

The technical committees have referred a number of specific issues to us for decision. These are set out in the docu-<pg-73>

ments placed before you. We have also put forward for your consideration a number of suggestions for our future work.

An important item on the agenda concerns financial arrangements. Thanks to the generous contributions announced by the various Governments, the technical committees have been able to reach agreement on the apportioning of costs covering a wide range of activities. Governments may wish to indicate their intentions in this regard for the future. The Government of India, as you know, had announced an allocation of Rs. 5 million for the financial year 1983-84. The bulk of this amount will have been spent by the end of the current financial year i.e. 31st March, 1984. The Government of India have decided to allocate a sum of Rs. 7.55 million for the year 1984-85.

As regards external assistance, some progress has been achieved in the discussions with the EEC on the utilization of their two offers. Details are available in the documents.

Besides reviewing progress in the implementation of the agreed SARC programmes, the Standing Committee will, I trust, wish to consider possible new areas of co-operation. The areas of cooperation already identified, on which work has not yet started are listed in the documents along with a number of others areas in which various countries have expressed interest; e.g. technical co-operation, trade, industrial development and energy.

Some of the technical committees have proposed additional meetings. For example, there are specific proposals from the technical committee on sports, arts and culture Some other ideas have also been put forward for your consideration. It has been suggested, for example, that a meeting of television agencies of the region to consider co-operation in the production and exchange of TV programmes would be useful.

There is a suggestion for a meeting of senior representativess of University Grants Commissions and Social Science Research Councils or equivalent bodies in our countries. Personally I find the idea of a meeting of Vice-Chancellors of the region attractive. It is not strictly necessary to have elaborate programmes on all these areas straightaway. Some of these gatherings could be organised as ad hoc events to provide an opportunity for mutual acquaintance and understanding of each other's problems.

The potential for enlarging the scope of SARC and for convening meetings in various areas is virtually limitless. But, perhaps, it would be wise to eschew the temptation of taking on more than what we are able to manage effectively and with ease at this stage.

#### WORLD ECONOMIC SITUATION

We have suggested a new item for the agenda entitled: "World Economic Situation". One of the important objectives of SARC is to strengthen co-operation among the countries of South Asia in international forums on matters of common interest. We, therefore, felt that an exchange of views on topical economic issues of the day, such as the North-South Dialogue and curtailment of IDA VII would be in order and might prove useful.

I look forward to the discussion of these and other issues which I am sure everyone here will find useful.

Once again, I extend a warm and friendly welcome to you all and I assure you of the fullest co-operation of my delegation in the successful accomplishment of our task. <pp-74>

DIA USA **Date :** Feb 27, 1984

### Volume No

1995

SARC

Shri Rasgotra's Concluding Remarks

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Feb 28, 1984 of the concluding remarks of Shri M. Rasgotra, Foreign Secretary and Chairman of South Asian Regional Cooperation Standing Committee, on the conclusion of the first session here today (New Delhi, February 28, 1984): We have come to the end of our deliberations at this session. I echo the sentiments of each one of you, I am sure, when I say that this has been a very useful meeting.

The statements which we heard yesterday were thought-provoking. They underlined the importance our countries attach to the new venture on which we have jointly embarked. The detailed accounts we heard yesterday of the efforts of each of the countries of the region to implement the programmes in various areas of cooperation were reassuring.

The technical committees have done splendid work and I am glad that the report we have just adopted records our deep apprecation of their work. The smoothness and speed with which we have completed the work of our meeting is due largely to the thorough and efficient manner in which the technical committees have carried out their responsibilities.

We have taken some important decisions at this session of the Standing Committee. India appreciates the Committee's acceptance of its offer to host the South Asian Archaeological Conference. We have initiated work on a number of other important meetings including the South Asian History Conference. These gatherings will no doubt provide useful opportunities to our countries to benefit from one another's experience. Implementation of our decisions regarding our future work will contribute significantly to the attainment of SARC's objectives.

#### FINANCING OF SARC ACTIVITIES

Some of you have announced generous contributions towards the financing of SARC activities. Others have indicated their intention of doing so soon. To all of you I express my deep appreciation. Many useful suggestions were made in regard to the possible enlargement of the areas of cooperation. These will no doubt be considered further with the seriousness they deserve. But as I said in my opening remarks we should not act in hurry and, for the present, the highest priority should go to consolidation of the framework we have succeeded in creating and successful accomplishment of the work in hand in the nine already agreed areas of cooperation.

The discussion on the World Economic Situation was, I think, of great use. Your remarks on the present state of international cooperation show that our countries share many common perceptions. You have rightly emphasised the importance of closer cooperation among the countries of the region on matters of common interest. Many valuable suggestions were made in this regard - which will need to be followed up. The report we have just adopted reflects our concerns; it highlights the importance we attach to some immediate issues such as the convening of an International Conference on Money and Finance for Development and the seventh replenishment of IDA.

It was India's privilege to have had the Chairmanship over the past seven months or so. This was a crucial period, in a sense, when we moved to a decisive phase-from technical studies to the stage of implementation.

And now as we hand the works responsibilities to Maldives, which will be organising the next meeting of Foreign Ministers, we hope that the modest contribution we have been able to make will help strengthen the foundations on which we will need to build further.

It only remains for me to place on record my deep appreciation for the valu-<pg-75>

able contribution which each one of you has made to our work at this session which has enabled us to conclude our session ahead of schedule. I hope you will enjoy your visit to Khajuraho tomorrow. I wish you a happy journey back to your capitals. And I look forward to seeing you again soon - in Male in July, if not earlier.

#### DIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC MALDIVES

**Date** : Feb 28, 1984

## Volume No

1995

#### SARC

First Session of SARC Concludes: Report of Standing Committee

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Feb 28, 1984 on the report of Standing Committee at the conclusion of the first session of the SARC Standing Committee:

The first session of the Standing Committee was held in New Delhi on February 27-28, 1984 under the Chairmanship of Shri M. Rasgotra, the Foreign Secretary of India. The agenda adopted by the Committee is reproduced in the Annex.

The session was inaugurated by H.E. Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, Minister of External Affairs of India. In his inaugural address he said that co-operation among the countries of the region "will not only give us confidence in ourselves and contribute to our well-being but will also enable us to contribute effectively to peace and progress throughout the world". He referred to the desire of the South Asian countries to realise the goal of collective self-reliance and said "the countries of the region have realised that friendly political relations in the region must go hand in hand with co-operation in the economic, social and cultural fields. Indeed the two are mutually reinforcing." He welcomed the progress achieved in the implementation of the programmes already agreed upon and underlined the need for building upon them and enlarging the areas of cooperation.

On behalf of the Standing Committee H.E. Mr. W. T. Jayasinghe, the Foreign Secretary of Sri Lanka thanked Shri Narasimha Rao for his inspiring address. It was decided that the text of the address should form part of the final records of the Committee.

#### TECHNICAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Committee expressed its deep appreciation to the technical committee for the work accomplished by them and took note of the reports of the technical committees contained in documents SARC/SC/1 to SARC/SC/9. It expressed its warm gratitude to the Chairmen of the Committees and to the countries concerned for organising the meetings. It approved the recommendations contained in the reports.

The following decisions were taken on the specific issues referred to the Standing Committee by the technical committees:

(a) It was noted that the technical committee on meteorology proposes to make an indepth study of the report of the panel of experts on the proposed Regional Meteorological Research Centre with a view to examining the feasibility of the project. It was agreed that the results of this study should be awaited before the matter is considered further by the Standing Committee.

(b) The Standing Committees accepted with appreciation the offer of the Government of India to host the South Asian Archaeological Congress. The Chairman of the Technical Committee on Sports, Arts and Culture was requested to take appropriate action to prepare for the Congress and to report to the Standing Committee at its next session.

(c) The Standing Committee requested the Chairman of the Technical Committee on Sports, Arts and Culture to work out the details regarding the timing, venue etc. of the South Asian History Conference.

(d) The Standing Committee requested the Chairman of the Technical Committee on Sports, Arts and Culture to take the necessary steps regarding the convening of a meeting of the appropriate agencies of the countries of the region to work out modalities and appropriate arrangements to ensure the protection and preservation of antiquities and art objects. <pg-76>

(e) It was agreed that for the purposes of the rotation of chairmanship of the technical committees, the two year cycle will be deemed to have commenced from the date on which the SARC Declaration was signed viz. August 2, 1983.

With regard to the future work of the technical committees it was agreed that:

(a) The proposed agenda for the meetings of technical committees and the documents setting out the issues to be considered should be circulated at least four weeks in advance of the meetings.

(b) The guidelines contained in Article 16 of the SARC Declaration for the appointment of the costs for implementing the programmes of cooperation should not be applied with rigidity and exceptions may be made particularly in respect of countries which find it difficult to meet the cost of travel and subsistence for participants in seminars, workshops and training programmes etc. at the request of the countries concerned.

(c) To enable the technical committees to make recommendations for the apportionment of the costs for implementing the programmes of cooperation, Governments might consider allocating specified amounts to each sector out of the total pledges announced by them. This will enable the participants in the meetings of technical committees to reach expeditious decisions on the apportionment of costs.

(d) Each country should designate a sectoral focal point in each area of cooperation to enable the technical committees to monitor the progress in the implementation of the programmes of cooperation.

(e) The Chairman of each technical committee should remain in regular and frequent contact with the sectoral focal points with a view to monitoring the progress in the implementation of programmes and ensuring active involvement of all countries in the process.

(f) With a view to ensuring the effective implementation of the programmes of cooperation already agreed upon the technical committees should as far as possible identify countries responsible for implementation, agree on a time-frame and specify the modalities for implementation including the method of financing.

#### FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

(a) Contributions by South Asian countries.

The Standing Committee took note with appreciation of the following contributions announced by the countries of the region for 1984-85:

India: Indian Rs. 7.5 million, Pakistan: Pakistani Rs. 5 million plus Rs. 500,000 for scholarships, Sri Lanka: Sri Lankan Rs. 2.5 million.

Bangladesh and Nepal mentioned that their financial years begin in the month of July. They indicated that adequate allocations will be made for SARC activities in their budgets for 1984-85. Bhutan and Maldives indicated that they were actively considering making an appropriate contribution for SARC activities for the financial year 1984-85.

#### (b) External Assistance

The Committees noted that discussions were in progress with the EEC for the utilisation of its offers for 1983 and 1984 in the sectors of transport and scientific and technological co-operation respectively. The Committee also noted that the meeting of UNDP Aid Coordinators of developing countries which was scheduled to be held in Jakarta in September-October, 1983 to consider the question of assistance from ITU had to be postponed and was now expected to be held in Bangkok in May 1984.

#### IDENTIFICATION OF NEW AREAS OF COOPERATION

The Committee recognised the potential for enlarging the areas of co-operation. However, it felt that for the time being efforts should be concentrated on the nine areas of co-operation already identified.

#### WORLD ECONOMIC SITUATION

The Standing Committee reviewed the world economic situation and expressed its <pp-77>

grave concern at the continuing impasse in the North-South dialogue. It called for renewed efforts to enable sustained recovery in the world economy aimed particularly at promoting the development of developing countries as well as for fundamental restructuring of the international economic order. In this regard the committee urged that the proposals put forward by the Non-Aligned Movement and the Group of 77 at various forums should be actively pursued, particularly the proposal of the Seventh Non-Aligned Summit for the convening of an International Conference on Money and Finance for Development. It also emphasised the need for strengthening co-operation among developing countries.

The Committee underlined the crucial importance of concessional finance for the South Asian countries. In particular, it pressed

its serious disappointment and concern at the recent decision regarding the level of replenishment for IDA VII. It urged all donor countries to provide additional resources to enable IDA not only to bring about an increase in real terms in the flow of resources to the existing borrowers over the level of IDA VI, but also to meet the requirements of new borrowers.

It was agreed that all South Asian countries would work together in the appropriate international forums to promote the foregoing objectives.

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Standing Committee will be held in Male on 7-8 July, 1984 to prepare for the meeting of Foreign Ministers on 10-11 July, 1984.

The visiting Foreign Secretaries expressed their deep appreciation to the Government of the Republic of India for the excellent arrangements made for the meeting and the cordial and generous hospitality extended to their delegations.

ANNEXURE

AGENDA:

1. Adoption of Agenda; 2 General Statements; 3. Reports of the technical committees; 4. Financial arrangements (a) Contributions by South Asian countries (b) External assistance; 5. Identification of new areas of cooperation; 6. World Economic situation; 7. Other business; 8. Adoption of the report.

DIA USA SRI LANKA PAKISTAN BANGLADESH NEPAL BHUTAN MALDIVES INDONESIA

**Date** : Feb 28, 1984

### Volume No

1995

SWEDEN

Indo-Swedish Joint Commission Protocol Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Feb 17, 1984 on the signing of the Indo-Swedish Joint Commission protocol:

The protocol of the fifth session of the Indo-Swedish Joint Commission was signed today between Shri Narayan Dutt Tiwari, Union Minister of Industry and H.E. Mr. Mats Hellstrom, Swedish

#### Minister of Foreign Trade.

Some of the important areas of cooperation identified relate to collaboration for manufacture of industrial explosives, slip-form equipment for construction, HVDC simulator for Central Power Research Institute, Bangalore, and pilot plant for steel making through the latest technology called inred direct reduction process.

In his concluding remarks Shri Tiwari expressed satisfaction on the identification of specific area of cooperation in various sectors of industry, science and technology and particularly in the field of conventional and non-conventional energy sources. <pp-78>

He emphasised the importance of Indo-Swedish friendship at all levels and hoped that the deliberations of the present Joint Commission, which was held for the first time at the Ministerial level, would provide a sound basis of furthering bilateral cooperation.

Shri Tiwari mentioned that Sweden was the first country in the developed world to have reached the goal of one percent GNP earmarked as aid to developing countries - a task, though long cherished by the international community could not be fully materialised yet.

Expressing satisfaction on the results of these deliberations, H.E. Mr. Hellstrom mentioned that he was very much impressed with the capabilities India has already developed in the various sectors of industry and in the field of research and development, space technology and bio-techniques.

He felt that there was sufficient scope for exchange of information between the two countries in these areas. He recommended that scientists of the two countries could complement each others' experience and knowledge through mutual exchanges of visits.

Mr. Hellstorm expressed satisfaction on the excellent functioning of Indo-Swedish Joint projects in India and emphasised the need for further expansion of their activities. In the field of bilateral trade, he felt that more concrete efforts on both the sides need to be taken so that the volume of trade could be increased. He assured Shri Tiwari that Swedish State organisations would help the Indian parties in marketing of Indian engineering goods in addition to the traditional items in Sweden.

#### INDO-SWEDEN JOINT COMMISSION MEETS

The fifth session of the Indo-Swedish Joint Commission for Economic, Industrial, Technical and Scientific collaboration

began here today, according to a press release issued in New Delhi on February 13, 1984. The Commission was co-Chaired by Shri Narayan Dutt Tiwari, Minister for Industry and His Excellency Mr. Mats Hellstrom, Minister of Trade of Sweden.

Welcoming the delegation, Shri Tiwari appreciated interest shown by Sweden in transfer of technology and setting up of joint ventures in India. Shri Tiwari particularly appreciated the deep and personal interest shown by the Swedish Prime Minister, Mr. Olaf Palme in India's development.

Giving a general background of the Indo-Swedish trade and industrial relations, Shri Tiwari emphasised the importance of commercial and technical collaboration between the two countries. Among the important areas where India could adopt Swedish technology, Shri Tiwari emphasised the metallurgical development particularly adoption of INRED process of steel manufacture. Other important areas for collaboration mentioned by Shri Tiwari were energy, particuarly, non-conventional resources of energy.

Shri Tiwari while inviting Sweden to set up joint ventures, outlined the liberal policy adopted by India for investment by foreign entrepreneurs in joint ventures. He particularly mentioned that even total equity could come from the foreign entrepreneurs in fully-export-oriented ventures.

#### OVERALL INCREASE IN TRADE

Reviewing the trade between the two countries during the last few decades, he observed that though there was overall increase in trade yet the potential was far greater. Both in development of trade as also for setting up joint ventures, Shri Tiwari called for more effort on both sides. He appreciated in the setting up of Joint Business Council between the Chambers of Commerce of the two countries. The Council has already identified some items of export.

Shri Tiwari pleaded for widening the scope of ties beyond the fields of trade and commerce. The joint efforts could be extended to social uplift, cooperation in tourism etc. Collaboration in various fields should really be looked upon as means of creating deep understanding between the <pp-79>

two countries, which according to Shri Tiwari was of greater importance to both countries.

#### SOCIAL JUSTICE

H.E. Mr. Mats Hellstrom, Swedish Minister for Foreign Trade also emphasised the importance of mutual understanding between two countries. Both the countries are democratic, Non-Aligned and were working for social justice. He recalled the cooperation between the two countries at various international conferences and fora like UNCTAD, North-South Dialogue etc. He also emphasised various common fields which were of great interest to both the countries.

Sweden and India were similarly placed in regard to sources of power generation which were extended far away from the consumption areas. He called for close collaboration in transmission of power. Other areas particularly mentioned by him for collaboration were metallurgical development particularly iron and steel and its alloys; telecommunications; and exploration of off-shore resources. In the field of power generation apart from the non-conventional resources of energy, he made particular reference to collections in steam and gas turbines, technology for long distance transmission of electrical power, and micro and mini hydro power.

Mr. Hellstrom, summarised the international economic scene and referred to the economic recovery being made by the USA, though not at the same scale, Europe was also showing signs of recovery. Sweden occupied prominent position in European economic recovery. Apart from substantial growth in production, they have been able to change the trade balance from a deficit of 6 billion SKRs to a surplus of 11 billion SKRs during the last year.

He was happy to note that Indo-Swedish trade relations have been increasing over the year. The cooperation between Sweden Import Promotion Office and the Trade Development Authority of India and other such organisations had increased. Particular fields where trade has picked up, were machinery, leather goods, metallic ores.

He referred to setting up of a common fund. Though the progress was slow but once this fund was set up, it will go a long way in increasing the trade and industrial relations between the two countries. Even at present India was the largest trade partner of Sweden in Asia.

The Indo-Swedish Joint Commission has set up four sub-commissions to deal with Energy, Trade, Science and Technology, and Industry.

#### NEED TO EXPAND INDO-SWEDISH TRADE EMPHASISED

India and Sweden have stressed on the need to expand bilateral trade between the two countries, according to the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on February 14, 1984. Although, there exist many possibilities of improving the trade turn-over, it was felt that there was a lack of awareness of market potential. This was discussed here today when the Minister of Foreign Trade of Sweden, Mr. Matts Hellstrom, called on the Commerce Minister, Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh. Mr. Hellstrom is here to participate in the Indo-Swedish Joint Commission meeting. The Commerce Minister expressed his appreciation of the positive response from Sweden in its trade programme measures for developing countries. He specifically referred to the financial and technical help given by the Swedish Government to the Trade Development Authority (TDA).

#### INDIAN CARPETS

Mr. Hellstrom observed that market feed back would assist further in making the two countries aware of the consumer needs. He expressed his appreciation of Indian carpets and the industry's ability to adapt to Swedish tastes. He felt Swedish designers and Indian manufacturers could get together to evolve designs to suit the Swedish market. Shri V. P. Singh reciprocated by saying that the Indian carpet <pg-80>

industry is very well organised and can readily adapt to new demands.

Sweden will be sending specialised delegations shortly for buying industrial minerals and leather products from India. Projects are being identified for collaboration between the two countries.

#### INDO-SWEDISH TRADE

Sweden is the largest of the five Nordic countries and is India's most significant trading partner in the region. To Sweden India sells mostly low priced consumer goods while Sweden exports to India capital goods of high value and other sophisticated manufactured items.

Indian export to Sweden have gone up from Rs. 2835 lakhs in 1980-81 to Rs. 3245 lakhs in 1982-83. Imports have come down from Rs. 8496 lakhs in 1980-81 to Rs. 8015 lakhs in 1982-83. The 1983-84 (Apr.-Sept.) figures are Rs. 1299 lakhs (provisional) for exports and Rs. 3378 lakhs (provisional) for imports. Indian exports to Sweden have gone up on an average by about nine per cent per year during the last few years.

There has been little change in the pattern of Indian exports to Sweden through the years. The bulk of India's exports still consist of traditional items like textiles, carpets, handicrafts, tea, spices, leather goods, and lately, coir and seafood. These together account for nearly 70 per cent of India's total exports to Sweden.

India is making efforts to introduce non-traditional products in this market. India has already recorded a begining in the field of light engineering goods like hand and machine tools, electrical components, MS steel tubes and pipes, travel goods of leather, etc., although the volume is not very significant. On the other hand, India's imports from Sweden are accounted for by machinery, telecommunication equipment, pulp and paper, chemicals, steel products, etc.

EDEN INDIA USA RUSSIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC **Date :** Feb 17, 1984

### Volume No

1995

SWEDEN

Signing of Indo-Swedish Bilateral Textile Agreement

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Feb 13, 1984 on the formal signing of the Indo-Swedish bilateral textile agreement:

Traditional folk-lore handicraft textile products, popularly known as "India Items", have been granted quota free access into the Swedish market for the first time. Higher quantitative limits have been provided in relevant Groups to take care of the interest of handloom products. The increase in relevant product groups in 1984 over 1982 ranges between 9.4 per cent to 14.66 per cent.

This was announced today when a bilateral textile agreement was formally signed between Mr. Axel Edelstam, Ambassador of Sweden in New Delhi and Shri N. K. Sabharwal, Joint Secretary, Department of Textiles. The agreement had been concluded and initialled in Geneva in November, 1983, between the delegations of the two Governments.

The agreement is valid from January 1, 1983 to December 31, 1986. There is a provision for extension of the agreement for one more year by mutual consent. The agreement provides for quantitative restraints for India's exports to textile products falling under 10 Groups, out of which three Groups are for made-up items, six for garments and one a common 'Rest' Group.

For the first time the agreement also provides all the three flexibilities, i.e. carry-over, carry-forward and swing.

During 1983, exports of made-up and clothing items from India to Sweden amounted to approximately Rs. 16 crores. <pg-81>

### EDEN INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC SWITZERLAND **Date :** Feb 13, 1984

### Volume No

1995

SOVIET UNION

Prime Minister's Message to H.E. Mr. K. U. Chernenko

The following is the text of the message sent by the Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi, to His Excellency, Mr. K. U. Chernenko, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union:

On behalf of the Government and people of India and on my own behalf, I have great pleasure in conveying to you my warm congratulations on your election as General Secretary of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. I wish you all success in your endeavours for yet higher levels of welfare and prosperity of your country and your people and in the common struggle for world peace in which both our countries are actively engaged.

India and the Soviet Union have a well-established, friendly and cooperative relationship which has been of benefit to both our countries and to the world. May these ties be further strengthened in the coming years.

DIA **Date :** Feb 13, 1984

## Volume No

1995

SOVIET UNION

Giani Zail Singh Mourns Sad Demise of USSR President

The following is the text of the condolence message sent by the President, Giani Zail Singh to the Presidium of the Supreme

Soviet of the USSR on Feb 10, 1984:

Excellencies, it is with profound grief that we have learnt of the passing away of President Yuri Vladimirovich Andropov, a world statesman and leader of the Soviet people and a good friend of India. During his period of office, his qualities of statesmanship and his dedication to peace became evident. His goodwill towards India found vivid expression in the further strengthening of our close and friendly ties. The people of India will deeply mourn this loss.

On behalf of the Government and people of India and on my own behalf, I offer to Your Excellencies and through you to the members of the Government and people of the Soviet Union our deepest condolences.

May I also request you Your Excellencies to convey our most sincere condolences and sympathy to members of the bereaved family.

### A INDIA **Date :** Feb 10, 1984

### Volume No

1995

#### SOVIET UNION

Smt. Gandhi Condoles Sad Demise of President Andropov

The Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi, sent the following condolence message on Feb 10, 1984 to the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet and the Council of Ministers of USSR on the demise of President Yuri Andropov:

We are profoundly grieved at the sad demise of H.E. President Andropov.

He was a statesman of high stature. During the period of his leadership of the great Soviet Union, he gave evidence of his dynamism, patriotism and dedication to the welfare of the Soviet people. In the international field he will be remembered for the many initiatives he proposed to contain the nuclear arms race.

I had the privilege of meeting him only once. But we were in touch regularly on international problems and bilateral cooperation. He did much to promote and expand Indo-Soviet friendship. We had look <pg-82>

ed forward to receiving him in India. We have lost a true friend.

On behalf of the Government and people of India as well as on my own, I offer heartfelt sympathy and condolences to the family of the late President and to the Government and people of the Soviet Union.

A INDIA **Date :** Feb 10, 1984

### Volume No

1995

SOVIET UNION

Indo-Soviet Protocol on Computers and Electronics

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Feb 27, 1984 on the signing of the Indo-Soviet protocol on computers and electronics:

For further deepening of economic, scientific and technical cooperation between India and USSR, an Indo-Soviet Protocol relating to areas of cooperation in electronics and computers was signed here today.

Mr. N. V. Gorshkov, Deputy Minister for Radio Industry, signed the Protocol on behalf of USSR, while Dr. M. S. Sanjeevi Rao, Deputy Minister for Electronics, signed on behalf of India.

It is expected that, during 1984 and 1985, India will export to USSR computer software and electronics items worth about Rs. 4 crore. An exposition of Indian electronics was arranged by the Electronics Trade and Technology Development Corporation (ETTDC) which has been designated as the nodal agency for export and import of all electronic items excluding computers.

Another public sector undertaking, Computer Maintenance Corporation (CMC) has been designated responsible for importation, installation, commissioning, evaluation and maintenance of computers from USSR. India has already placed orders for importing three ES-1045 computers for the use of three regional engineering colleges at Allahabad, Durgapur and Warangal. The first computer is expected to be delivered by USSR in May this year.

India expressed interest in transferring of Soviet technology for the production of ready-made mica capacitors with buy-back arrangements of the products produced as a result of such collaboration.

India also showed interest in buying glass shells for manufacture of black and white TV picture tubes as well as finished black and white TV picture tubes.

DIA USA RUSSIA

**Date** : Feb 27, 1984

### Volume No

1995

SOVIET UNION

Indo-USSR Cultural Programme Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Feb 20, 1984 on the signing of the Indo-USSR cultural programme:

India and the USSR signed here today a Cultural Exchange Programme. It was signed by Smt. Serla Grewal, Secretary, Ministry of Education and Culture, on behalf of India and H.E. Mr. Ivan P. Korovkin, Vice-Chairman of the USSR State Committee for Publishing, Printing and Book Trade, on behalf of the USSR.

The joint Indo-Soviet protocol decided upon the preparation and publication of the best contemporary works of Soviet and Indian writers. The books, being a vital instrument of communication, the two sides recognised the importance of developing cooperation in creative literature to ensure the implementation of the avowed objectives of the joint-venture. They agreed to select creative literature of the 20th century of India and the Soviet Union and publish it under the title "20th Century Indo-Soviet Literature Project", which would be published in the time frame of 1985-90. India and the USSR will prepare and make available a bibliography of their respective works of the 20th century.

India and the USSR agreed to designate at least five libraries in each country to which translation of creative works will be sent so as to build up centre for availability and access of translation works. Translation will also be exchanged for the selected titles.

Both sides agreed to prepare a special project of publication of the best of children's literature of each other's country.

Both countries have decided on a mechanism for regular exchange of information and review from time to time and take early steps to set up joint working groups in New Delhi and in Moscow.

A INDIA RUSSIA

**Date** : Feb 20, 1984

### Volume No

1995

SOVIET UNION

Increased Operation in Oil Exploration

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Feb 09, 1984 on the signing of an Indo-Soviet Working Group protocol:

The joint Indo-Soviet Working Group on Oil Industry set up under the Inter-Governmental Joint Commission, which met here for nearly two weeks and reviewed various issues involving Soviet-Indian cooperation, has adopted a number of recommendations and decisions pertaining to exploration and exploratory drilling, seismic surveys, work-over wells and training of experts.

A protocol to this effect was signed here today by Shri A. S. Gill, Petroleum Secretary and Mr. D. A. Takoev, Deputy Minister for Oil Industry. The working group also agreed that the draft working programme on cooperation in oil industry for the period 1985-90 should be further outlined and reported to the next meeting of the Inter-Government Joint Commission.

Regarding seismic exploration and exploratory drilling in onshore areas, the two sides noted that following seismic survey work carried out by a joint Soviet-Indian party, the presence of sand build-up had been determined at the Aismali prospect and that by October this year the two sides could discuss the possibility of releasing a location for a deep well.

Regarding seismic survey in Ranaghat-Jaguli, Krishnanagar area (in West Bengal), both India and the Soviet Union agreed to

extend the relevant contract to complete the task as stipulated in the contract.

The two sides reviewed the progress of drilling work at Bodra-2 well in West Bengal which had been drilled to a depth of 3977 metres as on February 1, 1984.

Regarding the Rokhia-1 well in Tripura, it was agreed that the Soviet side would hand over within two months the analysis of drilling of that well to the ONGC.

#### LOW PRODUCTIVITY WELLS

The two sides expressed the view that it was necessary to expedite the repair and commissioning of idle wells to increase production from oil fields under development of land. To expedite this work, a contract is to be signed for supply of well workover units, complete with necessary equipment and tools as well as for deputation of two additional Soviet teams during the first quarter of the current year. If necessary, four more units could also be provided by the middle of 1984.

It was noted by the two sides that in the Western region, 18 wells had been worked over as on February 1, 1984, out of which 17 wells had been put into operation.

#### DEPUTATION OF SOVIET EXPERTS

It was noted that the Soviet Union is to depute eight experts by September, 1984 for work at the Institute of Drilling Technology. It was also noted that 19 Indian specialists had been trained in the USSR in the second half of 1983 and the Soviet side was ready to receive another 13 Indian <pp-84>

specialists for training in the first half of the current year.

The Soviet side had proposed earlier for training of 30 Indian specialists during 1984. They had also proposed training of 12 Indian specialists on prevention of blowouts and fires. Contracts in respect of these two proposals are expected to be signed in the first quarter of 1984.

The Soviet side also agreed to consider and respond within three months to the Indian proposal to train in the USSR 50 drillers and maintenance engineers, 25 production engineers and 25 geoscientists every year.

Confirming the necessity of further scientific and technical cooperation in the fields of petroleum geology, oil and gas production and drilling, between the leading scientific and research institutes of the USSR and the ONGC's institutes, the Group agreed that a team of Soviet scientists and specialists will come to India for discussion of the forms, methodology and themes of scientific and technical cooperation in oil industry.

DIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC MALI **Date :** Feb 09, 1984

### Volume No

1995

SRI LANKA

India-Sri Lanka Collaboration on Tea Research

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Feb 06, 1984 on India-Sri Lanka collaboration on tea research:

India and Sri Lanka have agreed to institutionalise their relationship on matters pertaining to tea for improved follow up action. Bilateral exchanges between Indian and Sri Lankan planters and research associations have been taking place earlier, however, this is for the first time that the two Governments have institutionalised this relationship. From July, 1984, the two countries will meet every year for discussions on research and development, the price situation and to coordinate their policies for this commodity. This was agreed to when the Additional Secretary, Ministry of Commerce, Shri V. C. Pande, led a three-member delegation to Sri Lanka last week. The leader of the delegation on the Sri Lankan side was the Secretary of the Ministry of Trade and Shipping.

Bulk packaging of tea was one of the main items for discussion and the two countries have agreed to find alternatives to the wooden tea chests which are becoming increasingly impracticable because of the lack of availability and cost of plywood. India and Sri Lanka provide nearly 50% of tea to the world market. The first meeting to discuss the possibilities of using multi-walled paper packing will take place in April, this year, in India along with the Indian Institute of Packaging and representatives from Sri Lanka. A coordinated strategy will be decided so as to identify and select markets where the new packaging can be introduced for testing.

The two countries also decided to collaborate on research of tea and to select complementary areas to avoid duplication of research. It was also decided to exchange tea experts to give a new dimension to the respective country's research and development.

The delegations also agreed to coordinate the policies of their respective Governments with regard to Tea Councils. The leading Tea Council's concentrate mostly on tea promotion and are <pg-85>

located in the U.K., France, Germany and Canada, and India and Sri Lanka felt that as producers they should play a more significant role, vis-a-vis the Tea Councils.

The other two members of the Indian delegation were the Chairman of the Tea Board and the Director (Tea) of the Ministry of Commerce.

# I LANKA INDIA USA CANADA FRANCE GERMANY UNITED KINGDOM **Date :** Feb 06, 1984

### Volume No

1995

#### SYRIA

India and Syria Sign Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Feb 06, 1984 on the signing of the double taxation avoidance agreement between India and Syria:

An agreement for the avoidance of double taxation and the prevention of fiscal evasion with respect to taxes on Income between India and Syria was signed here today by Shri Pranab Mukherjee, Union Finance Minister, on behalf of the Government of India and H.E. Dr. Hamdi Al-Saqa, Minister of Finance of the Syrian Arab Republic on behalf of the Syrian Arab Republic. The agreements shall come into force after the two Governments notify to each other the completion of the procedures required by the law of its State.

Today's agreement is the result of negotiations held between the delegations of the two Governments since May, 1981.

The main objective in negotiating a tax treaty for avoidance of double taxation of income is to stimulate the flow of capital, technology and personnel from one country to the other for accelerating economic development and for removing obstacles that double taxation presents in development of economic relations between the concerned countries. Tax Treaties ensure that a taxpayer is not required to pay tax twice in respect of the same income in the country of his residence as well as in the country of source of income.

India has so far entered into comprehensive agreements for avoidance of double taxation of Income with several countries including developing countries like Singapore, Tanzania, Malaysia, Egypt, Sri Lanka and Mauritius. With the signing of this agreement with Syria, it is hoped that the economic relations between the two countries would be strengthened further.

# RIA INDIA UNITED KINGDOM REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE TANZANIA EGYPT MALAYSIA MAURITIUS SRI LANKA USA

**Date** : Feb 06, 1984

### Volume No

1995

#### UNITED NATIONS

India-UNDP Sign Projects on Forest Fire Control and INSAT forEducation

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Feb 21, 1984 on the signing of two projects by India and the UNDP:

Two projects for US \$ 6.4 million in technical assistance were signed between India and UNDP here today. Shri P. K. Kaul, Finance Secretary, signed the project documents on behalf of Government of India and Mr. Bradford Morse, UNDP Administrator, signed on behalf of UNDP. The first project is on modern forest fire

<pg-86>

control and has a UNDP input of US \$ 4.1 million. The second project Insat for Education will have an assistance of US \$ 2.3 million from UNDP.

The project on forest fire control will help devise, test and demonstrate principles and techniques for prevention, detection and supression of forest fires including aerial attack systems. Spanning a period of five years starting April 1984, the project is expected to provide 140 man-months of international consultancies, training for 27 Indian officials abroad and equipment worth over US \$ 2.2 million including an aircraft fitted with radio communication equipment besides fire detection equipment. The project will be executed by the Food and Agriculture Organisation on behalf of UNDP.

The second project aims at establishing infrastructure for the use of modern information and communication technology, particularly the use of educational television through satellites, for promoting the cause of universal education, both formal and non-formal.

The near impossibility of mustering huge financial and manpower resources for meeting the target of universal education for 200 million children in the age group of 6-14 years and another 370 million adults by the turn of the century has made the use of satellite technology an inescapable means of accelerating the pace.

#### INSAT - IB

The availability of India's national satellite (INSAT-IB) has served as an added inpetus for launching this project. The project will equip CIET with capabilities for production and evaluation of educational television programmes of national importance and allow it to undertake monitoring and impact studies, maintain documentation services as a clearing house on educational information and communication technology and to provide training to staff of the State Institutes of Educational Technology (SIETs) to be evolved from their existing cells with possible additional bilateral aid.

Over a three-year period, the project, to be executed by UNESCO on behalf of UNDP, will provide 77 man-months of international expertise, train about a hundred CIET officials abroad and bring in sophisticated audio-video equipment for studio production.

Speaking on the occasion, Shri P. K. Kaul said that the two projects are symbolic of India's determination to upgrade technology and marshall science for improving the living conditions of the Indian people. It was noted with satisfaction that UNDP has been extending steadfast support to India. In fact, India ranks foremost among countries which have received assistance from UNDP. UNDP programme in India consists of 174 projects in a wide ranging spectrum of activities - industry, minerals, agriculture, irrigation, energy, science and technology, education, transport and communication. UNDP projects are normally pioneering efforts in difficult areas and have helped to evolve pragmatic solutions for several problems.

Mr. Bradford Morse emphasised the unique partnership between Government of India and the UNDP. He also appreciated India's contribution to the UNDP system both in financial and manpower terms. Mr. Morse hoped that the cooperation between India and UNDP will continue to strengthen in the future. Mr. Bradford Morse also called on the Union Finance Minister, Shri Pranab Mukherjee. Matters of mutual interest were discussed. <pg-87>

### DIA USA LATVIA UNITED KINGDOM

Date : Feb 21, 1984

## March

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**Date** : Mar 01, 1984

### Volume No

1995

#### ALGERIA

Indo-Algerian Joint Commission's Meeting Concluded

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Mar 05, 1984 on the Indo-Algerian joint commission meeting:

Cooperation between India and Algeria is expected to receive a new impetus as a result of the decisions reached in the second meeting of the Indo-Algerian Joint Commission which ended here today. The Joint Commission, co-chaired by the Minister of Planning and Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission, Shri S. B. Chavan, and the Algerian Minister of Commerce, Mr. Abdelaziz Khellef, has identified several new possibilities for projects in the fields of petro-chemicals, railways, construction, maintenance, Production of consumer goods and technical assistance for Participation by Indian firms. In addition, it has been decided to expand contacts in education and scientific research, culture and other areas.

#### SOUTH-SOUTH CO-OPERATION

Relations between India and Algeria have often been cited as an example of South-South cooperation. Twentyfive consultancy and construction projects are already under impementation in Algeria with the participation of Indian companies like HMT, EIL, TATAS, STAR-PEC consortium, RCF, IRCON and RITES. It has now been decided that steps will be taken to step up and diversify the two way trade between Algeria and India, which so far has remained at a relatively modest level.

In pursuance of the decisions of the Joint Commission, an Indian team will visit Algeria very shortly to finalise import purchases, expansion of non-traditional exports from India and new projects to be undertaken by Indian private and public sector firms.

# Volume No

## 1995

## ALGERIA

Planning Minister Hosts Dinner in Honour of Mr. AbdelazizKhellef

The following is the text of a press release in issued in New Delhi on Mar 01, 1984 of the speech by Shri S. B. Chavan, Minister of Planning at a dinner hosted by him in honour of His Excellency Mr. Abdelaziz Khellef, Minister of Commerce of Algeria here tonight:

It is my pleasure to again extend to you and the distinguished members of your delegation a warm and cordial welcome to India. I think we can begin by congratulating ourselves on the positive and constructive discussions that have already been held in this second session of the Indo-Algerian Joint Commission. The cooperation between our countries has already achieved a depth and diversity we can both be proud of. It will continue to be our endeavour, and I am sure yours too, to intensify cooperation in all cases - economic, commercial and technical - commensurate with the high level of our political cooperation and understanding.

## JOINT COMMISSION

True, there have been problems encountered in the way of expanding our economic and commercial relations. When the objective is set high it would indeed be remarkable if no obstacles were met on the <pp-89>

way. It is a source of great satisfaction to us that we are able to say confidently that the difficulties have been overcome. This has been because of the positive attitudes displayed by the representatives of our two countries at this Joint Commission meeting. It is to be hoped that in the years to come Indo-Algerian cooperation will become a synonym for successful South-South cooperation.

Your Excellency, we also look forward to further 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.

Excellency, before closing I would like to wish you and your distinguished colleagues a pleasant stay in India.

I request you to join me raising a toast to the health and happiness of H.E. President Chadli Benjedid, to the continued prosperity and well-being of the friendly people of the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria and to the further consolidation of friendly relations between our two countries.

## GERIA INDIA USA CHAD

**Date** : Mar 01, 1984

# Volume No

1995

## AUSTRIA

prime Minister's Dinner in Honour of Austrian Chancellor and Mrs. Sinowatz

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Mar 26, 1984 of the speech by the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi at the dinner hosted by her in honour of the Austrian Chancellor and Mrs. Sinowatz:

Chancellor Sinowatz, Madame Sinowatz, Excellencies, Distinguished Guests; it is a pleasure to welcome you, Mr. Chancellor Madame Sinowatz and your distinguished delegation. I was in Austria last June when you had just assumed your high office and your beautiful country was enveloped in the glow of early summer. In September, you joined a number of Heads of Government and State in New York at the time of the session of the United Nations General Assembly. We are meeting for the third time within a year and now on our soil.

## AFFINITY

By choosing India as the first country outside Europe for your State visit, you are affirming the affinity between the Alps and the Himalayas. Austria and India have high esteem for each other and we attach great importance to working closer together for the international causes we hold dear as well as for mutual benefit.

For 700 years and more, Vienna was the seat of an empire. However, it did not have colonies on other continents. In our own century, Austria made a graceful transition to republicanism. What is impressive is that through all these vicissitudes, Vienna remained a great centre of the intellect. The strength of the Austrian spirit found expression in music and literature, in architecture, medicine and philosophy - in all of which your people have attained the highest levels of excellence. You have produced some of the greatest explorers in the realms of the mind.

## SCIENCE AND KNOWLEDGE

In the post-Second World War period, Austria has been known for its keenness in science and knowledge. The name Vienna connotes internationalism. Little wonder <pg-90>

that the headquarters of several major international organisations are situated there - the International Atomic Energy Agency, the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation and the U.N. Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, to name only a few.

India is non-aligned and Asian. Austria is neutral and European. In terms of industrialisation and economic amenities, India belongs to the underdeveloped world, and Austria to the developed. Yet, when Indians and Austrians discuss the international situation and current issues, our views are close. We think similarly on disarmament and detente, on strategies of international development and global negotiations. This shows that when a nation is not actuated by the desire to dominate and profit, it is possible for it to rise above the constrictions of location, history and ideology and to think of the larger good.

## EAST-WEST NEGOTIATIONS

Vienna is the venue of some crucial East-West negotiations. Your own commitment, Chancellor, to the lessening of tensions is wellknown. The extreme mistrust which infuses the international situation precludes any substantial and meaningful negotiations. The START talks had hardly started before they were adjourned. The INF discussions have broken down. When there is darkness, it must be our endeavour to cherish any little lamp we can find. The resumption to the MBFR talks in Vienna and the convening of the conference on disarmament in Stockholm are such flickering tongues of hope. Individually and collectively, we should do whatever is possible to end the senseless nuclear arms race. This is the first item on the international agenda.

Next only in gravity is the international economic crisis. The global recession has spared few countries. I know of your successful efforts to insulate Austria from its consequences. But most developed countries have had to pay a high price in terms of unemployment and the slowing down of growth. If the strong have found the burden so heavy, what about the economically weaker countries? At a time when we must concentrate on development, aid is being whittled down and even withdrawn. When our progress was not so obvious, we were blamed for not making good use of aid and its being a bottomlesspit. Now that our determined efforts have led to progress in many sectors and this is recognised, we are told that India is no longer a developing country. But praise should not be a substitute for help. In fact, large tracts of my country are still very underdeveloped and some of these areas are larger than many independent nations and the population still to be reached, is vast.

Nine-tenths of the resources for our development have come from our own people. But the remaining tenth is crucial for it represents the inflow of much-needed advanced technology. If this proportion should decline, our fight against backwardness becomes so much more difficult, so much longer. That is why we urge the IDA and other soft lending institutions to maintain the level of their assistance. We appreciate Austria's readiness to increase the size of IDA and to promote more constructive North-South cooperation.

## WORLD SITUATION

Mr. Chancellor, it is in this spirit of a common appreciation of the world situation and a common pursuit of peace, that I welcome you on behalf of my Government and our people. I am glad that you and Madame Sinowatz will be able to visit a few places outside the capital. One of them is Allahabad, where I was born and where I grew up. It is ancient city, situated at the confluence of the rivers Ganga and Yamuna, and in that part of our country which, since the dawn of history, has been a cradle of philosophy, art and poetry. It was one of the important centres of our struggle for independence, but has lagged behind in development. Some Austrian industrialists and engineers showed great foresight four decades ago by starting an Indo-Austrian collaborative venture there. It is appropriate that you are accompanied by several leading representatives of Austrian industry and business who will make an assessment of the scope in India for investment and collaboration.

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Ladies and gentlemen, may I ask you to join me in a toast to the well-being and success of Chancellor Sinowatz and

Madame Sinowatz, and to the further flowing of the friendship between Austria and India.

STRIA USA INDIA SWEDEN **Date :** Mar 26, 1984

# Volume No

1995

## AUSTRIA

## Text of Austrian Chancellor's Speech

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Mar 26, 1984 of the speech by H.E. Dr. Fred Sinowatz, Federal Chancellor of Austria at a dinner hosted in his honour by the Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi:

Permit me first to say a word of thanks - thanks for the kind words which just now you found for the hospitality and warmth with which you received Mrs. Sinowatz and myself and the members of my delegation.

I have been looking forward to this visit in India very much, and for various different reasons. First of all I want to emphasize how much I enjoyed my talks with you, Madam Prime Minister, during your visit to Austria in June last year and then later at our meetings in New York. I found at those occasions such a broad similarity of our views that I have been expecting the continuation of this dialogue with special pleasure.

## SPECIAL FASCINATION

Secondly, India with its more than 1000 years of history, its cultural richness and its spiritual and philosophical tradition always exuded a very special fascination for me, and I am thrilled that now I can deepen and fortify this interest through my personal experience. This is my first visit in your country, but - and this I promise - certainly not my last. I am looking forward to the time when I can come to India privately and like a tourist and can see and explore all the things for which now unfortunately the time is too short.

But beyond that there are manifold aspects which unite India and Austria and which let me see my visit in your country as a very important one. On a superficial level, some might be surprised and pose the question - what possibly can unite the huge Indian sub-continent, with its richness in population, the president of the non-aligned movement, to a small neutral Austria, situated in the middle of Europe?

A more detailed view however brings many things to light. In this connection, I want to put a very special emphasis on the way in which both our countries have consistently stood up for world peace and a peaceful order in world affairs - an order which is

based upon the respect of sovereignty, independence and the legitimate rights of all States - without regard to whether they are small or big, poor or rich, industrialised or developing countries. Those are firm convictions which we do not only deduce from international law and the existing international conventions - known in Austria as well as in India those convictions result from our historical experience, our philosophical and moral tradition. From this experience, from this tradition results also our mutual conviction, that conflicts cannot be solved by use of force, and that, on the contrary, it is only the consistent dialogue, the consistent endeavour to achieve understanding and compromise, which can guarantee durable peace.

Our role in this world and on the international scene is not based on power politics, but countries like India and Austria can bring moral power to bear, and have the obligation to do so especially in times when the international political climate is so tense like now. This is a great task for the neutral and the nonaligned countries, and for and for this reason Austria has always put much importance on the dialogue with the non-aligned countries.

## INTERNATIONAL PEACE

India and Austria have also since quite some time taken the position that international peace is not only dependent on <pg-92>

the tensions between the super powers nor on all the regional crisis spots. At a very early stage we have realised that an essential part of world peace depends on bridging the gap which had opened up between the industrialised states and the developing countries.

Austria has always been very understanding of this problem and has tried, wherever possible to draw attention to it. Furthermore, as I want to state briefly in this connection, we have always tried to help within the scope of the means at our disposal, bilaterally as well as in the international context.

Austria holds great admiration for the way which India has chosen in the past and has sketched for the future -- admiration for the political way of independence, democracy and non-alignment, as well as the economic way, which has led to enormous achievements, even if there are still big problems to solve. I may assure you that you can always rely on active Austrian support on this way, in the political sphere, as well as in the area of an increased economic cooperation.

In this spirit, I ask you, Madam Prime Minister, Ladies and Gentlemen, to raise your glass and to drink a toast to your personal well-being, the well-being of the Indian people, the further deepening of our cooperation, and above all-the maintenance of peace in all parts of the world.

STRIA USA INDIA PERU

**Date** : Mar 26, 1984

# Volume No

1995

BRAZIL

## Dinner in Honour of Brazilian Foreign Minister

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Mar 06, 1984 of the speech by the Minister of External Affairs Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao at a dinner hosted by him in honour of H.E. Ambassador Ramiro Saraiva Guerriero, Minister of External Relation of Brazil here tonight (March 6, 1984):

I am very happy to extend to your Excellency, to your charming and gracious wife and to the distinguished members of your delegation a most cordial welcome to India.

Excellency, this is the first time such an eminent Brazilian dignitary has come on a bilateral visit to India. As you know, our Prime Minister has visited your great country, as did our Vice President. I myself have had a glimpse of Brazil, although it was confined to what I could see from the Rio airport while transiting during the night, the rest being left to my imagination! Your visit, Excellency, begins to redress this adverse balance!

## CLOSENESS OF SPIRIT

India and Brazil share a closeness of spirit born out of our common interest in global peace and international cooperation we are both nations blessed with a wealth of natural and human resources. We are deeply conscious and convinced of the need to establish a new international economic environment and towards that end have worked together closely both bilaterally and in world forums. Our nations have emerged from a colonial past through struggles underpinned by the values of democracy, freedom and sovereignty cherished by our peoples.

Excellency, the international situation is blurred and in some parts of our own neighbourhoods even volatile and explosive. Developments in Central America have <pg-93> given us cause for anxiety. We hope, with sincereity, that the independence of nations here, as elsewhere, will not be abridged, nor their integrity compromised. It is only through the preservation of national freedom that we can enhance international understanding.

## POLITICAL FREEDOM

Over the years, the development of political freedom among nations has not been matched by a corresponding evolution of economic independence. It is obvious that no country today, big or small, rich or poor, can achieve or afford complete economic autarchy. The future does not belong to the first, the second or the third world, but to this, our single world.

At the last non-aligned summit, where your country participated as an honoured observer, there was a general consensus on the need to revitalise the world economy and accelerate the pace of development in developing countries. We believe that a beginning can be said to have been made in the development of a general consensus for resolving many outstanding questions both in the political and economic spheres. This concensus must be enlarged to provide the necessary political will for future development.

Such will must of necessity by enhanced by the awareness of the need for peace which alone can ensure the pace of economic development unimperilled. Nuclear disarmament must be the first step in a journey paved by trust and determination, whose goal is the preservation of man's future. For nuclear war will be limited neither in range nor intensity. It will be total. There can be no separate peace.

## WIDE RANGE OF SUBJECTS

I am happy that your visit has provided an opportunity for fruitful discussions on a wide range of subjects both on international questions and ways and means of strengthening bilateral relations. 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 to have a glimpse not only of the India you see, but the India often unseen, mirrored in our aspirations for development and the betterment of our people's lives.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, may I now invite you to join me in raising a toast to the health of His Excellency, the Foreign Minister of Federative Republic of Brazil, Ambassador Romiro Saraiva Gurreiro, and his charming and gracious wife. I would also like to propose a toast to the further development of friendly relations between the people of India and the people of Brazil and to closer cooperation between the two countries.

AZIL INDIA USA **Date :** Mar 06, 1984

# Volume No

1995

BRAZIL

Text of Mr. R. S. Guerriero's Speech

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Mar 06, 1984 of the speech by His Excellency Ambassador Ramiro Saraiva Guerriero, Minister of External Relations of Brazil at a dinner held in his honour by the Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao:

May I thank you, first of all, for your warm greetings and your kind words of welcome. I interpret them less as a protocolary expression of hospitality than as a recognition of the symbolic meaning of my visit: It means continuity and it means change, as far as our mutual links are concerned.

It means continuity because this is not the first visit to India by a Brazilian Foreign Minister. As you know, exactly 16 years ago one of my predecessors came to this country, on the occasion of the second session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development. In that multilateral forum, our two delegations worked together, as they had in the past, and once again reaffirmed their <pg-94>

dedication to the common goal of achieving a more equitable international economic order. Bilaterally, the visit contributed to strengthening our friendship, which dates from the accession of India to independence, and provided a framework for the further development of our relations, through the signature of a trade agreement and of a cultural agreement. Since that time, the two countries have moved closer to each other, through numerous visits and contacts. We were honoured, in particular, by the visit to Brazil of the Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi, in 1968. Many other visits followed, both at a political and at entrepreneurial levels. In this sense, my visit is part of an ongoing process, which has not started with it, and will certainly outlive it.

## NEW INITIATIVE

But the visit also means change because every new initiative in international relations is in a way a new beginning. The international environment has evolved in the last 16 years, and so have our national societies and policies. We now know, better than ever before, that no opportunity should be left unexplored, no effort fail to be made, no occasion for misunderstanding be allowed to arise, if we are to attain the goal, which is ours and I am sure that of your Government, of laying the ground for a lasting and stable relationship between the two countries. The visit may indeed prove to be a new beginning, if it helps Brazil and India to deepen their knowledge of each other's potential, and to each other's role in world affairs, and to translate this awareness into operational terms.

In this sense, a new departure is definitely within our reach. Let me review briefly, Mr. Minister, the main areas in which we feel that a fresh impetus is feasible and desirable.

Mr. Minister, political cooperation presupposes, at the very minimum, a large spectrum of issues on which there is a convergence of views. Can such a convergence take place between two countries, like ours, which seem to differ so much in their history and in their cultural tradition?

More than a decade ago, your Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, stated that "foreign policy has to relate to one's historical and geographical background. We see the world from where we are. Other countries see the world from where they are. So we cannot possibly see things from the same angle. We have certain countries for our neighbours. The relationship we have with them is important. Other countries which are farther away are seen from another angle.

#### NATIONAL IDENTITY

We certainly agree with that statement. Our own foreign policy is a projection of our national identity, shaped by geographical and historical factors. At the same time, these determinants should not be seen as absolutes. Geography can itself be corrected by history. Thus, neighbourhood is a product of geography, but neighbourliness is shaped by man's purposeful activity. Geographical distances tend to become more and more relative, in this era of satellite communications and ultrasonic transportation. India and Brazil belong to two fundamentally different historical traditions, but how relative even this difference is can be seen by the fact that the same historical streams that led to the discovery of Brazil led to the insertion of India, for better or worse, into the European political system. Two years ago, greeting President Samora Machel, of Mozambique the Indian Prime Minister said that "Vasco da Gama's fleet brought Europe to your shores as well as ours". The same applies to Brazil. Our discovery, in 1500, was in a sense a byproduct of a Portuguese expedition to India.

## ECONOMIC ORDER

It is in that light that we should interpret Mrs. Gandhi's insight that "We see the world from where we are." Indeed, the world is never perceived in Vacuo, but always from a definite place. For Brazil and India, this place is clear. We belong definitely to the West and India to the East, but in spite of Kipling's prophecy, we can meet, and have met, in the social, political and economic space of the Third World. <pp-95>

This is our common ground. We, therefore, very often share similar perceptions about the nature of the world crisis, about the plight of developing countries, and about the need for a basic restructuring of the international political and economic order.

I have just described the main lines of the Brazilian foreign policy at the India International Centre, and I hope it has become clear to what an extent our views on world issues are similar. Without repeating here what was stated then, it is enough to point out that we are both acutely aware of the dangers posed by the arms race, by the attempt to carve out spheres of influence, by the super imposition of the global East-West confrontation on regional scenarios, by the sequels of colonialism, by apartheid, by the denial of basic human and national rights to the Palestinian people. We are concerned over the growing tendency to settle disputes by force or the threat of force, about the senseless stockpiling of nuclear hardware, which jeopardizes the very survival of the species, and is based on the fallacy that the generation of global insecurity can enhance national security.

Last, but not least, we are concerned over the unwillingness of developed countries to work constructively towards the establishment of a new international economic order, as shown by the procedural wrangles over the launching of the global negotiations, and recently by the failure of the VI UNCTAD.

India and Brazil have worked, jointly or separately, for the solving of those problems in multilateral fora. We have joined efforts, again and again, in the United Nations, in UNCTAD, in the Group of 77, for the achievement of just solutions. As observers to the last summit of the Non-Aligned Movement, we have had the privilege of witnessing India's efforts in the same spirit. As stated by President Figueiredo in a message to Mrs. Gandhi, "Brazil has followed the movement of Non-Aligned countries, since its inception, with interest and hope. We identify in it a just and necessary desire for peace and the lessening of international tensions". Our confidence in the future of the movement was renewed, when India assumed the responsibility of coordinating it. The movement will accordingly have at its disposal Mrs. Gandhi's dedication to the cause of world peace and development, and her remarkable diplomatic experience and skill.

## BILATERAL COOPERATION

But cooperation and shared goals at the multilateral level are not enough. We believe the time has come for a closer bilateral collaboration. In view of the wide range of issues on which our positions are similar or convergent and even those on which we may differ, it might be advisable to envisage appropriate consultation mechanisms, in which periodical exchanges of views on world issues could take place. The modalities for such a mechanism might be worked out, in due course, by the two Governments.

Mr. Minister, we subscribe to the statement made at the conference on economic cooperation among developing countries, held in Caracas in 1981, that "economic cooperation among developing countries is not a substitute to global economic cooperation between developing and developed countries". But in this period of crisis, due to a large extent to factors beyond our control (such as protectionism in developed countries and high interest rates that aggravate our debt burden), and marked by an ominous stagnation in the North-South dialogue, cooperation among developing countries becomes crucially important.

## CARACAS CONFERENCE

In the spirit of the Caracas conference, we believe that Brazil and India have a special responsibility in setting the example for a fruitful South-South cooperation. They have both a large territory, and abundant natural resources. They are among the most populous countries of the Third World. They have the two largest economies among non-petroleum exporting developing countries. Their level of industrial growth is comparable. Their foreign trade is large and diversified. Together, and working in cooperation with other developing countries, we may achieve <pg-96>

much that might prove difficult if we work separately.

## PRIORITIES

The growth in our bilateral trade is a tangible illustration of the progress made in the last few years. Thus, between, 1978 and 1983, the overall volume of trade more than doubled, going up from 114 million dollars to over 260 million dollars. But we are far from satisfied with such results. Much remains to be done to ensure a stable and balanced growth of trade. The qualitative composition of our mutual exports is also below our potential. We are sure that given goodwill, we will be able to provide to each other items which are more meaningful in terms of national development priorities.

An important area in economic cooperation, in addition to trade in physical goods, is the area of services. Brazil and India have developed sophisticated consultancy and engineering systems, which could prove to be of benefit to both. We would welcome an opportunity to participate more actively in Indian development projects, through the provision of the know-how we have acquired in a wide spectrum of fields, ranging from large hydroelectrical complexes to the road construction, and would be glad to receive similar offers of cooperation from India.

## MODALITIES

The modalities for such cooperation are manifold. International competitive biddings offer a promising opportunity for our participation in each other's development projects. We would be glad to explore possibilities for establishing joint ventures with India. Such joint ventures need not be limited to our own territories, but could operate in third markets. Joint tendering in certain markets could enhance our competitiveness in these markets, and thus improve our chances of success.

For the discussion of these and other economic and commercial issues, we are proposing the establishment of a Joint Committee, through an additional Protocol to the Trade Agreement signed in 1968. I am sure it could provide a useful institutional framework for channelling our economic cooperation.

Mr. Minister, one of the miracles of modern India has been the impressive growth of its scientificial and technological basis. India has now the third largest pool of engineers and scientists, after the United States and the Soviet Union. Incidentally, many outstanding Indian scientists work in Brazilian universities and research institutes. Some of India's technological centres are among the best in the world.

This has not come about spontaneously. It is the result of firm policy and of an all-pervasive philosophy. According to the Indian Prime Minister, "Science cannot be confined to laboratories or universities, but must be part of education, of health, of all aspects of development; as of life in the home, in the field and in the factory. Science must not be a follower but a pace-setter, must not merely react to problems, but must anticipate them."

## SPACE PROGRAMME

No wonder then that India has managed to achieve remarkable successes, from the spectacular space programme that has culminated in the launching of the INSAT (I-B) satellite by the Challenger space shuttle, a few months ago, to areas such as data processing and biotechnology.

We in Brazil are also justifiably proud of our advances in this area. Allow me to just mention the progress achieved in the sector of informatics, through a coordinated governmental policy aiming at self-reliance in the production of certain types of computers, and in the technology of fuel alcohol, which has almost entirely replaced gasoline in our automobile fleet.

There is room, therefore, for a mutually beneficial cooperation in the area of science and technology. We are currently engaged in negotiating an agreement on scientific and technological cooperation that will pave the way for inter-institutional cooperation between the two countries.

Mr. Minister, may I finally mention the need to give greater substance to the cultural agreement, signed in 1968. There is already a professorship in Brazilian lite-<pg-97>

rature at the Jawaharlal Nehru University and, as already stated, Indian professors are now working in Brazilian universities. There is a comprehensive course of Sanskrit at the Sao Paulo university, with several semesters' duration.

## SEMINAR ON INDIA

But much remains to be done. We are considering the possibility of inaugurating a seminar on India at the University of Brasilia, in the next few months. We can envisage the organization of film festivals in both countries, and of exhibitions illustrating, for instance, certain cultural interactions between India and Brazil. When you go to Brazil, as I hope you will in the near future, you will have a chance to see a set of sculptures representing biblical prophets - the work of "Aleijadinho", one of our foremost eighteenth century artists - and you will notice the striking similarity between these sculptures and those displayed at the St. Caetano Convent, in Goa. This is only one example of somewhat unsuspected cultural crosscurrents which have developed over the years between India and Brazil.

Let us, therefore, explore in a realistic way, consistent with available resources, the prospects for a wider cultural cooperation between our two countries.

## VEDIC TEXT

Mr. Minister, I can find no more appropriate words to close my statement than an ancient Vedic text, still alive today, as so

many others of the Indian thousand years old tradition: "May there be welfare for the people: may rulers protect the world, following the righteous path, may the whole world be happy." Social economic development, world peace and, as a result, a better life for mankind: These are in essence, the three hopes expressed by the text, and they should be the three goals pursued by our countries, in their new path of collaboration.

In my opening remarks, I referred to a new beginning. Let us begin. I invite all those present to join me in a toast to the health of His Excellency President Giani Zail Singh and Her Excellency the Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, to the increasing prosperity of the Indian people, to the ever-lasting friendship between India and Brazil and to the personal happiness of Your Excellency.

## AZIL INDIA USA MOZAMBIQUE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC VENEZUELA **Date :** Mar 06, 1984

# Volume No 1995 BRAZIL India-Brazil Joint Press Statement

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Mar 08, 1984 on the India-Brazil joint press statement:

At the invitation of Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, Minister of External Affairs of the Republic of India, H.E. Mr. Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Federative Republic of Brazil, paid an official visit to India from March 5 to March 7, 1984.

The two Ministers held discussions on bilateral and international matters of mutual interest. The talks were held in an atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding characterised by the close and friendly relations existing between the two countries.

The Foreign Minister of Brazil called on the President of India, Giani Zail Singh, Vice President Shri M. Hidayatullah, Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi, Speaker of Lok Sabha, Shri Balram Jakhar, Minister of Petroleum and Energy, Shri Shiv Shankar and Minister of Steel and Mines Shri N. K. P. Salve.

The two Foreign Ministers referred to the close ties between the

peoples of India and Brazil and recalled that these were deepened by their history of struggling for decolonisation, the elimination of all forms of injustice, domination and hegemony, and for the building of a more just international order, in which cooperation prevails over rivalries. The talks revealed a high degree of understanding and close-<pg-98>

ness of views between the two countries. The two sides expressed their sincere desire for further development and strengthening of their close and friendly ties.

## INTERNATIONAL SITUATION

The two Ministers expressed their grave concern over the deterioration of the international situation and the persistence of several forms of crisis, both in the political and economic areas. They agreed that such situation requires efforts aiming at a lessening of tensions and at the elimination of existing sources of conflicts and controversy in such a way that the international community may concentrate its efforts on the establishment of a more equitable order. They reiterated the firm adherence of their countries to the principles of the United Nations Charter and underlined the need for strengthening the organisation so that it becomes an effective instrument for the preservation of international cooperation for development.

## DISARMAMENT

The two Foreign Ministers called for general and complete disarmament, in particular nuclear disarmament, under effective international control. In order to prevent effectively the horizontal as well as vertical proliferation of nuclear weapons, nuclear weapon states should adopt urgent measures for halting and reversing the arms race. They further called for a freeze in the development, production, stockpiling and deployment of nuclear weapons and the early finalisation of a comprehensive treaty banning the test, use or threat of use of nuclear weapons. They also deplored the attempts by some nuclear weapon states to impose discriminatory restrictions on a non-nuclear weapon states, ostensibly as safeguards; thereby retarding their technological advancement and reaffirmed the right of all States to develop nuclear energy for peaceful purposes in keeping with their national aspirations and capabilities.

The two Foreign Ministers urged all States to scrupulously refrain from all acts of aggression, recourse to the use or threat of force, and intervention and interference in the internal affairs of States as well as other forms of pressure, including economic or military blockades. They reaffirmed the right of all peoples to national self-determination, independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity and their right to choose their own political, economic and social systems and pursue their own economic developments free from any type of external interference or pressure.

The two Ministers emphasized their firm belief in the continuing relevance and significant role of the non-aligned movement in the establishment and strengthening of international peace and security. They agreed that the non-aligned movement, which desires that States steer clear of cold war, military alliances, great power rivalry and East-West confrontation, has an important part to play in safeguarding world peace and protecting the nonaligned countries from foreign pressures to enable them to concentrate their efforts for their economic and social development.

The Ministers expressed their deep concern over the persistence of regional crisis, and pointed out that the transfer of global tensions to regional scenarios is one of the factors aggravating them. They agreed that the regional forces should deploy their full efforts, in a flexible and open minded manner, in the search for adequate solutions, free from interference by super power or extraregional powers.

## WEST ASIA

Regarding the situation in West Asia, the two Foreign Ministers expressed their grave concern at the continued acts of aggression against the people of Palestine, Lebanon and Arab nations, and reiterated the inalienable right of the Palestinian people to establish an independent state in their homeland, Palestine. The Brazilian Minister expressed the view that all States in the region have a right to exist in peace within recognised boundaries.

members of the Non-Aligned Movement -- and called on both sides to take immediate measures to avoid further loss of civilian lives and damage to non-military targets. They reiterated the appeal made by the chairperson of the Non-Aligned Movement during the 7th Non-Aligned Summit in New Delhi expressing the universal desire that fighting must stop at once, and the two sides come to an honourable, just and enduring peace through negotiations and peaceful means.

The two Foreign Ministers expressed their concern over the situation in Afghanistan and reaffirmed their full support for the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and non-aligned status of Afghanistan.

On the situation on the Caribbean, the Ministers emphasized the

special needs and requirements of the small States of the area, both in the field of economic development and of security, including the right to sovereignty and territorial integrity. In this context, they analysed and deplored the recent intervention in Grenada, and appealed for the self-determination of the country, without any form of external interference.

## CENTRAL AMERICA

The two Ministers expressed their grave concern over the evolution of the situation in Central America. They agreed that the complex regional crisis has structural causes which are now aggravated by forms of external intervention and interference. They considered, therefore, that the efforts to solve the crisis should take into account in a comprehensive way, the regional context and the strict respect for the principle of noninterference. In this sense, they underlined the positive action by the Cantadora Group, which has been seeking to create conditions for peace in the region, through exclusively diplomatic means.

As regards South Africa, the two Ministers agreed that developments in the Southern part of Africa show that apartheid and colonial domination continue to resist the forces of change. They agreed that the policy of apartheid continues to generate tension in all countries of the region. The two Ministers underlined the need for the immediate independence of Namibia, in accordance with relevant United Nations resolutions, and extended their support to SWAPO as the representative of the Namibian people.

## NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE

The Minister deplored the stalemate in all negotiations conducted within the framework of the North-South dialogue for the establishment of a new set of rules leading to the restructuring of the international economic system, and called for earnest efforts by developed countries in order to revive international cooperation for development, especially urgent at the present time, in view of the world economic crisis.

Both sides underlined the importance they attach to the goal of collective self-reliance among developing countries. They welcomed the progress achieved so far in the implementation of various programmes of cooperation among developing countries and called for greater efforts towards this end. They noted that negotiations had been launched for the establishment of the global system of trade preferences and affirmed their determination to work towards the early conclusion of these negotiations.

They also called for the adoption of appropriate international measures for alleviating the debt burden of developing countries,

due to a large extent to factors beyond their control, such as certain economic policies of developed countries, in order to provide an orderly international response to the current indebtedness situation of the developing countries.

In order to enable the two Governments to keep informed of each other's views on the evolution of the issues referred to above and others of a similar nature, the Ministers agreed to set up an informal consultation mechanism, within which periodical exchanges of views of world political and economic questions could take place alternately in India and Brazil. <pg-100>

## BILATERAL RELATIONS

In examining their bilateral relations, the Ministers recognised with satisfaction the existence of concrete perspectives for increasing cooperation between India and Brazil, especially in the area of economic relations and of science and technology.

In this context the Ministers decided to set up at the earliest a Joint Commission on Trade and Economic, and Scientific and Technological Cooperation, integrated by the corresponding Sub-Commissions which will provide an institutional framework for keeping under review and enhancing cooperation in these areas.

As far as economic relations are concerned, the Ministers stressed the need for increasing and diversifying imports and exports between the two countries, keeping in view the desirability of balancing trade.

They recognised the need to participate in each other's development projects keeping in view the complementarities that exist in the areas of capital goods, consultancy and engineering services. Joint ventures should be encouraged including cooperation in projects to be implemented in third countries.

## TRADE

Keeping in view the existing Indo-Brazilian Trade Agreement and the importance that both sides attached to higher trade flows and economic cooperation, it was also decided that pending the establishment of the Joint Commission referred to in the preceding paragraph, talks on trade and economic matters should be held between the two Governments in accordance with appropriate modalities which could include the creation of an Interim Committee on Trade.

They agreed that a work programme should be established, specifying the areas of economic cooperation which the two sides consider of mutual interest and which will be adopted and implemented by the proposed mechanism or Committee on Trade referred to above, under the Indo-Brazilian Trade Agreement, to review and promote trade between the two countries. In this context, the Brazilian delegation made certain proposals reflecting their views on priority areas of economic cooperation which the Indian side agreed to consider.

## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

In the field of science and technology, the Ministers expressed the deep interest of the Governmental authorities and of the scientific communities of Brazil and India to create solid links of cooperation between them. They discussed the possibilities of cooperation and undertaking joint research in the field of informatics, micro-electronics, silicon technology, chemistry, instrumentation, quality control, standardization, agriculture, space technology, biotechnology, ocean sciences and new and renewable sources of energy, such as biogas and alcohol as a fuel substitute. In view of these promising prospects, they deemed it of utmost importance to conclude as early as possible an agreement on Science and Technology, which they intended to sign not later than the end of 1984.

In order to give a further impetus to the cultural cooperation between the two countries, the Ministers agreed to work on a detailed time schedule for the implementation of the bilateral cultural exchange programme for the year 1985-87.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs for the Federative Republic of Brazil expressed his sincere appreciation for the warm welcome extended to him and his delegation by the Government of India. He extended a cordial invitation to the Foreign Minister of India to visit Brazil. The invitation was accepted with pleasure. The visit will take place at a mutually convenient date. <pp-101>

# AZIL INDIA USA LEBANON IRAN IRAQ AFGHANISTAN CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC GRENADA SOUTH AFRICA NAMIBIA

**Date** : Mar 08, 1984

# Volume No

1995

## CANADA

Loan Assistance for Andhra Pradesh Forestry Project

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Mar 23, 1984 on the Canadian loan assistance for Andhra

Pradesh forestry project:

India and Canada signed today an agreement for a loan of C\$44 million (Rs. 37.62 crores) for assistance for the Andhra Pradesh Social Forestry Project. The agreement was signed by Shri P. K. Kaul, Finance Secretary on behalf of the Government of India and Mr. William T. Warden, High Commissioner on behalf of the Government of Canada.

This project is being implemented by the Government of Andhra Pradesh and is expected to be completed by March 31, 1988. Its objectives are to slow the pace of deforestation in Andhra Pradesh and to supply domestic needs of fuelwood, small timber, poles and fodder and to provide employment for the weaker section of the rural population. The project will also assist farmers and villagers in supplying their needs by providing them with planting stock and technical services.

The Canadian loan of C\$ 44 million (about Rs. 37.62 crores) represents 67% of the total project cost. This loan is to be repaid by the Government of India in 50 years inclusive of a grace period of 10 years and is interest free.

Canada is also expected to provide shortly a grant to meet the costs of technical, advisory and administrative services for this project.

NADA INDIA USA **Date :** Mar 23, 1984

# Volume No

1995

EGYPT

New Protocol to the Tripartite Trade Expansion and EconomicCooperation Agreement

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Mar 13, 1984 on the new protocol to the tripartite trade expansion and economic cooperation agreement:

A new protocol to the tripartite trade expansion and economic cooperation agreement between India, Egypt and Yugoslavia (tripartite agreement) was signed in Cairo on March 10, 1984 at a Ministerial level meeting of the three countries. The Indian delegation to the Ministerial meeting was led by Shri P. A. Sangma, Deputy Minister of Commerce and included Shri K. S. Bains, Joint Secretary, Department of Heavy Industry and Shri K. A. Sivaramakrishnan, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Commerce. The Egyptian delegation was led by Dr. Moustafa El Said, Minister of Economy and Foreign Trade and the Yugoslav delegation was led by Dr. Rikard Stajner, Member of the Federal Executive Council.

The new protocol extends the validity period of the Common List under the agreement until March 31, 1988. The Common List currently comprises 148 products on which the three countries extend tariff preference to each other. The trade <pg-102>

preferences agreed upon are expected to contribute significantly to expand the trade in these items.

The protocol is also intended to provide new impetus to industrial collaboration among the three countries. In this connection, the protocol envisages that the three countries should nominate nodal agencies in some 12 priority areas of industrial collaboration identified in the earlier senior official level meeting held in Delhi in October last year. The three countries have agreed to convene operative level meetings of the nominated agencies so that the work in this area could proceed expeditiously.

India has already nominated the nodal agencies in these areas. Both Yugoslavia and Egypt are also taking action in this regard so as to accelerate the progress of work in the area of industrial collaboration.

The opportunity provided by the meeting was also availed of by Shri Sangma to have informal bilateral consultations on various issues of common interest. These consultations have indicated the keenness of both Egypt and Yugoslavia to expand and intensify trade and economic links with India. There are complimentarities in a number of sectors which could be exploited to mutual benefit.

On March 10, which was the inaugural day of the Cairo International Fair, Shri Sangma also visited the Indian pavilion.

The Yugoslav Minister, Dr. Stajner along with others were taken around the impressive display of various engineering and other products being exhibited by India at the pavilion. On the first day itself, enquiries have been received for a large number of products on display at the pavilion.

YPT INDIA YUGOSLAVIA USA **Date :** Mar 13, 1984

# Volume No

## 1995

## FINLAND

## Shri Narasimha Rao Holds Dinner in Honour of Finland ForeignMinister

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Mar 19, 1984 of the speech by the Minister of External Affairs Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao at a dinner held in honour of His Excellency Mr. Paavo Vayrynen, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Finland in New Delhi on March 19, 1984:

I wish to extend to Your Excellency and your delegation a very cordial welcome. I am particularly delighted that you are the first Foreign Minister of Finland to visit India. We have had a good exchange of views this afternoon. I do hope that you will be able to see something of our country during your short stay here.

Although our countries are separated by a long distance, we share many common values and goals. We are both committed to peace and international cooperation. Many of our people know and admire the efforts of the Finnish people towards forging and consolidating their independence and national identity. The vitality of your democratic institutions is widely admired. Your beautiful natural environment has inspired some of the most outstanding creative activity in music, literature, architecture design and sports. Finland's progress in industry and technology since the Second World War has been remarkable.

## DETENTE

We have watched with considerable interest the unceasing efforts of Finland In the cause of detente, disarmament and peace in which the Helsinki Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe was a landmark. Your policy of active neutra-<pg-103>

lity has been a sgnificant factor in the cause of peace and stability in your region and in Europe. India welcomes Finland's association with the Non-Aligned movement where it has been represented as a guest for many years and has shared many of the goals of the Movement.

Peace is vital for all nations. In today's interdependent world it is also indivisible. So is prosperity. We are, therefore, committed to work towards a better climate of international understanding and removal of mistrust and suspicions. This is more than ever necessary today when tensions have risen and dangers of confrontation increased.

We all must therefore work in concert to lessen and eliminate the danger of a nuclear war which is one of the biggest threats facing mankind. The link between disarmament and development is well-known today. The creation of a new international economic order is necessary not only in the interest of non-aligned and developing nations but of the world as a whole.

Consistent with our objective of ensuring that conditions in our region are propitious to allow the countries concerned to concentrate on urgent economic and social tasks for the benefit of their people, we have sought to actively encourage cooperation in the countries of South Asia. South Asia Regional Cooperation is a first promising step in this direction.

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN INDIA

During your travel in this country you will have an opportunity of seeing something of our economic and social development. During the 37 year of independence, India has taken significant strides in the fields of industry and agriculture, education and health, science and technology as well as in laying down the foundation as a relatively stable process of economic development. Our commitment to democracy and democratic values remains strong as before. We are determined to perservere, in the future, in our goals of democratic development and peaceful social change as we have done in the past.

I am happy to note that Indo-Finnish relations have been developing satisfactorily to the mutual benefit of our two countries.

The visit of Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi to Finland last year represented an important milestone in our relations and symbolised our mutual desire for closer ties.

We also note that trade between our two countries has been expanding. It should be our common endeavour to increase it further while at the same time ensuring that it is conducted on a balanced basis. There is also considered scope for strengthening technical collaborations, especially where transfer of high technology to India is involved. The Joint Business Council established last year between FICCI and the Central Chamber of Commerce of Finland must serve as a vehicle to further strengthen trade and economic cooperation between our two countries. The impetus given to our cultural relations by the first cultural exchange programme between our two countries which was signed last month will have to be carried forward.

Once again, I extend you a warm welcome to our country and wish you a very pleasant time here. I should also like to propose a toast to your health and to the further strengthening of the friendship and cooperation between our two countries.

NLAND INDIA USA PERU CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date :** Mar 19, 1984

# Volume No

1995

FINLAND

Text of Mr. Vayrynen's Speech

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Mar 19, 1984 of the speech by Mr. Paavo Vayrynen, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Finland at a dinner hosted in his honour by the Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao:

First of all I would like to express my sincere gratitude for your kind words and <pg-104>

for the particularly warm welcome extended to me and my party. As this is the first time, I am visiting this cradle of civilization, your thrivingly ancient and modern and, in her complexity, fascinating country, I assure Your Excellency that I shall use every moment for learning to know it.

We have seen the relations between Finland and India take a big leap forward in almost every sphere of human activity after the memorable visit to Finland by Her Excellency, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, Prime Minister of India, during June last year. Agreements on cultural exchange and avoidance of double taxation have been signed, the first Finnish-Indian joint ventures have been established, and an increasing number of visitors, both official and unofficial, travel back and forth between India and Finland. Our two countries are learning to know each other better and better.

## TRADE

Trade between Finland and India has grown satisfactorily and much complementarity can be found between our two economies. Indian products are finding their way directly into the Finnish markets instead of through third parties. Technical cooperation schemes benefit both sides. A fine example of this is the Indian Antarctic expedition, carried by a Finnish vessel. The ancient bond of affection between Finland and India is being revived today. There are also some linguistic parallels between the Finnish and Indian languages which are interesting although not yet fully explored. Even though Finnish does not belong to the Indo-European language group, some basic words in Sanskrit and Finnish show striking resemblances. The chair of Sanskrit was established at the Helsinki University already in 1875. This tradition has been kept alive up to now. Today Prof. Asko Parpola represents special knowledge of Indian culture at the Helsinki University with his profound insight into the mysteries of Harappan culture.

We Finns believe that we can best meet our security needs by taking into account the natural security needs of all our neighbours and by developing relations with them -- as well as with other countries -- we can best meet the challenges of our time. Another central element of our foreign policy is that Finland wants to remain outside the disputes and conflicts of the great powers. Consequently our policy of neutrality has much in common with the Non-Aligned movement. We highly appreciate the efforts of these countries in the struggle for international peace, security and economic progress.

Your Excellency, in the political sphere I wish to express words of praise for India's achievements in her foreign policy, particularly for her role as leader of the Non-Aligned movement. In many ways India has a global reach in what she does. And justly so, India representing one fifth of humanity, wherever global matters are discussed, India's voice is to be heard.

I am looking forward to intensive work in the coming days, and to intensive pleasure in exploring your beautiful country dotted with treasures. Before closing, I still want to use this opportunity of extending a most cordial invitation to Your Excellency to visit Finland whenever suitable to Your Excellency.

I propose a toast to Finnish-Indian Friendship, I also wish to raise my glass in honour of Your Excellency, wishing you many further victories in your brilliant career in service of this proud nation. <pg-105>

NLAND INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC **Date :** Mar 19, 1984

# Volume No

FRANCE

## Festival of India

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on the year of India in France, 1985-1986:

The year of India in 1985-86 will be a great cultural event through which Paris and France will be witness to the finest creations and perceptions of India of the past, and India of today. The decision to hold this Festival was taken at the highest level by Mr. Francois Mitterand and Smt. Indira Gandhi, when the President of France visited India in the autumn of 1982. This ambitious project was conceived with a view to strengthening and deepening the cultural, artistic and human relations between the two countries. A high level committee with Smt. Indira Gandhi as patron has been set up to oversee the events of the Festival. A similar committee with Mr. Pierre Mauroy, Prime Minister of France as Honorary President has been set up in France.

The most prestigious venues in Paris and in other major French cities will house important exhibitions presenting a vast panorama of Indian artistic creations from contemporary art and traditional culture to popular arts and crafts. These shows will illustrate the history of India, its permanence and its diversity, its past and its present.

The major cultural institutions of France, especially the Autumn Festival and the House of the Cultures of the World will render their assistance in organising music, dance and theatre activities.

Mr. Jean Riboud is President of the Organising Committee in France, which includes distinguished personalities of the intellectual and artistic world, high officials and industrialists. On the Indian side, a similarly constituted Advisory Committee has Smt. Pupul Jayakar as its Chairman. The French Association for Artistic Action (Association Francaise d'Action Artistique), an organisation functioning under the patronage of the Ministry of External Relations and the Ministry of Culture, has been entrusted with the coordination of these exhibitions, under the direction of Mrs. Catherine Clement, Secretary-General of the French Committee.

The following is a list of major events planned for the Festival:

1. INDIAN CLASSICAL ART: (Grand Palais, Paris, February-April, 1986) This will be an exhibition of about two hundred and fifty masterpieces of Indian sculpture and painting representing Indian art through the ages, from the earliest to the late-medieval period. The sculptures and paintings will be from different regions of India giving the viewers a panoramic view of the

sculptural and pictorial art in the sub-continent. It is also proposed to include ancient textiles in the exhibition to present India's excellence in the art of weaving. It will be for the first time that an Indian art exhibition on this scale has been mounted in Europe. The exhibition is being coordinated on the French side by Mr. Vadime Elisseeff, Director of Musee Guimet, Paris and on behalf of the Government of India by Dr. B. N. Goswamy, Professor of Fine Arts at Punjab University.

2. RURAL ARTS AND, CRAFT OF INDIA: THE EARTHEN DRUM: The rural arts of India are the visual expression and technological processes of people living at several cultural, religious and sociological levels. They are the art of the settled village and countryside, of people with lives tuned to the rhythm of nature and its laws of cyclic change, and with a central concern with the earth and with harvesting. It is the art of the people with memories of ancient migrations and of live myth that make the archaic gods and legend contemporary, an art involved with household and fertility ritual and rites that involve energy and power. It is the art of fairs and festivals cype106>

and pilgrimage, of song, dance and epic performance. The exhibition will project this living art of India through art and craft objects, live performances by puppeteers, balladeers, magicians, dancers and musicians and through traditional rural environments and actual workshops with visitors as participants. Mr. Rajeev Sethi will be the artistic director for this exhibition.

3. EXHIBITION OF TEXTILES: (Musee des Arts Decoratifs, Paris, September-October, 1985). India has produced cotton, silk and wool since the earliest times and has been the source of fine textiles for centuries. Handweaving is an ancient Indian craft and has drawn upon a rich tradition of myth and symbol and fantastic imagery. Over the ages, distinctive styles of weaving have developed in different parts of the country according to regional, environmental and cultural influences. Indian weavers developed their own science of colours for the fabrics. While bulk producing for the common masses, the weavers also went in for art textiles, involving special weaving, printing and embroidery. It is thus that India has a wide variety of textiles, in cotton, silk and tassar, with fine workmanship. The exhibition will project the textile tradition of India, in all its varied aspects. The exhibition will be conceived and designed by Mr. Martand Singh with the help of Weavers Service Centres, in collaboration with Mr. Francois Mathey, Director of the Musee des Arts Decoratifs.

4. CONTEMPORARY ART: There will be an exhibition of modern Indian paintings which is likely to be held in the Centre Pompidou, Paris.

5. MODERN AND CONTEMPORARY ARCHITECTURE: (Ecole des Beaux-Arts, Autumn 1985). The exhibition will be coordinated by Mr. Francois

Wehrlin, Director of de L'Ecole des Beaux-Arts and will reflect the modern and contemporary trends in Indian architecture, including the work of Le Corbusier in India.

6. PERFORMING ARTS: There will be programmes of performing arts, both classical and folk, in Paris and in several other cities in France. Besides well known dance forms like Bharata Natyam, Odissi and Kathak, many lesser known forms like Teyyam and Kalaripayattu will also be represented. Performers will include dancers, musicians, singers and there will be solo as also group programmes of well-known and not so known young and talented artists.

7. THEATRE AND FILM FESTIVAL: A major event of the Festival will be Peter Brook's production of Mahabharata. Theatre groups from India will present traditional and modern plays. There will be film festivals of Indian classics, as also retrospectives of some major film directors. These theatre performances and film festivals will be held in Paris as well as in other cities.

8. BOOKS AND DOCUMENTS: This will be an exhibition of books and documents showing India's relationship with France since the seventeenth century. The books and documents will be collected from both Indian and French sources and will include works of French travellers to India and of French Indologists.

9. SYMPOSIA AND SEMINARS: There will be symposia and seminars connected with the various exhibitions taking place during the Festival, to be attended by scholars both from France and India. There will also be seminars on different aspects of Indian religion, philosophy, literature and the arts.

10. SCIENCE IN INDIA: There will be audio-visual programmes, lectures and seminars on Science in India, featuring the impact of science in rural India, the progress of Science and Technology, the role of atomic energy and space and satellite communication. The importance of indigenous systems of medicine will also be highlighted.

11. THE OPENING CEREMONY: (June, 1985). The inauguration of the Festival will take place in the Tuileries Gardens and has been conceived as a mela -- an Indian Fair. There will be food stalls representing various Indian cuisines and stalls featuring handicrafts and artisan products as well as puppeteers, balladeers, street performers and folk entertainers who will provide festive colour. India and <pg-107>

France will be host to the city and people of Paris.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR THE FESTIVAL OF INDIA IN FRANCE:

1. Smt. Pupul Jayakar, -- Chairman 11, Safdarjung Road, New Delhi.

2. Shri Mohammad Yunus, Chairman, Trade Fair Authority of India, Pragati Maidan, New Delhi.

3. Shri Narendra Singh,Ambassador of India in France,15 Rue Alfred Dehodencq,Paris-750 16.

4. Shri Natwar Singh, Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi.

5. Kum. Kusum Lata Mittal, Secretary, Ministry of Tourism, Sardar Patel Bhawan, New Delhi.

6. Shr S. S. Gill, Secretary, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.

7. Shri Mani Narayanswami, Secretary (Textiles), Ministry of Commerce, Udyog Bhawan, New Delhi.

8. Dr. S. Varadarajan,Secretary,Department of Science andTechnology,New Mehrauli Road, New Delhi.

9. Smt. Serla Grewal, Secretary, Ministry of Education & Culture, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.

10. Shri M. M. Kohli, Secretary, Ministry of Civil Aviation, New Delhi.  Dr. (Mrs.) Kapila Vatsyayan, Additional Secretary, Department of Culture, New Delhi.

12. Smt. Krishna Riboud, 54-Avenue De Bretauil, Paris-750 07.

13. Dr. Narayana Menon, Chairman, Sangeet Natak Akademi, Rabindra Bhavan, New Delhi.

14. Prof. Sankho Chaudhury, Urban Art Commission, Lok Nayak Bhavan, Khan Market, New Delhi.

15. Shri P. A. Nazareth, Secretary, Indian Council for Cultural Relations, Azad Bhavan, New Delhi.

16. Shri Dalip Mehta, Minister, Embassy of India, Paris.

17. Shri Wajahat Habibullah, Director, Prime Minister's Office, South Block, New Delhi.

18. Shri Daljit Aurora, Chairman and Managing Director, The Handicrafts and Handlooms Export Corporation of India Ltd. Lok Kalyan Bhawan, 11-A, Rouse Avenue, New Delhi.

19. Shri S. K. Misra -- Member Director General, Secretary Festival of India, New Delhi.

20. Dr. J. P. Das, 226, Kidwai Nagar West, New Delhi-110023.

21. Dr. B. N. Goswamy, Department of Fine Arts, Punjab University, Chandigarh. 22. Shri Rajeev Sethi, Flat No. 4, Shankar Market, Connaught Circus, New Delhi.

23. Shri Girish Karnad, D-9, Karnataka Building, Moghal Lane, Mahim, Bombay. <pg-108>

24. Shri Charles Correa,9-Mathew Road, Bombay.

25. Shri Aditya BirlaIndustry House,159-Church Gate, Reclamation,Bombay.

26. Shri Sanjay Dalmia,1-Tees January Marg,Dalmia House, New Delhi.

27. Prof. Yash Pal,Planning Commission,Yojana Bhawan, New Delhi.

28. Shri Ashok Chatterjee, Director, Institute of Design, Ahmedabad.

29. Shri Man Mohan Singh, Financial Adviser, Ministry of Education & Culture, New Delhi.

30. Shri Akbar Padamsee,Tahar Mansions,10-A, Napien Sea Road, Bombay-36.

31. Shri Raghu Raj, Chairman-Cum-Managing Director, Air India Bombay, Nariman Point, Bombay-400021.

32. Mrs. Kamala Chowdhry, Flat 2A, 33, Prithviraj Road, New Delhi-110003.

33. Shri Vijay Singh, -- Coordinator Coordinator,Festival of India,Department of Culture, New Delhi.

34. Shri Raj Rewal,

E-12, Defence Colony, New Delhi.

35. Shri Jehangir Bhownagary, Boulogne, France.

36. Shri E. Pouchapadass, Paris, France.

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19. Michel GUY, Director, Autumn Festival. <pg-109>

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Banque Nationale de Paris.

26. Pierre VIOT, Director, National Centre for Cinema.

27. Dominique WALLON, Director for Cultural Development, Ministry of Culture.

ANCE INDIA USA **Date :** Mar 19, 1984

## Volume No

## 1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Speech by Foreign Minister

The following is the speech by Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, Minister of External in the Lok Sabha in reply to the discussion on Demands for Grants of the Ministry of External Affairs, on Mar 21, 1984:

Mr. Chairman, Sir, we have had a remarkably peaceful debate on international affairs. I thank all the 22 hon. Members who took part in the debate and gave very valuable suggestions.

As I look back on the debate, I find that the main focus has been on our relations with neighbours. The other point of importance which has been raised is the deteriorating international security situation. I consider both these points extremely important, and it was as well that the debate concentrated on these two. Sir, I would also like to deal with these two points in detail.

## PROMOTION OF PEACE

Before taking up the other aspects of our relations with our neighbours, I would like to categorically reject all the allegations and insinuations suggesting India's involvement in any coup or plot in Pakistan. Such reports and insinuations appearing in some sections of the foreign press are absolutely baseless, highly mischievous and reprehensible. We have not interfered and will not interfere in any way whatsoever in the internal affairs of Pakistan or any other country. We are not concerned about the composition or complexion of their governments. This policy has been absolutely clear and it has been made clear many many times before and it will continue to be our policy hereafter also. Our Prime Minister's most sincere and strenuous efforts to promote peace in the region and all over the world as well as good neighbourly relations are well known and acknowledged in all lands. So I do not think there is any need for any hon. Member or anyone outside the parliament or anywhere in the world to continue having any such doubts or any such fancies.

The Prime Minister has been pointing to the steadily deteriorating situation in the security environment in the subcontinent right from 1980. Immediately after the new Government came into office Prime Minister drew the attention of every one to this situation. Now what has happened during the last four years? Has the situa-

tion improved? Is it not a fact that ever since Prime Minister made her first statement, the situation has deteriorated over the years. Members have many times and on many occasions expressed their concern over the induction of arms into Pakistan.

## RELATIONS WITH PAKISTAN

The man in the street in India expresses his concern. Whatever individuals might think under the spell of temporary meetings and visits, it is an undeniable fact, that in this country, everyone feels apprehensive when a neighbour of ours is being armed to the teeth. So, what do we do about it? We try to argue with them; we try to discuss with them; we try to convince them that this is not necessary.

One of the important questions to ask ourselves and to ask those who are concerned is, taking the last ten or fifteen years, who is responsible for the escalation in the level of sophistication of arms between India and Pakistan Who has led the way and who has followed? It is a matter of record, that at every stage, Pakistan has raised the level of sophistication in arms. Never mind about numbers. Numbers will depend on size; numbers will depend on the length of the coastline; numbers will depend on the length of the border. But numbers, absolutely so called. Without reference to levels of sophistication, without reference to quality, have little meaning. And when it comes to quality, and level of sophistication, the fact has been that Pakistan has led the way and India has had to follow. Almost every week, we hear of some new weapons being inducted into Pakistan. But, when all the appeals fall on deaf ears, there is nothing that India can do but to be prepared for any eventuality. And this is what we have being doing. I do not think anyone can have any objection or take any exception to this policy -- a policy of peace, at the same time a policy of preparedness because we hear so much about the strategic consensus involving Pakistan. We do not want this

consensus to be built in this area. We want the countries of this region to live peacefully. We have made all efforts for South-Asian Cooperation; we have launched the programme and the programme is progressing well on many fronts. We have been able to identify areas of cooperation. So, on the one hand, we are going ahead with peaceful programmes of cooperation but, on the other, there is one thorn coming in the way of good relations.

Mr. Patnaik also raised the question of two domestic servants. I think these will go down in history as the most talked about domestic servants in the world. I would not like to go into the details but how I wish Mr. Patnaik or any hon. Member of the House to do me the favour of interviewing these two domestic servants and telling me whether these servants could, by any stretch of imagination, be considered as having done something which they are now being charged of having done! It is very strange that this incident or a non-incident of two persons crossing over or pushed across the border should be made the central theme around which all this web has been woven. It is better that such stories are not concocted because they vitiate the relations between the two countries.

The foreign secretaries of the two countries are going to talk about the two documents that are on the table. The members are aware of the circumstances in which these two documents came into being and why discussion could not go on earlier. There were impediments which were genuine and valid and now we hope that there will be no further impediments created from the other side to impede the resumption of these discussions. We hope that the discussions will start as scheduled. Of course, we have our perception. They have theirs. It is true as Mr. Biju Patnaik said, that the two documents are similar. But it is in the 20 % difference that the possibility of eventual resolution lies. We have started the process; we have to proceed little by little. Let us hope that this process will succeed and India on its part will do whatever is possible to make it succeed; consistent with national security.

#### BANGLADESH

Coming to Bangladesh, again our relations have been good and they are good <ppg-111>

today. We have certain issues. I was advised by an hon. Member yesterday to be generous. How can the government be generous to the detriment of the 700 million people of India? There can be no question of generosity where national interests are concerned. What we want is equity; what we want is justice; what we want is a cooperative spirit in which both countries can benefit. And all our relations will have to be ultimately based on mutual benefit.

Now, everybody knows that there is not enough water in Ganga at

Farakka. If you give more water to Bangladesh, Calcutta port suffers. If you give more water to Calcutta port, may be, Bangladesh will not be able to get the water she needs. So the main question is how to augment the Ganga waters at Farakka. There have been proposals. We gave them one proposal of getting Brahmaputra water through Bangladesh to Farakka. They have not been able to agree to that; they have some domestic reasons. They said that we should get water from Nepal by building dams there. This is a bilateral issue between India and Bangladesh. And when Bangladesh proposed that this bilateral matter should be trilaterised, naturally we could not agree. We have our own bilateral arrangements with Nepal. We would not like to internationalise the issue between India and Bangladesh. With these two proposals not having made much headway, certain other proposals also are being considered. They are still in the process. I am sure we will continue the process and ultimately find a way of sharing the Ganga waters on an equitable basis. I have no doubt about that. But it is a question of time. It is a question of patience. It is a question of political will on both sides, of being able to sell a formula to one's own people. The 1978 agreement was for 5 years; therefore it had to go at the end of 5 years. But that does not mean we are going to break the dialogue or break the question of sharing of waters. As I said we are going ahead with alternative proposals. I am sure at some point of time we will succeed.

#### TEESTA WATERS

In the matter of the Teesta waters, as the House is aware, we have been able to find a sharing formula for the time being. It is not final but it leaves a certain percentage of the available water undecided, unshared, undistributed. But the rest is divided; so, that small portion can be settled later. We find that it is a satisfactory formula for both sides; both have agreed.

About the properties in Bangladesh which are said to be in danger of being sold, we have been taking up the matter, as Hon. Members know, from time to time, persistently. It is as a result of these efforts, if I may say so, that the Government of Bangladesh are looking into this from the point of view of those who are likely to lose these properties. They have assured us more than once that nothing will be done which would amount to confiscation. The properties would be made over back to the rightful owners. Now, how they are going to do it, what is the procedure, what laws will be invoked, is something which is within their domestic jurisdiction. But we have impressed on them that such deprivation of people of their properties should not take place.

I would also like to inform the hon. Member who raised a question that in all the discussions on Teesta waters, we had a representative of the Government of West Bengal. Whether it is land boundary between Bangladesh and India or something else, the State Government on our side is kept in the picture.

#### SRI LANKA

Coming to Sri Lanka, the latest position is that the All Parties Conference which was set up as a result of the good officers of our Prime Minister, has been going on in the last few days. There were some reports that since not much headway could be made on the substantive issues, President Jayewardene was perhaps thinking in terms of adjourning the meetings sine die. This has not happened fortunately, but there has been an adjournment until the first week of May or thereabouts. So, meanwhile, there will be further talks, further consultations and also on and we <pg-112>

are hoping that since the process has been continued, they will be able to take advantage of this interregnum to find some solution which is acceptable to all concerned. Again, the matter is extremely complicated. So, while we are happy that the process is on and it has not been given up in desperation, we have to keep up fingers crossed as to what will happen in the interregnum, how well this interregnum will be utilised for informal consultations and to make up minds on all sides to come to a solution.

About Stateless persons, I understand that apart from the repeated promises made by President Jayewardene, even during the All-Parties Conference, this matter figured in their discussions and the latest position seems to be that even the parties in Sri Lanka which were hitherto not very enthusiastic about giving citizenship to these remaining stateless persons are now veering round to the view that they should be given so that all of them become citizens of Sri Lanka.

They find some distinct advantages in doing that. Whatever their reasons, we welcome this attitude on the part of the Sri Lankan parties.

#### BHUTAN

About Bhutan, I do not have to say much because our relations are excellent. With Nepal, as I said, we have some issues in regard to certain projects and so on. Only a few days back, we came to an understanding in regard to the investigation of the Karnali project. This, I think, is a step in the right direction.

There was only one question remaining outstanding with Burma and that was the maritime boundary. We are well on the way to solving it and that is again a recent development. I am glad to inform the House that we shall have this question sorted out within a short time. Decisions to that effect have been taken.

I now come to the other point which has mainly occupied much time

of the House during this debate, and that is the question of world peace and disarmament. Members rightly pointed out that mankind is sitting on the mouth of a volcano and anything can happen. We know how the spectre of destruction, even accidental destruction, is worrying mankind. But there are certain hopeful signs that mankind seems to have bestirred itself. There is a growing consciousness that this disaster should not be allowed to happen. In Europe and many other countries, as is well known, peace movements have grown up like a huge groundswell, although even now, they are not yet strong enough to make any changes in the decisions of their Governments. The time will come hopefully when the people of those countries will put sufficient pressure on their leaders, on the leaders of their Government, to see the writing on the wall and make necessary changes in their policies.

Another very hopeful feature is that in many countries an intensive debate, has started on these questions at all levels. At the academic level, it is going on; at the level of military experts it is going on. Once the nuclear game starts, there is no end to it. There is only an end to the whole world. There is no victor, no vanquished. It is just not possible to win a nuclear war; and, therefore, a nuclear war ought not to be started. And that is possible only when those who can start the war have the political will to sit across the table and find ways and means of how not to start the war, or how not to allow a war to be started either by deliberate intent or by human error or accident.

#### DETENTE

I wish just to quote a few sentences of a very categorical statement given by McNamara. He says:

"It is inconceivable to me, as it has been to others who have studied the matter, that limited nuclear wars would remain limited. Any decision to use nuclear weapons would imply a high probability of the same cataclysmic consequences, as a total nuclear exchange. In sum, I know of no plan which gives reasonable assurance that nuclear weapons can be used beneficially in NATO's defence."

So, if they cannot be used to the benefit of one side, nor to the benefit of another cpg-113>

side, they should not be used at all. I quote again:

"I don't believe that the Soviet Union wishes war with the West; and certainly, the West will not attack the USSR or its allies. But dangerous frictions between the Warsaw Pact and NATO have developed in the past, and are likely to do so in the future. If deterrence fails and conflict develops, the present NATO strategy carries with it a high risk that Western civilization, as we know it, will be destroyed." This is precisely what the Non-Aligned Movement has been saying time and again; and what we have all been saying time and again. And it is in this direction of abjuring nuclear violence, nuclear war, that mankind has to travel. I have no doubt that this has become the consensus all over the world today, so far as people are concerned.

#### NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT

I shall now touch briefly upon some of the decisions, and some of the follow-up actions taken by the Non-Aligned Movement under our Prime Minister's chairmanship within the last one year. Mention was made yesterday of the New York consultations. I would like to make a little comment on what was said yesterday. It was pointed out that only 24 or 25 countries attended, out of more than 150 countries. I would like to clarify this, because it is very necessary to understand the importance of these 24 or 25.

The call was given by the Non-Aligned Movement. Out of the 150 and odd countries, 102 or 103 are already in the Movement. So, there was really no need for all the 102 Heads of State or Heads of Government who came to Delhi to give this call, to troop to New York again to attend this meeting. They clearly said so. Many of them wrote back to Prime Minister saying that they were with her. She was calling this meeting on behalf of the Movement and, therefore, there was no particular necessity for all the countries to attend. So, we are left with about 50, let us say. Among the 50, were members of both the North-South and East-West. This is how we planned it; this is how it was conceived. It is not simply a question of North-South that we have had several times and we will be having in future also. But this was a meeting unique in the sense that both North-South and East-West were represented.

Now, I would like to inform the House -- Austria, EEC Chairman, France, Canada, Finland, Netherlands and Sweden -- now is this package not impressive enough to represent the OECD countries and the developed world? This, I think, is impressive enough because they came with a political will to cooperate in this new venture, in this new process of finding solutions to the urgent economic problems of the world and also problems of peace. Among the East European countries, there are six of them, out of whom Hungary, Poland and Bulgaria came. Now, half of those countries is again an imressive figure; and the others were Non-Aligned countries. But they had a definite say in all matters in regard to the international situation, monetary situation; and they were also fully behind the proposal which was adumbrated here in the Summit about an international conference on money and finance with universal participation. Now, I am glad to inform the House that not only was this proposal welcomed by every one at these consultations, but the Prime Minister, in pursuance of the decision, has already set up a committee to go into all these

cipants there. So, the New York consultations have resulted in something useful to all concerned.

#### MIDDLE EAST

I think I have covered all the points raised. If there are any points which need to be clarified, I am prepared to do that, but I think I have attempted to cover all the points.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: What happened to your mission to the Middle East?

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: You were not here to raise it, but I will tell you what happened.

The Middle East question has been causing anxiety to everyone. Some Members raised it and the latest position is that in Lebanon a re-conciliation effort has started. We are happy about it. But the situation is so dangerous and so uncertain that again nothing can be said about the outcome of this. We wish them well. These talks are going on at Lausanne, in Switzerland, and we hope that it will be possible for them to find some modus vivendi.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: Why do you not talk to them instead of allowing Switzerland to be the venue?

SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA: They have found out some compromise solution.

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: But the question of Lebanon has been more or less superimposed on the main question of the Middle East, which is the Palestinian question. As the House is aware, there was some internal friction in the P.L.O. The Prime Minister called a meeing of the Committee of Eight which was appointed by the NAM Summit. Out of the eight, four were chosen as a subcommittee and asked to go to Damascus and some other Arab Capitals. We went there and talked to the factions within the P.L.O. and as I have already reported to Parliament, our efforts bore fruit in the sense that an effective cease-fire was agreed to and later on developments have turned out to be rather good for the unity of the P.L.O., although factionalism continues. But the main question of the Palestinian people still continues to hang in the balance because the Israelis are continuing with their settlements policy. There seems to be no way of bringing the Arabs together in order to find a solution at the negotiating table. So, we are rather far from a solution. But at least to the extent of preserving unity in the PLO ranks we have succeeded but we have to go a long way still.

Sir, I thank the members for their contribution. I hope I have covered all points.

A INDIA PAKISTAN BANGLADESH NEPAL SRI LANKA BHUTAN BURMA POLAND CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC AUSTRIA CANADA FINLAND FRANCE SWEDEN HUNGARY BULGARIA LEBANON SWITZERLAND SYRIA ISRAEL

**Date** : Mar 21, 1984

### Volume No

1995

ITALY

Culural Exchange Programme

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Mar 14, 1984 on the Indo-Italian cultural exchange programme:

The cultural exchange programme between Italy and India for years 1984-87 was signed on March 12 in Rome between Prof. C. L. Anand, Joint Educational Adviser to the Government of India and Minister Allesandro Romano, Chief of Cultural Cooperation of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The agreement provides for exchange of students, scholars and experts in various fields apart from organization of cultural performances and art exhibitions in both countries. <pp-115>

ALY INDIA OMAN USA

**Date** : Mar 14, 1984

## Volume No

#### MAURITIUS

Rs. 50 Million Credit for Mauritius

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Mar 31, 1984 on a Rs. 50 million credit for Mauritius:

The Government of India has extended a new Government to Government credit of Rs. 50 million to the Government of Mauritius. The credit agreement was signed today in New Delhi by Shri Pranab Mukherjee, Finance Minister, on behalf of Government of India and His Excellency Mr. Seetanah Lutchmeenaraidoo, Finance Minister of the Government of Mauritius.

This is the third Government-to-Government credit being extended to the Government of Mauritius. The earlier two credits were given in 1975 and 1978 for Rs. 50 million and Rs. 100 million respectively and were fully utilised.

The Export-Import Bank of India has also extended a line of credit on March 28, 1984 for Rs. 50 million for financing export of capital and other engineering goods which may be needed for development of medium and small scale industries in Mauritius. Both the Government credit and the Exim Bank credit will be utilised on a pro-rata basis.

The new Government credit will be available for financing export of capital goods, second hand ships and consultancy services from India. The present credit will go a long way in further strengthening the existing commercial and economic relations between the two countries.

## URITIUS USA INDIA UNITED KINGDOM **Date :** Mar 31, 1984

### Volume No

1995

#### MAURITIUS

Exim Bank Extends New Line of Credit to The Government of Mauritius

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Mar 28, 1984 on the new line of credit by Exim Bank to Mauritius:

The Export-Import Bank of India has extended a new line of credit of Rs. 50 million to the Government of Mauritius. The agreement has been signed today in New Delhi by Shri R. C. Shah, Chairman and Managing Director, on behalf of Exim Bank and H.E. Mr. Seetanah Lutchmeenaraidoo, Finance Minister of Mauritius, for the Government of Mauritius. Present at the signing ceremony were, among others, Mr. M. Baguant, Finance Secretary of the Government of Mauritius, H.E. Mr. A. P. Neewoor, High Commissioner of Mauritius for India and Shri V. K. Dikshit, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Finance, Government of India.

This is the second line of credit from Exim Bank of India to Mauritius. The earlier line of credit of Rs. 50 million which had been extended by Industrial Development Bank of India in May 1977 was taken over by Exim Bank at the time of commencement of its operations in March 1982. Under the earlier line of credit, commitments to the extent of Rs. 30 million have been made to cover export of transport equipment, plant and machinery for medium and small scale industries in Mauritius. Balance amount under this Line of Credit is expected to be fully utilised within a few months.

The new line of Credit will be available for financing export of capital and other engineering goods which may be needed for development of medium and small <pp-116>

scale industries in Mauritius. This Credit may also cover sale of ships by the Shipping Corporation of India for the proposed Indo-Mauritian Joint Shipping Venture for which discussions are in progress.

India and Mauritius have long-established economic, commercial and cultural relations. The present Credit will further strengthen the relationship between the two countries.

URITIUS USA INDIA **Date :** Mar 28, 1984

### Volume No

1995

NON-ALIGNMENT

The following is the transcript of the Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi's interview with a group of about twenty journalists from news agencies of the nonaligned countries on Mar 06, 1984 in New Delhi:

QUESTION: A year has gone by since the 7th Summit of Non-aligned countries. Since then the Non-Aligned Movement under your chairpersonship has been extremely active. It was at your initiative that statesmen of big and small countries sat down at the same table in the United Nations Headquarters. Although representing countries with different social systems, they had one point in common, the view that peace must be preserved. From the capital city of your country, a delegation of the Committee for Palestine took part and successfully completed its task of helping to end the bloodshed amongst Palestinians. The above are, no doubt, the most concrete successes in the activities of the movement of non-aligned over the past year. What else should, in your opinion, Madam Prime Minister, be listed amongst the positive results of the Movement's activities?

#### IRAN-IRAQ WAR

PRIME MINISTER: Actually, you have given a description of some of our activities and saved me the trouble of doing so. We can't say that we have achieved much; all we can say is that we have tried and have continued with our efforts. This is the only way that we can work towards solutions. Today one of the most worrying problems is the war in Iran and Iraq. You probably know that the appeal which was drafted and agreed to with such trouble and such long hours of effort here was followed by several direct appeals to the leaders of the two countries, personal letters, and our Foreign Minister's visits there. When there was the oil-slick in the Gulf, we raised the issue as one which didn't concern only the two countries but the whole Gulf and maybe even beyond. Several leaders of other countries have recently written to me to renew my efforts. Nobody has given any suggestion as to what exactly can be done and we have asked them whether they can suggest something. I have again written to both the countries, specially to see whether they could avoid civilian targets in their attacks because, as you know this has lately increased.

With regard to Lebanon, the eight non-aligned members of the Security Council played a very prominent part in the recent debate in the Council. They voted together, thus giving some evidence of unity of the Movement.

#### PALESTINE

As regards Palestine, the NAM committee was activated. We sent the Ministerial mission to Kuwait and Syria and made some

contribution to the cessation of hostilities. But, of course, the situation <pp-117>

in the Middle East remains one of great concern.

So far as Nicaragua is concerned, the Bureau in New York issued two communiques on the situation in Central America. I have been in constant touch with the Head of State of Nicaragua and NAM, as you know, supports the Cantadora initiative. As a matter of fact, this was amongst the subjects which I was discussing just now with the Foreign Minister of Brazil before coming to this room. The adoption of the Resolution on Central America in the General Assembly was by consensus and I think in this also we played a part.

You have already mentioned the New York consultations. All the participants and many who could not come for one reason or another have later written to say how valuable they were. They feel that some such dialogue should be continued. The first meeting was not so difficult because people chose themselves. But if you have a very much larger gathering you can not have that kind of an informal exchange of views, and that is what made it unique. It was the only time so far when countries from the Warsaw Pact, countries from NATO and the Non-Aligned and within each group different areas as well as different opinions, were represented. After the meeting in New York, I wrote to all the Members of the Non-Aligned and others, practically everybody, informing them of the meeting, what we had discussed there and giving our views on it.

#### MINISTERIAL MEETING IN NEW YORK

There was also a Ministerial meeting in New York in October, and close coordination between all of us during the General Assembly Meeting.

The Bureau has been very active during the year. We sent special messages to the Namibia Conference in Paris and the Palestinian Conference in Geneva.

Today, in every country, not only have the number of problems increased but also their complexity. So, a lot of people would like us to have more frequent meetings, but they find it difficult to leave their countries.

Of course, when we had the Commonwealth Meeting those of us who belong to NAM also, discussed various subjects separately.

So far as the economic questions are concerned, there was a meeting of a few Ministers in April here in Delhi to consider follow-up action on the NAM Declaration. A high-level expert group was formed on International Conference on Money and Finance which has already held two meetings in New Delhi. Generally our ideas have received support at varying levels from Non-aligned countries. Of course, if there is an issue on which people can get together, as we tried in New York, then it is worth pursuing. The Indian Foreign Minister represented me at the Group of 77 Meeting in Argentina before UNCTAD-VII, and NAM was quite active at the UNCTAD in Belgrade. We have 27 different coordinating groups dealing with raw materials, trade, transport, insurance, science and technology, food and agriculture, education, sports, tourism, health, nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, the role of women and so on. Most of them have held meetings. The delegates of Non-aligned countries also coordinated action at the World Health Assembly and at the ILO General Conference.

#### NAMEDIA

With regard to information, of course, all of you are aware of the NAMEDIA Conference in Delhi. The Information Ministers of NAM met in Djakarta, and our Minister went there. I think there is one other meeting on Education and Culture in DPRK.

QUESTION: You have mentioned that a number of leaders again contacted you regarding the Gulf war but there seems to be a shortage of suggestions about what you can do now....

PRIME MINISTER: What can anybody do?

QUESTION: Does this mean that the Non-Aligned Movement has explored all the avenues?

PRIME MINISTER: Well, I don't think you can ever say that you have come <pp-118>

to the end of the road; you have to keep on trying.

QUESTION: But, at present can you say which avenues haven't been tried

PRIME MINISTER: I haven't had replies to my latest letters. I think I should wait. But destruction has increased greatly and the general suffering has also risen.

QUESTION: Regarding the Iran-Iraq war, some of the parties consistently have been refusing to cooperate with any mission, may be from Non-aligned or from any other quarter. So, as the Chairperson of the Non-Aligned Movement do you think that no meaningful initiative can ever be taken?

PRIME MINISTER: Well, I just said that we have to keep on trying in this situation. It is no use blaming one or the other, because that would bring you to a dead end. We have to keep on trying with them and as many people as possible.

#### NEW YORK CONSULTATIONS

QUESTION: Madam, you have just mentioned the successful consultation you have had at New York. How was it that no other South Asian country was there? Were they not invited or did they not go or what....?

PRIME MINISTER: Well, we invite everybody; I mean the invitation was given here in Delhi. Actually the invitation was of the Conference. It was not an invitation by India or by me. It was the Conference itself that decided on such a meeting. So, it was up to people to come or not. At least one country was coming but then something happened at the last moment there, I mean a domestic problem, because of which they said they didn't think it would be right for that particular person to be absent at that moment.

QUESTION: What do you think the Movement can do, in terms of the East-West conflict and its manifestations in various deals?

PRIME MINISTER: This is something that concerns the whole world and everybody is in on the act if I can put it that

way. We also are doing what we can and everywhere we go we meet with leaders, even in Moscow recently. A number of leaders spoke to me; many people are taking initiatives. The real question is how to end mistrust which is so prevalent. Sometimes domestic situations come in the way.

QUESTION: The NAM Committee on Palestine has not yet met at the Heads of Government level in the last one year's time. So, there is a feeling that this committee has not ... or something like that. What do you feel about it?

PRIME MINISTER: We discussed this but at that time it was decided that it is better we don't because there is another committee, the Arab Committee, and when we met here it was decided that the Arab Committee should meet first, then we would meet. And I had a talk on this with King Hassan of Morocco and it was his advice that we should meet at this other level first.

QUESTION: There is a sort of dilemma which the people of the Non-Aligned countries are facing. On the one hand they hail the inspiring leadership which you have provided to the Movement during the last one year, and no need to say that it has been a tremendous moral force and you have also mentioned quite a few initiatives and efforts which were undertaken during the last one year, but on the other hand the net result to many, of us appears to be rather negative. No fault of the Movement but due to international forces. For example in Lebanon brute force was able to have its way. In Palestine, the story is repeated in a much worse form. In Grenada, it has almost been taken for granted that it has to be occupied by one force. Similarly, in Nicaragua. Then South Africa is threatening its neighbouring countries. Now, the dilemma is what can the NAM do, which represents two-third of the world, to fight this absolute brute force, which has no moral standing, no moral basis and yet it is having its way not only in these issues but also on economic matters? On economic issues we go on passing resolutions and they go on taking decisions. So, where do we stand on this? <pg-119>

#### ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

PRIME MINISTER: There is no doubt that those who are more powerful do get their way. This is the way of the world and that was the whole point of some people deciding to stay non-aligned. At no time did we think that we would have the strength necessary to be able to guide the world in a better direction. Our main aim was that we ourselves should try not to get embroiled in the quarrels of others because we needed our resources, our time and energy to solve our own problems. Then we saw that many of our problems are common and, therefore, if there was greater cooperation then our own development would be easier. Since then the Non-Aligned Movement paid greater attention to economic affairs without of course in any way abandoning our deep concern for freedom struggles and other such problems like Palestine, South Africa and so on which you have mentioned.

#### EXTRAORDINARY EXPERIENCE

Quite often after a Conference, press people as well as others ask: "What has this Conference achieved? You have met, you talked and everybody has gone away. So, there is nothing tangible that you can get hold of." But just meeting and talking do make a difference. Now, what did we do in New York? There was no resolution, there was no agenda, there were no set points for discussion. But for many people it was an extraordinary experience. They had never sat in on a meeting where, even though the countries' policies sometimes were diametrically opposed, they found themselves talking to one another as human beings. Now, this is what we are trying to do - to try and get out of considering things in terms of statistics, looking at them as men and women or as countries which are lived in by men and women, not just as a nation or bloc. Then they see what are the common things between countries, and what are the common dangers, what are the common difficulties. I can only say the same about the Non-Aligned Movement that it has in a number of cases helped to case the tension a little bit. I can't go further than that. But I think that by itself is a good thing and it is worth trying in order to go further along that path.

QUESTION: May I ask whether Marshal Ustinov in his talks with you made any positive suggestion about ending the Iran-Iraq war?

PRIME MINISTER: We didn't discuss the Iran Iraq war.

QUESTION: And the other thing is the appeals that you are talking about. Is this the appeal to stop bombarding civilian targets which you had made about two weeks back or was there a subsequent appeal?

PRIME MINISTER: No direct appeal. But I have heard from various people since then.

QUESTION: Is it not correct that the NAM is not taking sufficient interest in the Afghanistan issue?

PRIME MINISTER: What can they do in Afghanistan?

QUESTION: You are the Chairperson of the Movement.

PRIME MINISTER: You see in any situation it is not one country's view that matters. We try to arrive at a consensus.

Our views are well known on Afghanistan. And there are various other moves - for instances the one by the Secretary General of the United Nations.

QUESTION: Did Afghanistan figure in Marshal Ustinov's talks with you?

PRIME MINISTER: It was mentioned, yes.

QUESTION: May I ask a cultural question? Do you feel a lot of Non-Aligned countries, including India, despite the show of political independence and so on, are culturally dazzled by the West? For example the Festivals of India in Britain, in France, in America - are these to impress the West or what is it?

CULTURAL EXCHANGE

PRIME MINISTER: Well, it is a cultural exchange. They do not know enough pg-120>

about us. We have been having a lot from them.

QUESTION: But Non-Aligned countries do not know much about each other either....

PRIME MINISTER: We are also having exchanges with Non-Aligned countries. It just depends who wants such an exchange. With Britain for instance, they have much more of our stuff than we have ourselves; so, in a way it is easier to hold an exhibition of this kind there. It is the same with America. The American museums have some of our best pieces of art. But I think we have had, either have had or have got some plan with the Non-Aligned

countries. We had a lot of other cultural exchanges with Non-Aligned countries.

QUESTION: Mr. Chernenko has recently proposed six norms for nuclear nations. This includes an undertaking not to use nuclear weapons against the non-nuclear countries. As Chairperson of the Non-Aligned Movement how do you react to this proposal?

PRIME MINISTER: Well, we are for not using nuclear weapons at all. If a start is made with not using it against us, poor ones who do not have any, well, it is a good start. And actually this was mentioned in the NAM Conference, but some of the Western countries which have got nuclear weapons have not taken too kindly to this belief.

QUESTION: Madam, as Chairperson of the NAM, what do you feel is the biggest challenge before the Non-Aligned Movement

PRIME MINISTER: The challenge before the Movement today is, one, to keep together and, secondly, to try and be effective in solving problems which concern all the world. And we need our unity for that purpose. So actually it is one challenge, not two.

#### CHALLENGES

QUESTION: This is a supplementary to the previous question. How do you think the Movement has faced this challenge in the last one year and what do you expect to do that in the next two years?

PRIME MINISTER: The way the world moves it is very difficult to prophesy anything for the next two years. In the past year, as I have pointed out, we have been closely in touch not only with the Non-Aligned but many who are aligned but whose thinking is a little closer to ours than some of the others in the various groupings.

QUESTION: The Seventh Summit took the decision for the Ministerial Conference in Angola next year to precede the 8th Summit. Have preparations for the Conference begun and what really in your opinion will be the items...?

PRIME MINISTER: The Government of Angola have to make the arrangements. Usually they have a preliminary meeting at which this is decided. All this is done in New York through the Coordinating Bureau.

QUESTION: Will it be right to say that India has come under greater political and economic pressure since its assumption of office as Chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement? And to what extent, if at all, is this pressure responsible for exacerbating regional tensions?

PRIME MINISTER: Well, there is no doubt that pressures are

increasing on us, whether they are due to one being the Chairperson of the Non-Aligned Movement, it is very difficult to say. But pressures are increasing not only on us but on most developing countries - economic and otherwise.

#### SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION

QUESTION: There is one major aspect before the Non-Aligned Movement and which was underlined during the last Summit by you: South-South Cooperation. In this field it appears to those who are committed to this movement that the achievements have been rather negligible. Most of our countries are still going on investing their surplus capital in the developed countries whereas there is tremendous scope for, say, the oil rich countries in <pg-121>

vesting in countries like India. What initiatives are you taking in this regard?

PRIME MINISTER: I think cooperation has increased. It could have been much more. A number of economic groups have been meeting. Investment, of course, is dependent on a lot of other factors the rates that people get and so on. But on the whole I think that work on this has proceeded this year.

QUESTION: During your talks with Marshal on Afghanistan, (did you ask whether the) Soviet Union will vacate at any time?

PRIME MINISTER: I am afraid I didn't ask that question because I know the answer. I just wanted to know what the situation was there.

QUESTION: In the context of South-South cooperation, what is your position now .... on the South-Asian cooperation?

PRIME MINISTER: We had this regional meeting and I think people went back rather pleased. We are following it up.

QUESTION: Has the Kuwait Amir written to you about using your good offices to end Iran-Iraq war?

PRIME MINISTER: Yes.

QUESTION: Have you replied to it?

PRIME MINISTER: I think I have replied to him and to a number of people.

QUESTION: What are the chances for the North-South dialogue, still grim or ... ?

PRIME MINISTER: Well, lots of individual bilateral North-South

dialogues are going on. But what was envisaged earlier on has not come off.

QUESTION: Madam Prime Minister, in the next two years how do you plan to revitalise the Non-Aligned Movement?

PRIME MINISTER: Well, it really depends on what happens in the next two years. Doesn't it? As I said, things are happening so fast, many local situations or the solution thereof, depend on what is happening far off from them.

QUESTION: I think many of our readers will be happy to get some message from you on this anniversary on the future of the Non-Aligned Movement?

#### **RIGHT DIRECTION**

PRIME MINISTER: As I said, it has a future. It has justified its existence. Sometimes truth doesn't succeed but then you don't say that you should give up truth. I think the Non-Aligned Movement is in the right direction, and we have to pursue that direction, which is one of trying to reduce tensions ... and peace in the sense of not only the avoidance of war but a more positive feeling of goodwill amongst the people, of friendship and cooperation. These are the major needs of the world today. I hope the Non-Aligned will help to take humanity towards them.

DIA USA IRAN IRAQ LEBANON KUWAIT SYRIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC NICARAGUA BRAZIL POLAND FRANCE NAMIBIA SWITZERLAND ARGENTINA YUGOSLAVIA INDONESIA RUSSIA MOROCCO GRENADA SOUTH AFRICA AFGHANISTAN ANGOLA

**Date** : Mar 06, 1984

### Volume No

1995

NORWAY

Norwegian Assistance Extended to 350 Additional Sub-DistrictHospitals

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Mar 30, 1984 on the Norwegian assistance for All India Hospitals:

Norwegian assistance for All India Hospitals (Post Partum) family welfare programme has been extended to 350 additional subdistrict hospitals. This assistance was made available to 50 subdistrict hospitals in the last 3 years in term of Indo-Norwegian agreement of 1981.

An agreement to extend the programme was signed today by Shri J. S. Baijal, Additional Secretary, Department cpg-122>

of Economic Affairs on behalf of the Government of India and H.E. Mr. Tancred Ibsen, Ambassador of Norway in India on behalf of the Government of Norway in the presence of Mrs. Reidun Brusletten, Norwegian Minister for Development Cooperation and Shri Pranab Mukherjee, Finance Minister of India.

Under the agreement, Norway would conrtibute N. Kr. 87 million (Rs. 12 crores and 26 lakhs) Towards the programme over the period 1984-1987, of which N. Kr. 7 million (Rs. 98 lakhs) would be for improvement of the Supply of water and electricity and supply of additional equipment to the 50 sub-district hospitals. The balance N. Kr. 80 million (Rs. 11 crores and 28 lakhs) would be utilised for the partial financing of capital and recurrent costs in connection with the extension of the Post Partum Programme to 350 additional sub-district hospitals. This programme is designed to improve the health status of mothers and children in rural areas of the country by integrating mother and child health services and family welfare services.

### RWAY INDIA USA UNITED KINGDOM

**Date** : Mar 30, 1984

### Volume No

1995

#### PAKISTAN

Desire to Improve Indo-Pakistan Trade Mutual

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Mar 26, 1984 on the visit of a 12-member commerce delegation from Pakistan to India:

Potential for increased trade between India and Pakistan exists and should be fully explored. India is keen to improve trade between the two countries to a significantly higher level. Trade could play a vital role between the two countries and assist in cementing the relationship.

These ideas were exchanged today when a 12-member delegation representing the Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and

Industry called on Commerce Minister, Shri V. P. Singh here today. Shri N. R. Laskar, Minister of State for Commerce and Shri Abid Hussain, Commerce Secretary were also present. The Pakistan delegation was led by Mr. Saifullah Khan Paracha, Chairman of FPCCI. The delegation is in India on the invitation of FICCI.

The leader of the Pakistan delegation observed that during this visit he had found a strong desire amongst the Indian businessmen to increase trade with Pakistan.

This urge was reciprocated in the business community of his country.

Shri V. P. Singh suggested that various new items for import and export could be identified at the traders level. Mr. Paracha informed him that Indian and Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry were already working on this so that link-up could be organized shortly.

For certain items like edible oil, basmati rice and carpets which were of import and export interest to both the countries, market intelligence could be exchanged so that the two countries could benefit while trading with third countries, suggested the Commerce Minister.

Similarly industrial collaboration and new technologies and joint ventures were areas, where the two countries could cooperate in.

The Commerce Secretary pointed out that a new dimension could be added to joint ventures cooperation by investment in the free trade zones of each other's countries. cypg-123>

The Commerce Minister further stated that exchange of visits between the two countries' State Trading Corporation and other public sector undertakings like the MMTC could be arranged for better information flow and interaction. Mr. Paracha of Pakistan felt that regulations could be eased to facilitate frequent visits by businessmen between the two countries. He made a request for additional facilities in the import policy of India for items of export interest to Pakistan.

Onyx and collaboration in marble production were also considered. There were further discussion on the framework of trade between the two countries.

#### INDO-PAK COMMERCIAL RELATIONS

India's total exports to Pakistan have risen from Rs. 0.78 crores in 1975-76 to Rs. 6.59 crores in 1982-83. Similarly the imports from Pakistan have gone up from Rs. 22.12 crores in 1975-76 to Rs. 32.46 crores in 1982-83.

Although no trade agreement between India and Pakistan exists, there has been progress in discussions at the two meetings of the Indo-Pak Sub Commissions on trade in June, 1983 and January, 1984. At the last meeting, it was agreed that trade deficits should not be viewed purely from the arithmetical or short-term point of view. It was also agreed that there was substantial scope for expansion of trade without incurring a large trade imbalances.

Measures to expand trade which were agreed to in Sub-Commission Meetings in January, 1984 include:

(i) the two countries will make all possible efforts to meet each other's requirements of essential commodities caused due to unforeseen shortages.

(ii) The following items were identified for bulk trade between the two countries: Exports to India: Fertilizer (urea), Low grade oil, pig iron, soda ash, fresh and dried fruits, petroleum products, fish, rock salt, Onyx and industrial alcohol. Exports to Pakistan: Iron ore, steel mill rolls, stainless steel sheets, mica and mica products, selected chemicals, jute and jute products, tea, coffee and Bidi leaves.

India has already imported fertilizers and pig iron worth Rs. 51/2 crores and 9 crores during July 1983 - February 1984.

Pakistan participated in a big way in the India International Trade Fair, 1981, and the country's pavillion was the second largest in the Fair.

Exchange of visits between the business communities have been encouraged. A delegation from Pakistan Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry visited India at the invitation of FICCI in November, 1981. The PFD Chamber of Commerce and Industry sent a team to Pakistan in November 1982. A delegation of FICCI also visited Pakistan in February, 1983.

## KISTAN INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC **Date :** Mar 26, 1984

### Volume No

1995

SOUTH ASIA

#### Shri Rao Inaugurates 9th Meeting of CSCD

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Mar 12, 1984 of the speech by Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, Minister of External Affairs while inaugurating the 9th meeting of the Committee on Studies for Cooperation in Development in South Asia (CSCD):

I am happy to have this opportunity to be with you this morning and to share <pg-124>

my thoughts with this distinguished gathering of eminent intellectuals from South Asia.

The countries which are represented here today recently took a historic step by laying the foundation of South Asian Regional Cooperation. It is heartening to see that even before this, the Committee on Studies for Cooperation in South Asia, which is a voluntary group of dedicated individuals and institutions of this region, has been actively engaged in cementing the bonds of friendship by undertaking research studies on common problems.

#### HUMAN SOCIETY

We live today in one of the great transitional periods of history when a fundamental re-organisation of human society is taking place, when the barriers that kept different sections of humanity apart are breaking down. We are striving to build a new way of life which accords to all men, whatever their colour or creed, race or nationality, equal dignity and respect. The task of establishing a new world is to a large extent on the intellectuals of today. I am not saying this to flatter them. I am convinced that the intellectuals would have to do a lot of advance, positive and objective thinking and to shape the new order, at least in its main contours. In this Process they will have to look beyond the present and beyond those whom they consider responsible for the present.

We are passing through troubled times. There are tensions and conflicts in many parts of the globe. The continuing arms race threatens the peace and stability of the world. The prospects for international cooperation for development remain grim. There is an impasse in the North-South dialogue. All this has had an inevitable fall out in our region.

I see regional cooperation in South Asia as a process which must eventually contribute to the solution of the wider problems which mankind faces today. By increasing cooperation amongst themselves, the countries of the region will contribute to the wider objectives of international economic cooperation. Likewise, by contributing to the peace and stability of this region, they will improve the prospects for peace and stability in the world.

#### SOUTH ASIA

The countries of South Asia have millenia of shared history, traditions and culture. We have had our problems in the past. Many of these problems we have been able to overcome. Some of them are still with us and some new ones have arisen. But none of these is such that it cannot be solved through mutual consultation. We have of course agreed that SARC will not be the forum for discussion of bilateral and contentious issues. But SARC is a forum which will promote goodwill and understanding among the countries of the region; and to that extent will contribute to the solution of all problems.

#### SARC

As I had said at the recent meeting of the SARC Standing Committee, if the process of regional cooperation is to succeed, it is necessary to ensure the involvement, in this process, not only of governments but also of the peoples of our countries. It is no doubt for the Governments of this region to determine the practical steps by which the sources of power and communication now available to us can be used for closer cooperation among the peoples of South Asia. But in planning for our future cooperation we must attach great importance to the role of research scholars and educationists. As Thomas Jefferson once said "If you expect a country to be ignorant and free, you expect what never was and what never will be".

The objectves of the Committee on Studies in Cooperation for Development in South Asia and those which governments have set for themselves in the framework of South Asian Regional Cooperation are similar. Our basic aim is to promote the welfare of the peoples of South Asia, to improve their lives and to strengthen collective self-reliance among the countries of the region.

#### PRACTICAL GOALS

Academics occupy a special place in our nations, perhaps every where. With <pp-125>

their dedication to their disciplines, their training which enables them to examine topics in depth, and their ability to analyse and synthesize, they are not only able to formulate practical goals, but also to suggest ways and means of accomplishing them. It is in a large measure through the efforts of academic institutions and others engaged in research work that the world has advanced in science and technology, in the management of economies, and in the understanding of societies. The fruits of this ever-advancing knowledge are sought to be delivered to the common man by policy makers and administrators, by public and private institutions and by individuals. Constant interaction between academic and research bodies and the rest of the society has led to an increased understanding of nature, man and societies, and helped improve the quality of life of peoples.

#### ORGANIC ENTITY

The CSCD has completed Phase I of its studies and will soon be launching on Phase II. It has done well to concentrate on the problems and potentials of our region. There are many dimensions to the process of development and many of these have been carefully studied. The emphasis has been on looking at our region as an organic entity. All this could potentially benefit the peoples of our countries, who number one billion.

I hope that the studies produced by CSCD in Phase-I will lead to a better understanding of the problems and potentials of our region. I am sure they will receive the active consideration of Governments. We look forward to the results of your future studies. However, you will appreciate that policy makers are constrained by several limitations and compulsions. As experienced administrators and senior statesmen, you will of course realise that everything envisaged by these studies may not be implemented in its entirety. However, you can rest assured that your endeavour will constitute a useful input in our efforts at promoting regional cooperation.

You have no doubt been closely following the evolution of the SARC programmes.

Thanks to the thorough preparatory work at the technical level we were able to move quickly from the stage of studies and identification of areas of cooperation to the implementation phase in a relatively short time after the SARC Programme was formally launched by the Foreign Ministers. The Technical Committees have held the first round of meetings and have initiated work on a wide range of activities aimed at the implementation of the agreed programmes.

#### INFRASTRUCTURE

The scope of these programmes is initially limited to a few selected areas due to the understandable desire of governments not to take on more than what they can manage with ease. But these areas cover important aspects of infrastructure and planning and will no doubt have a direct impact on the people of the region. We have to build on these programmes as we experience and enlarge the areas of cooperation to our mutual benefit.

In all these efforts CSCD can play an important role. The studies already undertaken by you have helped our initial preparatory work. As we now enter an active phase of implementation we hope to benefit from your work in dealing with any practical problems that may arise. Your future programme of studies would also be helpful in our own efforts to enlarge the scope of our cooperation. The potential in this regard is really great. But any decision to embark on new areas of cooperation will, as in the past, have to be preceded by detailed techincal studies.

There is thus need for close interaction between organisation such as yours and our own endeavours at the level of governments. Such interaction has happily existed in the past and will no doubt be strengthened in the future. At the same time it is important that you do not limit your activities in any way to what governments are willing to undertake. As I said earlier governments have their constraints; but these constraints need not inhibit academic institutions such as CSCD. You will therefore need to strike a balance between the need for studies which are helpful to policies and programmes of governments on <pg-126>

the one hand and the requirements of independent academic research in a longer perspective on the other; and in considering your future work programme, I am sure you will bear these aspects in mind.

#### FUTURE STUDIES

One of the important criteria which must govern the choice of subjects for future studies is the need for ensuring full involvement of all countries of the region and for an equitable sharing of benefits. There is often a tendency to regard disparities as a hindrance to effective cooperation. But I see no reason why this should not be so. It should not be beyond our ingenuity to devise programmes of cooperation which benefit all countries, regardless of their size or other features in many areas including those such as trade and industrial cooperation. This is an aspect to which you may wish to pay special attention.

In India, Asia consciousness is a part of our heritage. The seeds of new Asian political awareness were sown by our leaders, Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru. One of the first steps we took towards cooperation in Asia, was the convening of the Asian Relations Conference in New Delhi in 1947. On this occasion the late Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru had stated: "For far too long, have the Asian countries been supplicants before the Chancelleries of the West". No longer would Asians permit themselves to be "the playthings of others". "We meet together", he said, "we hold together, we advance together. It is with this aim in view that India has been of pursuing a policy of extending her hand of friendship to our neighbouring countries. Peaceful co-existence has been the cornerstone of India's foreign policy.

The greatest challenge which we face today is how to make this planet safe for succeeding generations. We must use every means at our disposal to establish durable peace and a just and equitable world economic order. These tasks cannot be accomplished unless we break down the barriers which divide nations and promote global solidarity. Let CSCD be in the forefront of the efforts to establish solidarity in South Asia. You can promote better understanding of our mutual problems and thus contribute to their solution. You can devise practical programmes of action and thus help to provide a solid foundation for cooperation in the region.

I have great pleasure in inaugurating this meeting and wish you every success in your endeavours. <pp-127>

# DIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC **Date :** Mar 12, 1984

### April

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1995

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GENTINA BANGLADESH EGYPT FRANCE IRAN INDIA MEXICO USA NEPAL PORTUGAL QATAR UNITED ARAB EMIRATES YUGOSLAVIA

**Date** : Apr 01, 1984

### Volume No

1995

ARGENTINA

Banquet Speech of President Zail Singh

The following is the text of the banquet speech by the President of India, Giani Zail Singh, in Buenos Aires, Argentina, on Apr 27, 1984:

Your Excellency Mr. President, today as I stand at the historic soil of your beautiful land and cast my glance across the oceans, a vision comes to my mind - the vision of a distinguished traveller from India who rode the waves of the Indian and the Atlantic oceans sixty years ago and having met your people, so strange to him and yet so familiar, proclaimed:

I thought I saw in the depth of the dark night of your soul the smoulder of a mystic flame.

The traveller was no less a person than India's Nobel laureate Rabindranath Tagore. Today as I, too, stand on this distant shore, I feel the touch of that mystic flame, the rise of a vivacious and dynamic Argentina, joyous in its new garb of democracy and valiantly moving forward internally and internationally with a confident stride under your wise and courageous leadership.

Rabindranath Tagore blazed a new trail not only as a master of fine arts, of poetry, drama, music and painting, etc. but as a sage and a philosopher who believed in the essential unity of man. He was a bard of the past, the present and the future who cherished his heritage of universal love and peace. Who enriched his times by the excellence of his monumental works and who bequeathed to the coming generations an inextinguishable flame of liberty and justice. Mahatma Gandhi, the Father of our Nation, who belonged to the same generation as Tagore's, led countless millions into the 'heaven of freedom', of which the poet sang, through his unique weapon of non-violence. It is a tribute to Mahatma Gandhi's life and work that in the wake of India's liberation, several other countries across the continents have shed the colonial yoke. We sympathise wholly with your efforts, too, to eliminate the last vestiges of colonialism from this region through peaceful means.

#### PIONEERING ROLE

But while India has played a pioneering role as a champion of peace and liberty ever since its independence 37 years ago, Argentina has borne the torch of liberty for the last two centuries. How proudly does history recall the heroic deeds of the people of Argentina under the banner of General San Martin. The name of the Father of your Nation has become synonymous with valour, sacrifice, liberty and justice ever since.

But the price of liberty, Mr. President, is eternal vigilance. The rich and the strong by dint of sheer military might are putting forth fresh claims to govern the destiny of man near and far, and in the name of ideology, the freedom and territorial integrity of nations are trampled upon, though only to subserve narrow national interests. Jawaharlal Nehru, free India's first Prime Minister, sensed the danger to the liberties of the newly emergent nations of the world in this tendency and advised the new nations to steer clear of major power rivalries and tensions. Together with other likeminded leaders of his times, Nehru founded the Non-aligned Movement in 1961 to which more than 100 countries of the world subscribe today including India and Argentina.

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#### NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT

The Non-Aligned Movement is not an apology for neutralism or inaction. It has never been so, neither in its foundations nor in its trajectory of performance through the quarter of a century. It is a dynamic force that has worked consistently for peace, development and disarmament. It has brought together a large mass of humanity into a unity of hopes, aspirations and actions. India and Argentina belong to two different hemispheres of the world. They are located on the opposite sides of the globe but as members of the Non-Aligned Movement they have acted in tune with each other to improve the human condition and to chart a new destiny for man in an atmosphere of cooperation and away from confrontation. Non-Aligned Movement is today's largest nonviolent movement seeking a change in the political, cultural and economic spheres of man's activity on the foundations of universal love, brotherhood and peace. The movement promotes these values hand in hand with the United Nations. Our democratic institutions at home and our non-aligned policies abroad make

both our nations partners in a common cause. I hail Argentina, Mr. President, for its achievements of the past, for its endeavours of the present and for its contribution to the future of mankind through its championship of issues such as human rights and other vital ones such as disarmament. I thank you for your warm hospitality and raise this glass to your health and well being and to that of the people of your great country.

Long live friendship between India and Argentina. Long live peace in the world.

GENTINA INDIA USA

**Date** : Apr 27, 1984

### Volume No

1995

#### ARGENTINA

#### President's Address to National Congress

The following is the text of President's address to the Joint Session of the National Congress of Argentina on Apr 27, 1984 in Buenos Aires:

Your Excellency Dr. Victor Hipolito Martinez, President of the Senate of the Republic of Argentina; Your Excellency Dr. Juan Carlos Pugliese, President of the Chamber of Deputies; Honourable Senators, Deputies, and Friends. I fell deeply privileged and honoured by your kind gesture of inviting me to speak to you this afternoon in this historic edifice. I bring to the National Congress of Argentina very warm and cordial greetings of the Parliament of India, of the distinguished Members of its Raiva Sabha, the House of States, and of the Lok Sabha, the House of the People, representing over 700 million people. I bring to you, thus, the greetings of the largest democracy of the world, greetings of the Republic of India to a sister Republic across the oceans on the other side of the globe. Despite geography, a community of ideals, hopes and aspirations binds us together as members of one human family. In this age of advanced communications, distances hardly count.

Not so long ago, on December 10, 1983, Dr. Raul Afonsin led your great nation once again into the dawn of democracy when he was sworn in as the President of the Republic of Argentina in front of this august Congress. We deeply admire what he called Argentina's eternal commitment to the principles of liberty and

justice and have noted his valiant defence of these principles ever since. We stand by Argentina in this battle of the right against wrong, of good against evil, of the weak against the strong.

#### NATIONAL INTEGRITY

As a government of the people, by the people, for the people, democracy is not only the best guarantee of freedom but of national integrity and growth. Harmonising the views and interest of different segments of the society is of the very essence of democracy. That is what makes dissidence and opposition in a democrcy a welcome national input where debate and dia-<pg-130>

logue, free and frank exchange of ideas and views take the place of swords and gunfire. Democracy thrives on principles of tolerance and co-existence. It is not only a stage in the political evolution of mankind but in the evolution of its very psychological and spiritual make-up. It is a most efficacious instrument of promoting national and international harmony, peace and understanding. We, therefore, heartily welcome Argentina back into the fold of democracy and wish your endeavours every success. May your endeavours in this House be a beacon of light to your entire region and the world and may you thrive as a bastion of freedom and democracy for ever.

#### LEGENDARY QUALITY

India's association with Latin America has a legendary quality to it. Mahabharata, the ancient epic of India, speeks of sections of humanity living on the other side of the earth. We do trust that the first wave of human beings came to this part of the world from Asia across the Behring Straights via Alaska, and then along the Rocky Mountains and the Andes right down to your celebrated province of "Tierra del Fuego". I understand that its capital Ushuaia means 'The land of the Morning Sun'. It may not be a mere coincidence that in Sanskrit also the word Usha means 'dawn' or sunrise'. Some of the most poetic and touching hymns in Rig Veda, the ancient Indian treatise are to goddess Ushas.

The last wave of human beings came to this part of the world in the wake of the great voyage of discovery of Columbus. As is well-known, his discovery of your continent was a result of his voyage for India and so in its origins the Latin American civilisations owe something to the fascination of a European explorer for the mysterious land of India.

Columbus so to say unified the globe through his heroic voyage and those of others from Europe led to the establishment of imperial dominions and colonial empires. These have taken more time to liquidate than to found. One of the greatest names in the history of liberation from colonial empires is that of General San

Martin, the father of the Argentine Nation, who lit the torch of liberty for you. This shining example was followed by others and on the map of Latin America soon rose new nations breathing in free air and charting out their own destiny. We in India achieved independence on 15th August 1947 after a long and arduous struggle. We had the great privilege of our freedom movement being led by Mahatma Gandhi, who fought with the instrument of non-violence. From that moment India set forth on its voyage to redeem the pledges and fulfil the dreams which the leaders of our freedom movement had cast before the nation. In a vast land like ours with 1/6th of mankind living on it in all its cultural diversity and economic disparity, the accomplishment of socioeconomic objectives was a herculean task. While there is evidence that grain was cultivated some 7,000 years ago in India, on the eve of independence, there was chronic food shortage and only a rudimentary industrial base. Today India counts itself as the fourth largest producer of food in the world, and is very nearly self-sufficient in grains. This has been achieved through progressive modernisation of its agriculture and development of high vielding varieties, expansion of irrigated areas, larger availability and use of chemical fertilisers, increased adoption of plant production measures backed by strong agricultural research and extension programme.

#### TECHNICAL MANPOWER

Today India also counts as one of the top ten industrial nations in the world. India now produces an impressive array of products that include satellites, aircrafts, ships, automobiles, locomotives, power generation and transmission equipment including application of nuclear energy, electrical machinery, construction equipment, electrical products for domestic and industrial use, oil exploration and telecommunication equipment, steel and electronic goods, and an enormously large variety of consumer goods. India also has to its credit the third largest technical manpower, next only to USA and USSR.

In achieving this vast transformation, India has determinedly refrained from <pp-131>

copying any particular economic model. It has evolved its own institutions and strategies corresponding to its needs and has allocated to the public sector areas that the private sector was in no position to take up due to the lack of capital or enormity of risks involved. Both these sectors have marched hand in hand. India has concentrated on the optimal utilisation of its resources through a careful process of planning by means of indigenously developed techniques as far as possible. India can take reasonable pride in the fact that even in years of world recession, it was able to maintain a positive rate of growth, however modest and that even during the waves of world inflation it could keep its inflation rate close to 10% annual.

In this context I must thank your great country for having given shelter to freedom loving Indians who left India in the early part of the 20h century as a protest against British rule. While most of them settled in U.S. and Canada, we have a shining example of the earliest collaboration between our two countries with almost 100 families of Indian origin settling and prospering in the provinces of Salta, Tucuman and Jujuy. They not only provide an example of your hospitality but also of friendly exchanges between two countries of different hemispheres.

#### HISTORICAL LINKS

The relations between our two countries must be reviewed in the context of our historical links, our sharing of problems of development and our desire to utilise resources for the good of the common man. In recent years industrial and trade delegations have exchanged visits between our two countries and there can be no doubt that there is unlimited scope for expansion of trade, development of joint ventures, cooperation in third country projects, transfer of technology and arrangement of consultancy services.

Yours is a country with almost no deficiency in human or industrial resources, with a sophisticated market characterised by high purchasing capacity. Of course, there have traditionally been impediments in growth of commercial relations between our two countries due to lack of regular shipping services; this has been rectified in 1983 by a Memorandum of Agreement between our Shipping lines. We have to realise that economic self-reliance and independence is possible only with greater cooperation among the developing countries, particularly among the countries which have attained similar levels of development. We have a trade agreement between our two countries which was ratified in 1982 and under the aegis of this, there is a Joint Commission to review the implementation of the provisions of the Agreement. The strengthening of commercial and economic links between our two countries, supported by scientific and technical cooperation, would provide the under-pinning to the excellent political relations we have always had.

In a world fragmented by ideological, developmental and political differences, it is necessary that the leaders of the world bring the countries closer together and develop a spirit of international fraternity so that the areas of conflict can be restricted and nations do not get involved in power rivalries. We must exercise our own judgement on world issues, according to the merits of each case. These in fact, are the ideals cherished by the Non-Aligned Movement. As India's Prime Minister and current Chairperson of the Non-aligned Movement, Mrs. Indira Gandhi said at the Summit Conference of the non-aligned countries in New Delhi a year ago, these nations come together 'not to form a bloc but to raise the voices of the exploited millions through a moral and political movement'. As members of the non-aligned movement and of the United Nations, let our two countries stand together in the forefront of this struggle for peace, development and disarmament. We owe this to our future generations even more than to our own.

Long live Argentina.

Long live India. <pg-132>

GENTINA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC INDIA USA LATVIA CANADA

**Date** : Apr 27, 1984

### Volume No

1995

#### BANGLADESH

Resumed 26th Meeting of Joint Rivers Commission - Joint Press Statement

The following joint press statement was issued in New Delhi, on Apr 03, 1984, at the end of the resumed 26th meeting of the Indo-Bangladesh Joint Rivers Commission in Dhaka on March 31, 1984:

The resumed session of the 26th meeting of the Indo-Bangladesh Joint Rivers Commission was held in Dhaka from 29th to 31st March, 1984. His Excellency Shri Ram Niwas Mirdha, Minister of Irrigation, Government of Republic of India, presided over the meeting. His Excellency Mr. A. Z. M. Oboidullah Khan, Minister incharge of Irrigation, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh and Co-Chairman of the Joint Rivers Commission led the Bangladesh delegation.

Discussions were held in an atmosphere of cordiality and frankness. A detailed consideration of the question of augmentation of the Ganges\Ganga flows at Farakka was taken up.

The Indo-Bangladesh Memorandum of Understanding of October 7, 1982 recognised the need for augmenting the dry season flows of the Ganges\Ganga at Farakka and directed their experts to expedite studies of the economic and the technical feasibility of the schemes which had been proposed by each side in order to settle upon the optimum solution for urgent implementation. It was decided that the Indo-Bangladesh Joint Rivers Commission would complete the prefeasibility study and decide upon the optimum solution within 18 months of signing of the Memorandum.

The Indo-Bangladesh Joint Rivers Commission had discussions on the issue since its 23rd meeting. The Commission in its 25th meeting recognised that in addition to the technical aspects, wider economic & implementational aspects of the proposal needed to be studied in the Joint Rivers Commission. Accordingly both the sides exchanged their up-dated proposals and exchanged comments on each other's proposal.

In view of the difference of views on each other's proposal, it was not possible for the Indo-Bangladesh Joint Rivers Commission to make a recommendation which was acceptable to each other in regard to optimum solution for the augmentation of the dry season flows of the Ganges\Ganga at Farakka which could be urgently implemented.

The Joint Rivers Commission will report this to the two Governments.

Following upon the discussion between the two Ministers during the first session of the 26th meeting, the Bangladesh Minister wrote a letter on 22nd of February, 1984 to the Irrigation Minister of India stating that the present sharing of the Ganges water at Farakka would expire on 31st May, 1984. The Minister emphasized the urgent need for continuation of the present sharing arrangements on a long term basis to avoid creation of a vacuum. The Indian Minister stated that the Government of India had received the letter and that it was receiving consideration. <pg-133>

#### NGLADESH INDIA LATVIA USA

**Date** : Apr 03, 1984

### Volume No

#### 1995

#### EGYPT

Indo-Egyptian Protocol on Marketing of Tea Signed in Cairo

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Apr 02, 1984 on the Indo-Egyptian protocol on marketing of tea: The Egyptian Minister of Supply and Home Trade, Dr. Mohamed Nagy Shatla and the Indian Ambassador, Mr. A. S. Gonsalves, signed on April 1 a protocol concerning the establishment of a joint venture between the Tea Trading Corporation of India and Egyptian Company for Packing and Distributing Food Stuff which would blend and package Indian tea for marketing in Egypt and for export to neighbouring countries.

The protocol also envisages supply by Government of India through TTCI of not less than 20,000 metric tonnes of tea per year to Egypt at competitive prices.

YPT INDIA **Date :** Apr 02, 1984

### Volume No

1995

#### FRANCE

Speech by Minister of External Affairs P. V. Narasimha Rao at Dinner in Honour of the Foreign Minister of France

The following is the speech delivered by Foreign Minister, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao on the occasion of a dinner hosted by him in honour of His Excellency Mr. Claude Cheysson, Foreign Minister of France, at the Embassy Residence on Apr 13, 1984:

Your excellency, and friends, it gives me great pleasure to have you over for dinner in our midst, a little piece of India in the heart of your beautiful city. The glory of Paris in spring is legendary. Therefore, I am especially grateful to Your Excellency for having given me the opportunity to be here at this time of the year.

On this occasion, of course, you have invited me in your dual capacity as Foreign Minister of France and the President of the Council of Ministers of the EEC. I am thankful for the extremely lucid expose of the French as well as the Community's positions on international issues that you made in the course of our discussions.

India is proud to be a pioneer in developing its relations with the European Economic Community. You have come to occupy a central position among world economic entities. This meeting signifies another landmark in our developing cooperation and dialogue. There can be little doubt that in every degree and facet of enhancement there is mutual benefit to us. We look forward to a growing and more intense exchange in both directions in the future.

As I mentioned earlier in the day, over the past few years we have had numerous occasions to meet and exchange views on global as well as bilateral issues. These have always been conducted in a spirit of extreme frankness and cordiality which is not only a reflection of our shared perceptions but also of the very close personal rapport that has developed between His Excellency the President of the Republic of France and my Prime Minister. <pg-134>

#### HUMAN PERSPECTIVE

It is a matter of satisfaction that in the tension-ridden world we live in there are some countries which have a broad and humane perspective in view, and France and India can be fortunately counted amongst them. In international relations we have always been impressed by the independence, originality and resoluteness of France's foreign policy, which has enabled it to make significant contributions to world affairs. We, too, in India, have always endeavoured to safeguard our independence of action and have judged issues on merit. To a very large extent France and India hold similar views on world issues. Even on occasions when we may differ there exists the goodwill to fully comprehend each other's point of view.

Your Excellency, we find it ironic that inspite of a general awareness of the problems that beset us and the powerful tools that science and technology have provided us, mankind seems to be bent on self-annihilation. It is the singular tragedy of our time that our best scientists and technical people are engaged in research for the development of increasingly awesome weapons. The world's nuclear arsenal is capable of destroying humanity several times over and yet there are more refinements of these instruments of mass destruction. We spoke this morning of the new dimensions of danger likely to be crossed by the future militarisation of space and the proliferation of chemical weapons. We are living under the shadow of push-button Armageddon that can be unleashed any time, either by design or by chance. We must ask ourselves whether we would like to continue to live in this intolerable condition under the permanent shadow of death. It is common knowledge that the astronomical sums of money being funnelled each year to defence related researches can be put to more profitable use to make this world a happier and safer place to live in.

#### SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROBLEMS

The almost obsessive concern for military security has made us turn back to the more fundamental socio-economic problems that face nations and regions today. We must guard against falling into the trap of over-simplified explanations that much of the turmoil we see around us is solely due to the confrontation between incompatible political and ideological systems. Here I can do no better than quote from President Mitterrand's recent speech at the Joint Session of the American Congress while dwelling on the causes of conflicts in the developing world:

"It is my conviction that many of the revolutions and wars in the third world are rooted first of all in the soil of poverty and in the economic exploitation that exacerbate the traditional confrontation between ethnic groups, religions and parties. Civil wars are not triggered by external influences alone, even if they may serve foreign interests. Their roots lie deep in the legacy of the past".

We, in India, both in our individual capacity as well as in our current status as Chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement made a number of suggestions that would help bridge the existing chasm between the developed North and the developing South. We feel extremely encouraged by the positive stance that your Government has taken in various international fora in supporting our point of view. We regard you as a privileged interlocutor in the North-South dialogue and count on your continuing support towards the achievement of these legitimate objectives.

#### BILATERAL RELATIONS

I am happy to note that our bilateral relations have been growing satisfactorily over the past few years. In the span of a little over two years, we have had a number of politically important visits between our two countries. Our Prime Minister has been to Paris on two occasions and your President had visited us in 1982. We have also had several ministerial visits and only recently President of the National Assembly, Mr. Louis Marmas, had led an important Parliamentary Delegation to India. At the official level too, a continued dialogue has been maintained both in Paris and in Delhi. A more informal, though high level, exchange took place in Delhi <pg-135>

during October 1983 when an Indo-French Seminar was organised in New Delhi. This afforded an opportunity for a most candid but congenial interaction between eminent French and Indian intellectuals on a wide range of subjects. I very much hope that such seminars become a regular feature.

We welcome collaboration with the French industry in developing certain important sectors of our own and look forward to greater cooperation in frontier technologies in which France is recognised as a world leader.

Of particular interest to us, of course, is the growing desire on the part of our peoples to know each other better. I am happy that India is organising the biggest cultural event ever on the continent of Europe in France next year.

Excellency, I would like to thank you most sincerely for the warm hospitality you have accorded to me and members of my delegation. I would like to take this opportunity to officially invite Your Excellency to visit India. Hopefully, this will be in the near future.

Ladies and gentlemen, I would now request you to offer a toast to His Excellency the President of France, my colleague, His Excellency Mr. Claude Cheysson, the Foreign Minister of France, and to the everlasting friendship between the peoples of France and India.

ANCE INDIA USA

**Date** : Apr 13, 1984

### Volume No

1995

I. M. F.

Finance Minister Calls for Increased Allocation of SDR's

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi of the speech by Shri Pranab Mukherjee, Union Finance Minister, as Chairman of Inter-Governmental Group of 24 on International Monetary Affairs at their 29th meeting in Washington on Apr 12, 1984:

I have great pleasure in welcoming you all to this twenty-ninth meeting of Ministers of the Inter-Governmental Group of Twenty Four on International Monetary Affairs. I look forward to working with you on the common pursuit of our objectives and would greatly value your cooperation and wise counsel.

It is my pleasant task to thank, on my behalf and that of the group, the distinguished outgoing Chairman, honourable Salah Hamed, Minister of Finance, Egypt as well as the outgoing Chairman of the Deputies, Dr. Said El-Naggar, who, over a very difficult year, have so ably and wisely guided the business of the group and advanced its causes. I would specially like to mention that during the last year a Task Force was at work to prepare a revised programme of action on the reform of the International Monetary and Financial System. The Deputies have already discussed the report of the Task Force which is before you. This is an important contribution on a subject of crucial importance and will doubtless engage our serious attention in the days ahead. All of us would like to express our deep appreciation of these valuable endeavours.

I am happy to welcome the Minister of Finance of Ethiopia to the Vice Chairmanship of our Bureau. I look forward to working in the closest co-operation with him and our distinguished colleague from Argentina.

#### SIGNS OF RECOVERY

After three years of deep and worldwide recession, signs of recovery emerged in 1983. World output grew by 2 per cent. Industrial countries, as a group, registered a growth of 21/4 per cent. Satisfactory <pg-136>

recovery was, however, concentrated mainly in North America and is as yet weak in most other industrial countries. These countries achieved further moderation of inflation. But unemployment remains high. Interest rates are excessive and, of late, have shown a disturbing tendency to rise. Protectionist measures in industrial countries have intensified and access of developing country exports to external markets remains constrained. Sustainability of the present pattern of exchange rates, particularly the high value of the U.S. dollar, is in serious doubt.

#### DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

The economic and financial conditions in developing countries continue to be under severe strain. As a group, these countries recorded an average growth of only 0.9 per cent with many of them showing still lower or negative growth rates and declining per capita incomes for two to three years in succession. The growth process in many developing countries has suffered disruption. Their cumulative terms of trade continued to be substantially adverse and their exports remained almost stagnant in 1983 after a steep decline in 1982. The debt position of several countries remained serious despite strong adjustment efforts.

Developing countries have had to carry a heavy and disproportionate burden of adjustment. The large decline in their overall external deficit since 1981 has been achieved by a severe compression of imports resulting in under-utilization of existing capacities and interruption of development programmes. A large number of developing countries continue to experience acute reserve stringency. This situation is clearly unsustainable. The harshness of the present adjustment process needs to be relieved so as not to test the limits of social and political tolerance. Indeed, there is evidence that these limits might already have been reached in some countries. The task before the world community is to extend the process of recovery to all countries and to ensure its durability. There are, however, serious obstacles in the way. Increasing protectionism continues to damage the International Trading System. Interest rates remain high and are indeed rising casting a shadow on the future evolution of economic activity. Misalignment of exchange rates is a cause for serious concern. Correction of these distortions requires difficult but urgent policy adjustments, especially by some important industrial countries.

The resolution of the debt problem requires greater access of developing country exports to industrial markets, and, where appropriate, more imaginative restructuring of debt obligations consistent with the imperatives of growth and orderly adjustment.

International Financial Institutions have a crucial role in furthering these objectives. Increased quotas under the eighth review of the International Monetary Fund have become effective and arrangements have been made for enlarged borrowing. It is however a matter of regret that a larger quota increase did not become possible and that access limits under important fund facilities were reduced despite the continuance of severe strains in the world economy. A substantial allocation of SDRS in the fourth basic period is long overdue and should be addressed urgently. There is also need for larger financing by the fund in support of adjustment programme. On the heels of a severely disrupted IDA-6 has followed a much lower IDA-7 replenishment with serious implications for development in IDA recipient countries. It is imperative that IDA-7 resources be substantially supplemented through a special arrangement. The selective capital increase of the IBRD also needs to be made effective quickly to ensure an adequate level of Bank commitments and disbursements. Steps have to be initiated early so that the general capital increase of the IBRD can become effective in 1986. All these issues are on our agenda and have been covered by the report of the Deputies for our consideration. <pg-137>

DIA UNITED KINGDOM EGYPT USA ETHIOPIA ARGENTINA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC **Date :** Apr 12, 1984

## Volume No

1995

IRAN

#### India and Iran for Boosting Bilateral Trade

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Apr 05, 1984 on the visit of the Deputy Foreign Minister of Iran to New Delhi:

India and Iran discussed on April 5 the possibilities of expanding bilateral trade and taking the total turn-over to a much higher level. This was highlighted when H. E. Sheikh-Ul-Islam, Deputy Foreign Minister of Iran, called on the Minister of State for Commerce, Shri N. R. Laskar, in New Delhi. Sheikh-Ul-Islam is here in India as the Special Emissary of the President of Iran and with a message for the Prime Minister.

Both sides agreed that the excellent political relations which exist between the two countries should be fully utilised for expanding economic and commercial cooperation. The Iranian Minister emphasised that better economic and commercial relations between the countries would contribute to the economic independence of India and Iran. Sheikh-Ul-Islam pointed out that it was Iran's policy to purchase as much as possible from India. India has always been preferred as a source of goods and services.

The Iranian Minister informed Shri Laskar that the Iranian Commerce Minister had accepted the invitation of Shri V. P. Singh, Union Commerce Minister, and will be visiting India shortly. Shri Laskar stated that he looks forward to the visit of the Iranian Commerce Minister. They further discussed matters likely to arise during this visit and hoped that this would boost the trade between the two countries substantially.

The Iranian Minister informed Shri Laskar that a high level preparatory team would precede the Commerce Minister's visit. This team led by the Deputy Commerce Minister of Iran would review possibilities of purchases and even conclude and sign some contracts.

#### INDO-IRAN COMMERCIAL RELATIONS

Indian exports to Iran in 1976-77 were valued at Rs. 146.98 crores and imports from the same country were placed at Rs. 507.97 crores. In 1982-83 exports to Iran were valued at 73.18 crores and imports from Iran were placed at Rs. 844.11 crores.

Iran remains India's potential market in that region. Iran has the largest population (Approx: between 35 to 40 million) among the oil producing countries and magnitude and pattern of its requirements presents considerable opportunities for Indian exports in this area ranging from supplies of essential commodities, consumer goods to joint ventures and transfer of technology. During the last two-three years, exports to Iran have included machinery and transport equipment, textile yarn, fabrics, made-up articles, tea, rice, meat chemical, leather and leather manufactures, iron and steel products, etc. On the other hand, major items of imports from Iran have been petroleum oils, crude oils, petroleum products, crude fertilisers, crude minerals and crude vegetable materials. However, engineering goods have constituted major portion of India's exports to Iran. In the year 1977-78, Indian engineering exports were to the tune of 32.5 crores which rose to 55 crores in 1982 and are expected to cross 70 crores in the present year.

Jeeps, tea, leather and steel pipes & tubes are areas which have provided considerable scope for enhanced trade.

### WATER RESOURCES

Iran has also indicated its interest for technology from India in areas such as development of water resources and construction of dams, ore-refining technology, manufacture of steel through direct reduction process, agricultural machinery <pg-138>

implements, development of small scale industry in rural areas (Jahad-e-Sazandagi), castings and forgings, railways locomotives, heat treatment of steel and, exploitation and concentration of mining materials.

The Indo-Iran Joint Commission was set up during the visit to Tehran of the Foreign Minister from July 19 to 21, 1983. Under the Joint Commission, Sub Commission II was set up.

There is a trade Agreement with Iran which was signed on August 31, 1974, and is effective from February 17, 1974. The Iranian side had indicated that they would like to replace the Agreement signed earlier. The drafts have been exchanged for this purpose. However, till the finalisation of the new trade Agreement, the existing trade Agreement continues to be valid.

The Iranian Government have also requested India for allowing them to open a trade office in India. India has conveyed its acceptance to the proposal in principle and the Iranians are to supply India a detailed proposal in this regard.

AN INDIA USA RUSSIA **Date :** Apr 05, 1984

## Volume No

#### MEXICO

President Giani Zail Singh's Speech at the State Banquet

The following is the text of the speech by the President, Giani Zail Singh, at the State Banquet held in his honour on Apr 23, 1983, in Mexico:

I am profoundly touched by the cordiality of your welcome and your generous hospitality. I am honoured and delighted to be in the midst of warm hearted and friendly people of Mexico whose friendship we greatly value and with whom we share the determination to work towards the creation of a more peaceful and stable international environment.

Mr. President, I bring to you, your government and your people the warm greetings and good wishes of the Government and people of India. We in India have great admiration for your revolutionary tradition, your courage, the spirit of independence and the ardent pursuit of the ideal of a more equal and equitable world order. Both our countries share a commitment to the cause of democracy, development and disarmament. Both can justly claim the proud inheritance of a highly developed culture and civilisation going back to dawn of human history. In this tension ridden world, India has consistently pursued the policy of relaxation of international tensions and strengthening peace. Peace to be real and enduring must be universal. However, detente is becoming increasingly vulnerable. The spirit of detente has waned and cold war attitudes are gathering momentum once again. Peace and security are equally important to all nations, big and small, rich and poor. These cannot be the pawns in the game of rivalry between great powers. Considerations of their own security cannot be an excuse for interference and intervention elsewhere. This is our conviction; therefore naturally India shares Mexico's concern over the crisis in Central America. And I reiterate India's wholehearted support for the Contadora initiative which aims at the resolution of the crisis through peaceful negotiations without outside interference. Measures to overcome economic backwardness and chart out the path of selfreliant progress and development are equally important for this region and for other areas of the developing world. Without progress of mankind as a whole, peace would remain illusory.

Right now tension and conflict bedevil the prospect of secure peace, in many parts peace.secure

of the world. The Non-aligned Movement of which India is a founder-member has spared no efforts to contribute towards

#### 1995

reversing this trend of escalating global tensions and towards replacing confrontation with cooperation.

#### NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE

It is a matter of grave concern that the North-South dialogue is at a standstill. The Prime Minister of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, took the initiative to convene an informal summit of Heads of Governments and States of both developed and developing countries during the last General Assembly Session of the UN at New York in October 1983 to find a way out of the impasse. We are aware of Mexico's current efforts as Chairman of the Group of 77 in the same direction and have lent full support to them.

We appreciate your participation in the initiative taken by the Non-aligned Movement to work out proposals for the much needed reform and evolution of the international monetary system. The developing countries are not asking for charity; they genuinely believe that sustained social and economic development of the South is in the interests of the developed world as well.

We in India believe and I think this belief is shared by Mexico that it is equally imperative to forge South-South Cooperation in the spirit of collective self-reliance. Much has been said about it but serious implementation of the concept is yet to take place. It is my Government's hope that India and Mexico may give a lead by seriously exploring the possibilities of developing mutually-beneficial cooperation in all those sectors of the economy where complementaries exist. We have between us enough technological skills, industrial capacities, natural and human resources to make a promising start and to set the pace. The establishment of an Indo-Mexican Joint Economic Commission is a welcome development and I am glad that the Commission will be holding its first meeting very shortly.

#### ARMS RACE

The Arms race goes on unabated and disarmament, despite many initiatives taken under the UN auspices, remains a distant dream. This awesome race not only threatens peace and stability but is also a serious impediment in the mobilisation of resources for the world's more even development. India and Mexico have consistently cooperated in international forums to advance the cause of disarmament. We must continue to demand resumption of the dialogue between the two super-powers for limitation and reduction of the world's burden of arms.

In the last 36 years of our independence, we in India have been trying to overcome poverty and backwardness within a democratic and secular framework in the same way as you are doing in Mexico. We have reason to be proud of our achievements through planned development despite tremendous odds and hurdles. Much more still remains to be done for the welfare of the vast majority of our people. We are confident that we shall achieve our goals.

We are aware of the struggle in which you have been engaged to overcome your economic difficulties. I would like to compliment you, Mr. President, on the bold and imaginative measures already taken by you with a great deal of success in the first year of your Presidency. We wish you complete success in your endeavours.

#### QUITO DECLARATION

India also welcomes the recent Quito Declaration subscribed to by all Latin American countries. It is a promising step ahead to translate into reality the concept of cooperation and thereby strengthen the chances of peace, harmony and understanding in your continent. We on our part in our own region of South Asia have given concrete orientation to plans for cooperation for mutual benefit under the auspices of South Asian Regional Cooperation Programme. The first results, though small, are encouraging.

It is indeed fortunate that on all important issues of global concern, the leaders of the two countries have been in touch with each other and have shown readiness to take joint initiatives, should the situation so demand. As two countries dedicated to democracy, freedom, peace and justice there are no limits to our coope-

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ration, multilateral and bilateral for our mutual benefit and for the benefit of the world. The times ahead are bound to be of incessant striving. But our shared aspirations and objectives should inspire us to a united endeavour and to certain sucess.

Mr. President, I thank you and Mme. Miguel de la Madrid, the Government and the people of Mexico once again for your warm welcome and your friendship.

May I ask all present here to join me in a toast to the good health and happiness and success of His Excellency Mr. Miguel de la Madrid, President of the United Mexican States, and Mrs. Miguel de la Madrid, to the welfare, progress and prosperity of the people of Mexico and to the friendship and co-operation between India and Mexico.

XICO USA INDIA ECUADOR SPAIN

**Date** : Apr 23, 1983

## Volume No

#### MEXICO

#### Press Statement

The following is the text of a Press bulletin issued in Los Pinos, on Apr 24, 1984 by the Presidency of the Republic, Directorate General of Social Communication:

Invited by the President of the Republic, Lic. Miguel de la Madrid, the official visit of two days to Mexico city, of H.E. President of the Republic of India, Mr. Giani Zail Singh, accompanied by his daughter, Dr. Gurdeep Kaul, concluded this evening.

During his visit, President Zail Singh had two conversations with President De la Madird, in which they spoke of themes of common interest, that comprehends the establishment of an International Economic Order more reasonable and according to the necessities of the developing countries, the encouragement of South-South cooperation, the necessity of getting control of the increasing of nuclear weapons, as well as the distention East-West.

During the conversations they also pointed out the urgent necessity to decrease the increasing militarization of the Indian Ocean and they also made a careful review of the increase of tensions of the Central-American region. In this scene, President Zail Singh reiterated the total support of his Government to the efforts that Mexico joint with other member countries has been carrying out.

President De la Madrid pointed out the importance of the peaceful role that India has been carrying out as President of the Non-Aligned Movement and praised the efforts of Mrs. Indira Gandhi as Chair-person of the said Movement, to establish an International Monetary and Financial System that helps the development of nations with less economic growth.

During the visit of President Singh the duration of the Cultural and Educational Exchange Programme 1981-84 was extended for one year more. Likewise the duration of the Cooperation programme in the fields of Science and Technology signed on July 23, 1975, was also extended for a period of 5 years.

The visit of President Singh permitted both Presidents to reconfirm their political wishes that enliven the Governments of Mexico and India to extend the spaces of economic cooperation, mainly in the fields of energetic, cultural and scientifictechnological, and to keep on with the coordination of actions in the multilateral areas for the benefit of peace and world

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stability.

On occasion of the state visit of President Singh, the Mexican Ministry announced the agreement between both countries to hold in future the First Meeting of the Joint Commission of Economic Cooperation and in a simultaneous way the celebration of the III Meeting of the Joint Commission of Scientific and Technical Cooperation, as particular measures to advance better complementary and bilateral collaboration.

Before the beginning of the second conversation, both Presidents exchanged presents in the library of the official Residence. President De la Madrid presented to President Zail Singh a silver piece elaborated by Mexican craftsmen, with the national symbol in the center. At the same <pg-141>

time, Mrs. Paloma C. de la Madrid presented Dr. Gurdeep Kaur, a silver wine taster, engraved with Mexican designs.

On his side, the President of India presented to the President of Mexico a rosewood relief panel "Elephant Scene". And the First Lady of India gave to Mrs. De la Madrid a brocade dress material.

Afterwards, both Presidents went to the Residence "Lazaro Cardenas" where they had the second conversation, in which functionaries of both committees participated.

After the conversations the official ceremony of farewell took place, in which the President of Mexico was accompanied by his wife, Mrs. Paloma C. De la Madrid; Lic. Jorge Inarritu, President of the Supreme Court of Justice; Mr. Miguel Gonzalez Avelar, President of the Senators Chamber; Deputy Humberto Lugo Gil, President of the Permanent Commission of the Union Congress; Lic. Bernardo Sepulveda Amor, Minister of External Relations, and Lic. Francisco Labastida Ochoa, Minister of Energy, Mines and State Industry.

# XICO SPAIN INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC USA **Date :** Apr 24, 1984

## Volume No

1995

MEXICO

Conclusion of State Visit

The following is the text of the press statement issued by the Mexican Ministry of Foreign Affairs on the conclusion of the State visit of the President of India to Mexico:

Before his departure from the city of Mexico for visits to Merida and Cancun, the President of India Giani Zail Singh extended an official invitation to his Mexican counterpart, Mr. Miguel de la Madrid, to pay an official visit to India. The invitation was accepted by the President of Mexico with great pleasure. The dates will be decided later.

The Mexican Foreign Office announced that this invitation was a reflection of the firm state of relations between the two countries which were further consolidated and strengthened during the visit of President Giani Zail Singh. Mrs. Miguel de la Madrid has also been invited to visit India.

The visiting Indian Head of State was seen at the capital airport by the Mexican Foreign Minister, Bernardo Sepulveda Amor, to whom the President expressed his thanks for his happy stay in the capital of the country.

Accompanied by his daughter Gurdip Kaur and the other members of his party, the President boarded the plane for Merida where, on arrival at 10 A.M., he was received by the Acting Governor, Victor Cervera Pacheco.

Immediately on his arrival, the President was taken to the archaeological zone of Uxmal and also visited an agricultural experimentation station. At the conclusion of his visit, he flew by plane to the city of Cancun where he was received by the Governor of the State, Pedro Joaquim Codwell.

XICO USA INDIA SPAIN

**Date** : Apr 24, 1984

## Volume No

1995

NEPAL

Indo-Nepal Talks on Water Resources

The following is the text of the press release issued from Kathmandu and New Delhi at the end of the Indo-Nepal talks on the development of water resources in Kathmandu on Apr 22, 1984: Delegations from Nepal and India led respectively by Shri M. S. Dhakal, Secre-<pg-142>

tary of Water Resources, His Majesty's Government of Nepal and Shri M. G. Padhye, Secretary of Irrigation, Government of India met in Kathmandu from April 20-22, 1984 for talks on development of water resources.

In addition to the Secretary-level meeting, other meetings held were those of the Karnali Committee, the Karnali Coordination Committee, the Joint Group of Experts on Pancheswar and the Rapti Joint Technical Committee.

Considerable progress was registered during the talks on the Karnali (Chisapani) Multipurpose Project. The Karnali Committee finalized the short list of consultants for the Karnali Project as well as approved the terms of reference for the consultants. The Joint Group of Experts on Pancheswar also registered a forward movement. The Rapti Joint Technical Committee met and discussed matters of mutual interest to both sides.

The two sides agreed to meet again in the month of July 1984 in Delhi to continue the discussions further.

The talks were held in a very friendly and constructive atmosphere. The leader of the Indian delegation thanked the leader of the Nepalese delegation for the warm hospitality offered to him and members of his delegation.

### PAL INDIA BANGLADESH LATVIA USA

**Date** : Apr 22, 1984

## Volume No

1995

NEWS POOL

New Information Order for Peace and Development

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Apr 25, 1984 of the speech by Shri Bhagat inaugurating a seminar on 'Improving News Pool Performance':

The Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting, Shri H. K. L. Bhagat said here today that the successive summit meetings of leaders of Non-aligned countries from early 70s had underlined

the need for concerted action towards realisation of a new order in international information dissemination so that legacies of colonialism were wiped out and the international community was able to understand each other and cooperate in furtherance of the common goals of peace and development.

Inaugurating a seminar on "Improving News Pool Performance" organised by PTI in collaboration with Indian Institute of Mass Communication, the Minister said that the Pool itself, as an act of self-help for the Non-Aligned Movement, was not content with merely raising the slogan of a new international information order but wanted to show the way of achieving it.

Shri Bhagat said that when the Pool was formally constituted at the meeting of Ministers of Information in New Delhi in the summer of 1976 doubts were raised on the wisdom and feasibility of the effort. Apprehension was also expressed that this was the beginning of a process of control on information. He said that experience of the eight years had proved beyond doubt that the Pool was not only practicable but an effective instrument of the new international information order. Its objective was not to dislodge any one nor to control information but to promote freer and more balanced flow of information through creation of multiple sources, he added.

The Minister said that the pool's turnover had grown both in volume and the range of news covered. From a few hundred words exchanged by a handful of news agencies, the Pool today had an in-

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volvement of 87 countries accounting for a daily wordage of 60,000.

Praising the Pool, he said that it had become a model of cooperation for news organisations and its modalities and style were now influencing the growth and functioning of a large number of regional and continental news exchange systems.

Shri Bhagat said that a look at the map of the world showing these various news links set up in the last six or seven years would demonstrate unmistakably what a great achievement that the Pool has to its credit in bringing together into a single stream vital information about Non-aligned countries which had long remained in background.

### POOL'S OPERATIONS

The Minister said that the Pool's operations and its network had also influenced the functioning of major news agencies of the world which had looked upon the Pool with suspicion and fear. He said that they had felt obliged to step up their own coverage of the Non-aligned countries both to defend against the charges of neglect and to keep up with the advances of the Pool.

Shri Bhagat said that the Pool had four working languages for news dissemination, English, French, Spanish and Arabic. The time had come for news agencies of the Non-aligned countries to think of adopting at least one language other than its own working medium. Such a step would stimulate multi-linguism in their operation and do away with the gap that now exists and inhibits the Pool's effectiveness. This was a suggestion which the Seminar might consider, he added.

The Minister felt that the tariff levels within the non-aligned community were not even; nor always within reach of news media. The 7th Summit of Heads of State and Government in New Delhi last year made a specific recommendation for lowering these tariffs as a measure of encouragement for accelerated flow of information among the Non-aligned countries.

Shri Bhagat said that in fulfilment of the directive of the summit the Ministers of Information of Non-aligned countries met in Jakarta in January and a joint conference of Ministers of Information and of Communication of countries acting as redistribution points for the Pool was to be held in Cairo next month. He hoped that tangible results would flow from this conference and the Pool would benefit from them.

The Minister said that the basic philosophy underlying the Pool was the right of each country to participate in the global process of communication on an equitable and just basis. That was why the Pool did not have a central organisation. It gave equal rights to every member. Given clear good communication policy for each member country, the Non-aligned Movement could move forward in realising the objectives of collective self-reliance. The Pool in fact was a step in that direction, he added.

Shri Bhagat advised that it was not only development news that should be in focus of the Pool but every facet of life making up the process of development and progress of countries and peoples.

In the context of the struggle for consolidation of political freedom, for economic development and for equitable international relations, he said the media and, no doubt, news and information had a special role to play both as mirror to public opinion and as educator of public opinion. Information exchanges must contribute to greater international understanding and not be a source of discord, he added. <pp-144>

DIA USA INDONESIA EGYPT **Date :** Apr 25, 1984

## Volume No

1995

#### PORTUGAL

External Affairs Minister P. V. Narasimha Rao's Address at theConference "North-South: Europe's Role" in Lisbon

The following is the text of the address by Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, Minister of External Affairs of India at the conference "North-South: Europe's Role" in Lisbon on Apr 09, 1984:

Mr. President, Mr. Prime Minister, Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, it is indeed a privilege for me to be in Lisbon and to have the opportunity of addressing this distinguished gathering on a subject of vital concern to all of us, namely the present state of North-South relations and the important role of this great continent of Europe in promoting these relations. I am conscious that I am speaking to an audience which wields tremendous influence in building up public opinion and in determining the course of government policies in the countries of Europe. I am grateful to the organisers for having asked me to speak to you not only on behalf of my own country, which has always taken an active part in the North-South dialogue, but also on behalf of the Non-aligned Movement which has been in the forefront of efforts to establish a more just and equitable world economic order.

I wish to pay a warm tribute to H.E. President Ramalho Eanes and H.E. Prime Minister Nario Scares for their inspiring addresses which have set the tone for our deliberations. I also wish to thank the Government and the people of Portugal for their generous hospitality and the excellent arrangements made for this conference.

#### HISTORIC RELATIONS

The historic relations between Europe and the nations of the South goes back to centuries. Alexander of Macedonia was an early visitor to our part of the world. Other European visitors came later; some motivated by religious and cultural reasons, others seeking commerce and trade, still others out of a spirit of adventure and for reasons of state. There followed a long period of relationship, characterised mostly by colonial domination. Although this relationship has now happily come to an end, many of the links forged during this period still continue and provide a basis for mutually beneficial cooperation. These historical links are evident in a number of unique groupings such as the Commonwealth, the French and Portuguese speaking communities and the Lome Convention. The characteristics of these groupings vary. But they have all played a useful role in developing cooperation between Europe and the countries of the South.

#### INTER-DEPENDENT WORLD

We live in an increasingly inter-dependent world in which it is not possible to isolate one part of the globe from what is happening elsewhere. Starting from the obvious assumption that the developed countries do not propose to confine the manufacture of their products to the quantities needed for local consumption alone and would wish to export them and also in view of the fact that they cannot export their products amongst themselves inter se, beyond a point, it follows that they have to export those products to developing countries which therefore, constitute their main markets. But a market without purchasing power is no market at all in the real sense.

Many developing countries of today happen to be precisely this, viz a market without purchasing power, from the point of view of the developed countries. From their own standpoint, the developing countries find themselves perpetually exploited, compelled as they are to export their raw materials at prices over which they have no control whatsoever, and not even able to keep body and soul together by their export earnings and thus being pushed into balance of payments distress chronically and never able to get their development

programmes off the ground. They are thus condemned to unending penury. Unfortunately those who are exploiting them for the time being do not seem to realise that they are, in reality harming their own interests in the long run by killing the proverbial goose that lays the golden egg. They do not seem to have realised, at any rate in practice, that international cooperation for development is in the mutual interest of both developed and developing countries.

A rise in the income levels in developing countries and an augmentation in their purchasing power generates growth in developed countries, increases the avenues for their exports and creates further employment. Progress in developing countries will thus help rejuvenate the stagnating economies in developed countries. Similarly stagnation in developed countries lowers demand for the exports of developing countries and in turn their import capacity, thus starting a vicious circle, leading to a cumulative contraction in world economy. Both groups of countries have a mutual interest in the stability of supplies and prices of raw materials. Recent developments affecting the banking world have demonstrated the mutual interest of both the rich and the poor countries in finding practical solutions for the debt problem.

Mr. President, there are many more classification of countries

than recognised hitherto. It is not only developed and developing, but with many more ramifications, if we care to go into details.

#### TECHNOLOGICAL PROCESSES

No country can live on technology alone, at least today when technology is no longer a magic or a superhuman characteristic. Similarly no country can live on raw materials alone, however abundant or otherwise useful. Raw materials need to be subjected to technological processes, otherwise the country will remain perpectually primitive, which the turbulent younger generations in every country no longer wish to content themselves with. Therefore each country has something to offer, while it needs something else and needs it badly too. Very few countries could be said to be a complete exception to this rule. And few such exceptions are the ones which do not appreciate inter-dependence in spirit and thereby become too self-centred to think of the problems which the rest of the world is facing.

Coming back to the categorisation, one could think of a category which is high on technology, but equally low in raw materials, including oil. And technology, however high or sophisticated, is not expected, at least in the foreseeable future, to dispense completely with the need for raw materials. The other category which is high on liquidity, but far behind in technology and the socio-political infrastructure to absorb technology, even when it is available for import. Then there is yet another category of countries which possess fairly high technology as well as the capacity to absorb higher technology, but not enough liquidity to soar higher in the technological race. They have technology, infrastructure and resources upto a point, a fairly high point, but are finding it difficult to attain higher achievement due to constraint of the massive resources needed for the same. The categorisation could be continued further, to include many other varieties, but I think the point is well illustrated, namely, that the world today is a complex mesh of complementarities, if one has the vision to look at it as one whole entity.

#### WORLD ECONOMY

Although there is now increasing realisation of the reality of inter-dependence, this is still not fully reflected in the policies of many industrialised countries. After enjoying unprecedented growth for several decades, these countries in recent times have suffered from the effects of the worst recession in the last half century. It has now become increasingly evident that developed countries cannot fully recover from their current difficulties unless steps are taken to stimulate the world economy as a whole and to reactivate the process of growth in developing countries. The policies being followed by many developed countries seem to be guided more by political exigencies and their perceptions of immediate shortterm gains than by any soli-<pg-146>

citude for the long term health and strength of the world economy which alone as shown earlier, would rebound to the benefit of the developed countries along with the developing ones.

The political, economic and social well-being of the present and future generations depends more than ever before on cooperation among all members of the international community. And yet one does not get the impression that the present generation is at all thinking about future generations. Perhaps with a nuclear holocaust considered to be round the corner, everyone seems, at least subconsciously, to be engrossed only in the present. Surely there is need for a more far-sighted approach if we are to survive into the future, not allowing the present threats to world peace to become a self-fulfilling prophecy.

Just as there is an inter-relationship between the development of different parts of the globe, there is an inter-relationship between different problems; of peace, of security, of disarmament and of development. Thus war threatens mankind in two ways: first, the preparation for war directly reduces the chances of peace and secondly it diverts resources which would otherwise have necessarily been devoted to some activity related to development, since there could be no third destination for these vital resources, thus, war perpetuates underdevelopment and wide disparities which leads to tensions and explosions.

There is a stark contrast between the niggardly public support in developed countries for developmental activities in the underdeveloped world and the indulgence shown to private conspicuous consumption and expenditure related to armaments.

The production of weapons of mass destruction or marginal items of private consumption accounts for expenditure running into astronomical figures while even modest funds sought for purposes and institutions universally agreed to be beneficial - even vital - for the vast populations of the Third World, are either drastically reduced or cut down altogether on the pretext of budgetary constraints and scarcity of resources. If there is a true realisation of the inter-dependence of nations and of their problems, it should be reflected in the ready acceptance of the imperative need to look beyond considerations of fleeting national obsessions or fancies and to follow enlightened longrange global policies for the common good of humanity, in which alone the real interests of any individual nation can lie. History bears testimony to the fact that attempts to solve national economic problems through inward looking policies lead to conflict and disaster from which no one is immune. The memories of World War II, which followed such attempts after the Great Depression of the thirties, are still fresh in our minds.

#### POST-WAR EUROPE

The reconstruction of post-war Europe owes much to initiatives like the Marshall Plan and to the multilateral institutions established soon after the war. But in recent years there is again a tendency to return to a parochial approach that occasionally borders on economic chauvinism. If we have to avoid another disaster of global proportions, we must reverse these tendencies and regain the spirit of multilateral cooperation.

The inter-dependence between Europe and the South mirrors the reality of global inter-dependence. Developing countries provide growing markets for European manufacturers. They account for more than a third of the exports of many European countries. They remain important sources of raw materials for European industries. At the same time Europe provides the major markets for the countries of the South. It is also the principal source of finance and technology for many developing countries.

Europe and the South thus have a visible shared interest in each other's well-being and progress and a strong emotivation for action at the national, regional and global levels to sustain the process of development.

While the last few years have been difficult both for developed as well as developing countries, the impact of the current world recession has been particularly severe on the developing countries. Per

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capita incomes in many developing countries, particularly the poorest among them, have declined. Prices of commondities, on which many of them are so heavily dependent, have reached their lowest levels in the past fifty years. This has been coupled with spiralling inflation and an enormous increase in the cost of their much needed imports. The flow of concessional finance has sharply declined. The balance of payments deficits of developing countries have reached staggering proportions. Many of them are reeling under the crushing burden of indebtedness. All this has inevitably necessitated cutbacks in essential development plans, affecting the well-being of the people.

### **GROWTH RATES**

In the developed countries, growth rates have slowed down and unemployment has reached unprecedented levels. But since these countries have much greater resilience, they can provide safety nets for weaker sections of their societies. For many developing countries on the other hand, the crisis has put their development plans in jeopardy. All this has placed severe strains on the international economic system and has focussed attention once again on the iniquity of the existing world order. There have been signs of recovery in some industrialised countries. But the indications are that in many European countries the recovery is weak and in some, unemployment is still rising. Does this not point to the need for a firmer, more solid basis for recovery? And can this be done without promoting development in the countries of the South which are such important trading and economic partners of Europe?

#### SEVENTH NAM

We took a close look at all these problems at the Seventh Non-Aligned Summit which we had the privilege to host in New Delhi about a year ago. The Summit put forward some practical and constructive proposals both for dealing with the present crisis as well as for a fundamental restructuring of international economic relations, in order to ensure the permanent health of the world economy. Unfortunately the response of developed countries to these proposals has not been very positive.

In its capacity as the Chairman of the Non-aligned Movement, India has taken a number of initiatives aimed at giving a new impetus to international co-operation for development. Notable among these was the Summit meeting convened by the Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi on the occasion of the 38th Session of the UN General Assembly in September 1983. Those present at the New York Summit included a number of European leaders. It provided a useful opportunity for an informal exchange of ideas on North-South issues. These issues were also discussed in depth at UNCTAD VI in Belgrade. Despite these opportunities, there has been no significant advance in any of the areas of vital concern to developing countries, due to the negative attitude of some industrialised countries. As a matter of fact recently there has been a slide-back in a number of important areas, such as the decisions limiting the access to IMF resources and the level of replenishment for IDA VII. These are severe set-backs which will particularly affect the poorest developing countries when they are facing their gravest crisis.

#### NORTH-SOUTH COOPERATION

What then should be the major objectives of North-South Cooperation in the coming years? And what role can the countries of the North, particularly those of Europe, play in this process? The primary responsibility for the development of the developing countries rests, of course, on themselves. But it is obvious that their efforts in this direction cannot succeed without a favourable external environment. The elimination of poverty and the development of the impoverished regions of the world are now widely accepted as international obligations.

#### FLOW OF RESOURCES

Urgent action is needed to bring about a substantial increase in the flow of resources to developing countries, both to meet their short-term balance of payments needs as well as for their longterm re-<pg-148>

quirements. They must be enabled to solve their acute balance of payments problems without hampering the process of their development. This calls for a substantial increase in global liquidity on a scale commensurate with the requirements of the world economy. There is also urgent need for a massive transfer of resources to developing countries on concessional terms, both through bilateral as well as multilateral channels. What we need is another Marshall Plan. The entire attitude to development assistance requires a fundamental change. Those who look upon it as charity will inevitably miss the expected gratitude from its beneficiaries. Those who view it as a means for earning political support or for creating spheres of influence will be disappointed with the meagre results. An immediate requirement is for each developed country to meet the internationally accepted target of providing 0.7% of its GNP as Official Development Assistance. While some European countries have attained or even surpassed this target, others are lagging far behind. Equally urgent is the task of providing adequate resources for the multilateral agencies, notably IDA.

It is a matter of profound disappointment for us in the South that the recent decision for its replenishment limits IDA VII to a level of \$ 9 billion which is lower even in nominal terms than the level of \$ 12 billion for IDA VI. Is this not an anomalous situation considering that according to the management of IDA at least \$ 16 billion are needed to meet its minimum requirements? I know that many European countries are willing to go considerably beyond the present level of IDA VII. I would urge them to continue their efforts in this direction. I hope a way can be found soon to provide additional resources to enable IDA not only to bring about an increase in real terms in the flow of resources to existing borrowers over the level of IDA VI, but also to meet the requirements of new borrowers. This could be done, for example, by setting up a Supplementary Fund to which countries who were ready to make higher donations to IDA VII could contribute.

A related issue is that of bringing about a process of adjustment which is just and equitable and which places a symmetrical burden on countries which have deficits in their balance of payments and those which have surpluses.

#### ADJUSTMENT PROCESS

In recent years the adjustment process has been weak with a continuing pattern of large balance of payments deficits. It has also been asymmetric with much of the burden of adjustment being placed on deficit countries. International financial institutions have little authority either over surplus countries or over

reserve currency countries even if the latter are running large deficits. This asymmetry in the way in which the burdens of adjustment are distributed needs to be corrected before the process of adjustment can become effective. It is not enough for deficit developing countries to try to take measures to eliminate their deficits unless other countries also take corrective measures to support the adjustment programmes of the deficit countries and make them feasible. After all one country's deficit is some other country's surplus and both sides of the equation must be addressed. This would require a significant reorientation of the present financial and monetary system.

#### AREA OF TRADE

In the area of trade, the growing trend towards protectionism needs to be reversed. Developed countries must assume a firm commitment to a standstill on protectionism. They must initiate action to dismantle existing barriers against imports from developing countries and bring about the necessary structural changes in their economies so as to obviate the need for protectionist measures. Despite the obligations assumed by them in international forums such as GATT, many European countries continue to maintain restrictions against the products of developing countries. Some of these restrictions - such as those in the area of textiles - are not only inconsistent with the provisions of GATT but particularly affect some of the poorest developing countries, especially the weakest sections of their societies. Does it make sense for the advanced countries of Europe, with their professed attachment <pg-149>

to the concept of free markets, to clamp down restrictions on imports from poor developing countries, in a bid to protect their inefficient and non-competitive industries? Would it not be in their long-term interests to shift out of the sectors in which they are no longer competitive and import more from developing countries, to the mutual benefit of both the producers in developing countries as well as the consumers in developed countries who now bear the burden of protecting inefficient industries?

#### INTERNATIONAL TRADE

While I am on this subject I wish to dispel a common misconception about the position of developing countries in international trade. Public opinion in many developed countries is unable to appreciate the unwillingness - indeed the inability - of developing countries to offer reciprocal concessions in international trade negotiations. It needs to be understood that developing countries are obliged to maintain trade restrictions for balance of payments reasons. They must channel their scarce foreign exchange resources to meet the essential requirements of their developments. The level of their imports is determined not by factors such as customs tariffs but by their purchasing power. If you wish to sell more to us what you must seek is not reciprocal concessions in trade negotiations but effective steps to increase the availability of our external resources which, in turn, could be ensured only through additional imports from developing countries and increased flow of resources to them. Thus, whichever way one looks at the matter, pulling down barriers in developed countries against exports from developing countries becomes central and crucial.

### FAIR PRICES

Effective international action is needed to stabilise commodity markets and to ensure fair prices. Developing countries must be enabled to earn more from the export of their commodities by ensuring their increased participation in the processing, marketing and transportation of their products. Unfortunately many developed countries, including some countries of Europe, continue to take a negative attitude in international negotiations towards these ends.

Many developing countries are facing critical problems due to lack of resources for meeting the vital needs of their people for such essential requirments as food, energy and essential consumer goods. They require assistance not only to meet their immediate balance of payments needs but also for increasing food production, for the development of their energy resources and for rapid industrialisation.

These are some of the areas in which international action is vitally needed as a matter of utmost urgency. However, since most of the problems we face are structural in nature, their longerterm solution requires that the immediate measures of the type I have described be accompanied by efforts for a thorough-going restructuring of the present international economic system and the establishment of a New International Economic Order based on justice and equity. It is a matter of serious concern that despite efforts over the past four years or so, the procedural hurdles to the launching of Global Negotiations have not yet been overcome. We have suggested a new two-phase approach at the New Delhi Non-Aligned Summit. This approach aims at taking up in the first phase those issues which do not present any procedural problems and to begin simultaneously efforts to resolve these problems so that the remaining issues can be taken up in Phase-II. It is our earnest hope that this would meet with a positive response so that the long awaited steps can at last be taken towards our common goal.

#### COMPREHENSIVE REFORM

The need for a comprehensive reform of the international monetary and financial system is even more urgent. To this end we have called for an International Conference on Money and Finance for Development with universal participation. It is now widely recognised that the present system, which was established four decades ago, is no longer able to meet the changed requirements of today. The system was devised at a time when most of the deve-<pg-150>

loping countries did not exist as independent nations. Even from the point of view of developed countries, the situation today is vastly different from what it was in 1945 when the Bretton Woods institutions were established. For example, the system of fixed exchange rates, which was fundamental to the Bretton Woods system has been abandoned. Erratic movements in exchange rates have had serious consequences on trade and investment generally, with a particularly severe impact on developing countries.

Exchange rate stability has been seriously disturbed by the lack of synchronisation in the economic and monetary policies followed by major reserve currency countries. Violent and at times contrary movements in interest rates in the major developed countries have led to a great degree of volatility in the exchange rate markets. All this has created serious problems for developed countries as well. These countries have, therefore, themselves recognised the need for a comprehensive reform of the existing system which would be in the mutual interest of all countries. President Mitterand of France, for example, has also called for an international Monetary Conference.

Work is now proceeding in various forums of both developed and developing countries to examine the issues involved. We on our part have set up an expert group, as a follow-up of the Nonaligned proposal, which is expected to present a report soon on the deficiencies of the existing system, possible ways of overcoming them and the modalities and agenda of the proposed conference. I hope this report will become a basis for initiating the much needed dialogue between the North and the South on these issues. We particularly look forward to a positive response to our ideas from the countries of Europe. There are many areas in which our interests are common, such as those to which I have referred, namely the havoc caused by volatile exchange rates, the effects of domestic policies, particularly monetary policies followed by some countries and the costs imposed by high interest rates.

#### DISARMAMENT

I have spoken earlier about the link between disarmament and development. How can we hope to fulfil our dreams of development if vast resources continue to be squandered on armaments. Studies have amply demonstrated the catalytic effects of disarmament. Even if a fraction of the resources released by disarmament can be diverted for development, this can give a tremendous boost to our efforts to improve the lot of the poor. As the military sector is capital intensive, the diversion of resources from the military to the civilian sector will also contribute to an increase in employment. Some have argued that disarmament would not automatically release funds for development. In my view this is a futile argument. No one can dispute the fact that the race to produce ever more destructive arms is making extremely onerous demands on scarce resources. Would it not be better and more rational to devise international agreements that remove the need for such arms? Any alternative use of these resources is bound to contribute to an improvement in the quality of life. The pressing need therefore is to halt the production of weapons of mass destruction that threaten our very existence.

The countries of Europe have always played an important role in international cooperation for development. They account for a major proportion of world trade, of financial flows and of technological transfers. Many of you have been particularly sympathetic to the problems of developing countries and have adopted a positive attitude to the efforts to bring about a New International Economic Order. We in South would like to see you provide a more dynamic leadership on the side of the developed world so as to give the much needed impetus to the North-South dialogue which has been stalled for too long.

#### LOME CONVENTION

An important manifestation of the close cooperation between Europe and the South is the special relationship which the developing countries of Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific enjoy with the members of the European Economic Commu-<pg-151>

nity. There are any features of the Lome Convention which could usefully be emulated by other developed countries in their relations with developing countries. I hope that the negotiations now in progress for Lome III will not only further improve the basis for cooperation between the EEC and the ACP countries but also devise practical means for strengthening the links between these countries and other developing countries. This could be achieved, for example, by opening up the programmes of cooperation under the Lome Convention to the participation of other developing countries. This would be an imaginative manifestation of the concept of interdependence by promoting not only North-South but also South-South cooperation.

#### COUNCIL OF EUROPE

Mr. President, this year marks the 25th anniversary of the establishment of the Council of Europe. During this period the Council has made an outstanding contribution to the cause of unity among its members. It has promoted their economic and social progress based on their common heritage. One of its important objectives has been the safeguarding of human rights and the overall improvement of the human condition. Its distinguished line of leadership, from Mr. Paul-Henri Spaak to yourself, Sir, has given it a stature commensurate with its objectives. As you know we in India attach equal value to the democratic process and to the dignity of man. We have been engaged in efforts to bring about human progress in a manner consistent with these ideals not only within our country but also at the global level in concert with others.

The Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe deserves our deep appreciation and gratitude for arranging this conference which will expose eminent personalities and leaders of public opinion from all over Europe to the problems and concerns of their less fortunate brethren in the developing regions of the world. The Conference would have served its purpose if it promotes a better understanding of our mutual problems and strengthens our resolve to work together for our common good. I assure you of the fullest cooperation of the Non-Aligned Movement in the accomplishment of your noble tasks.

RTUGAL INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC MACEDONIA TOTO RUSSIA YUGOSLAVIA FRANCE

### **Date** : Apr 09, 1984

## Volume No

1995

#### PRIME MINISTER'S FOREIGN VISIT

Statement in Lok Sabha

The Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi, made the following statement in the Lok Sabha on Apr 06, 1984, on the eve of her visit abroad:

Hon. Members know of the proposal for my visits to Libya, Tunisia, Algeria and Egypt. This was in response to invitations which had been extended and accepted a long time ago. Libya and Tunisia have not been visited by any Indian President or Prime Minister, and they have been reminding us that such visits were overdue.

These four are important members of the world community and prominent in the Non-aligned Movement. We have always had close relations with them and have shared assessment with them on important international development. We also have increasing mutually advantageous economic relations with these countries. The object of my visits was to strengthen our bilateral relations as also to discuss common courses of action regarding the deterioration of the situation in West Asia and elsewhere. In spite of the importance of <pg-152>

the subjects to be discussed, since the House is in session and events in our country need close watch, the stay in each country was anyhow to be short, a day or two in each capital.

Owing to the situation in Punjab, we did consider postponment of these visits. However, it was felt that it is too late to cancel the visits to Libya and Tunisia which are to begin tomorrow. It has now been decided to visit these two countries from the 7th to 9th April and to postpone the visits to Algeria and Egypt for the time being.

The Governments of Algeria and Egypt have been most understanding and have agreed to my coming at a later date soon. We are grateful to them for their helpfulness.

The House knows that wherever I am, I am kept in constant touch with developments at home and receive all essential papers. It is my sincere hope that all sections of the people of Punjab will work together for countering the distrust and violence.

It will be my privilege to carry the greetings and good wishes of the Indian people and of their elected representatives in this august House to the Governments and peoples of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and the Republic of Tunisia.

### BYA ALGERIA EGYPT TUNISIA INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date** : Apr 06, 1984

## Volume No

1995

QATAR

Agreement on Economic Cooperation

The following is the text of a Press release issued in New Delhi on Apr 19, 1984 on the India-Qatar agreement on economic and technical cooperation:

The Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the State of Qatar, desiring to strengthen the friendly ties between the two states and their people, animated with the desire of promoting economic and technical cooperation, aware of the need and usefulness of developing longterm cooperation between the two countries in the economic and technical fields, have agreed as follows:

### ARTICLE-I

The two parties undertake to promote, facilitate and strengthen the economic and technical cooperation between the two countries in a spirit of friendship in conformity with laws and regulations applicable in their respective countries and in pursuance of the principle of mutual benefit, according to the following provisions:

### ARTICLE-II

The two parties shall endeavour to promote economic and technical cooperation by taking the following measures:

a) Joint undertaking of projects of a technical and economic nature, through cooperation between concerned organisations, institutions or enterprises of the two countries on the bases laid down by special agreements which would be concluded for such purposes as may be agreed upon by the two concerned parties.

b) Collaboration between concerned organisations, institutions and enterprises of the two countries for jointly carrying out pre-investment surveys in engineering, medical, health, agricultural, tourism industrial, energy, petrochemicals, chemicals, fertilisers, pharmaceuticals, transport and communications fields or any other branches of activity where such co-

<pg-153>

operation would be considered beneficial to both parties and subject to arrangements to be mutually agreed upon.

c) Organisation of training programmes for administrative, technical and professional personnel.

d) Exchange of experts and consultants for short and long-term assignments.

e) Exchange of documentation and information as may be deemed necessary. Any technical documentation or information furnished, or collected by the bodies of one of the contracting parties to those of the other cannot be communicated to a third party without the written consent of the concerned party.

### ARTICLE-III

In order to achieve the objectives specified in Article-II, the two parties will encourage and facilitate the conclusion of arrangements between concerned organisations, institutions and enterprises of both country in conformity with laws and regulations applicable in the two countries.

### ARTICLE-IV

In order to ensure the implementation of the present Agreement, the two parties will have periodic meetings and exchanges at appropriate levels for the following purposes:

- to coordinate the several aspects of economic and technical cooperation between the two 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 may arise in the course of implementation of the Agreement and find possible solutions.

### ARTICLE-V

The two parties shall settle their differences, if any, arising out of this Agreement by friendly negotiations and consultations.

### ARTICLE-VI

This Agreement is subject to ratification and shall come into force on the date of exchange of instruments of ratification.

### ARTICLE-VII

This Agreement shall be valid for five years, starting from the date of its coming into force, and shall be automatically renewable for similar periods unless either party advises the other, in writing, of its intention to terminate the Agreement at least six months prior to the termination of any of these periods.

In case of termination of this Agreement, all outstanding obligations or other engagements under the Agreement or any other transaction under it will be duly fulfilled.

Done at New Delhi on the 19th day of April, 1984 in six originals, two in Hindi, two in Arabic and two in English, all the texts being equally authentic. In case of diversions, the English text shall prevail.

Sd./-(P. V. Narasimha Rao) Minister of External Affairs For the Government of the Republic of India.

Sd./-(Sheikh Abdul Aziz Bin Khalifa Al-Thani) Minister of Finance & Petroleum For the Government of the State of Qatar. <pg-154>

### TAR INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

### **Date** : Apr 19, 1984

## Volume No

1995

### SOVIET UNION

#### Indo-USSR Protocol Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Apr 17, 1984 on the signing of an Indo-USSR protocol for expansion of cooperation in machine building:

A protocol for the expansion of cooperation in machine building industry was signed here today between India and USSR. H.E. Mr. E. Y. Zvizhulev, Deputy Minister of Heavy and Transport Engineering USSR and Shri D. V. Kapur, Union Secretary, Department of Heavy Industry, Ministry of Industry signed the agreement on behalf of USSR and India respectively.

The protocol was signed on the conclusion of the meeting of the Indo-Soviet working group on machine building industry.

Earlier, Mr. Zvizhulev called on Shri Narayan Datt Tiwari, Union Minister for Industry to apprise him of the joint work being done by the Indo-Soviet working group on machine building industry.

During the discussions it was noted that a new thrust in cooperation is now envisaged with the expansion of the programmes of production cooperation to include public sector undertakings such as Jessops, Braithwaite and Burn Standard in addition to the ongoing cooperation with HEC and MAMC. The production cooperation would provide these units with additional work-load which will improve their viability. HEC, MAMC and BHEL expect to sign orders valued at about Rs. 30 crores with the USSR within this month. The protocol also envisages that the matter regarding long-term orders to cover the next five year plan will be examined soon.

The protocol also covers the expansion of cooperation in the field of designing and development of new industrial products jointly. The items of production cooperation which have been identified for early implementation include machine tools, mining and metallurgical equipment, motors, steel castings and production of hydro-generator sets for third countries. The protocol also provides for implementation of working programmes signed with HEC, MAMC and BHEL with corresponding USSR organizations on technology development, modernisation and improvement of designs.

During his visit to India Mr. Zvizhulev and his party visited HEC, Ranchi and Jessops, Braithwaitte and Burn Standard at Calcutta and were impressed by the work done by these organisations.

A INDIA **Date :** Apr 17, 1984

## Volume No

1995

### UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Submarine Cable between India and U.A.E.

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Apr 15, 1984 on the Memorandum of Understanding to provide submarine telephone cable:

The Governments of India and United Arab Emirates (UAE) have agreed to provide a submarine telephone cable between the two countries. A Memorandum of Understanding to this effect was signed at Bombay by Mr. Ali Salim-al-Owais, General Manager, Emirates Telecommunications Corporation, on behalf of UAE <pg-155>

and Shri K. C. Katiyar, Director General, Overseas Communications Service, on behalf of India. The Agreement is the culmination of joint studies and coordination between Emiratel and Overseas Communications Service which has been going on for quite some time. Presiding over a function arranged on the occasion, Shri K. Thomas Kora, Secretary, Ministry of Communications, said that the submarine cables are as much an essential element of international telecommunications as the satellite system. In the Atlantic and Pacific Ocean areas, a number of such cables already exist and more are being laid. In the Indian Ocean area, the first Broad-Band Cable, IOCOM between India and Malaysia became operational in 1981. Since then a number of new cables have been planned for implementation, India-UAE Cable being one of them. A microwave link of international performance standards has also been planned between Bombay and Madras which inter alia will link this cable with IOCOM and facilitate transit operation of countries East and West of India.

Mr. Ali Salim-al-Owais expressed his appreciation of the cooperation extended by the Government of India and OCS and said that it is not only India and UAE that would be linked through this cable but it has the potential of linking a number of other countries of the region.

The India-UAE Cable will be approximately 1100 N.M. long. It will have a capacity of around 1200 telephone circuits and it will be ready for operation in three years' time.

The submarine cables are laid with the help of special ships fitted for the purpose. Once laid, they rest at the bottom of the sea several kilometers deep alongwith their repeaters which are provided at intervals of a few kilometers. The repeaters amplify the signals which undergo attenuation after travelling the intervening length of the cable. The shore ends supply power to the repeaters through the cable and monitor their performance. The submarine cable systems are specially manufactured to achieve an extremely high level of reliability of operation in an inaccessible and difficult environment.

# ITED ARAB EMIRATES INDIA MALAYSIA TOTO RUSSIA **Date :** Apr 15, 1984

## Volume No

1995

### YUGOSLAVIA

Educational and Cultural Cooperation

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

on Apr 04, 1984 on the programme of educational and cultural cooperation between India and Yugoslavia:

A programme of educational and cultural cooperation between India and Yugoslavia for the period ending December 31, 1985 was signed here today. Prof. C. L. Anand, Joint Educational Adviser, Ministry of Education and Culture, signed on behalf of the Government of India and H.E. Mr. Danilo Bilanovic, Ambassador of Yugoslavia, signed on behalf of his Government.

cipation in language seminars; exchange of exhibitions, literary, cultural, educational and scientific material and publications, art publications, etc.; participation in each other's cultural events and festivals, seminars and book fairs, etc.; and organisation of film weeks and participation in film festivals.

The programme also envisages cooperation between concerned institutions in the field of workers' participation and selfmanagement in enterprises. <pp-157>

GOSLAVIA INDIA USA **Date :** Apr 04, 1984

May

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**Date :** May 01, 1984

## Volume No

1995

#### ALGERIA

Protocol on Water Resources Development Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 15, 1984 on the signing in New Delhi of an Indo-Algerian protocol on cooperation in water resources development:

A protocol covering areas of cooperation between India and Algeria in the fields of water resources development and environment was signed here today. Shri D. W. Telang, Additional Secretary in the Ministry of Irrigation, signed the protocol on behalf of the Government of India while Mr. Chegnane Abdelkader, Director General (Planning), Ministry of Hydraulics, Environment and Forests, People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, who was leading a three-member delegation signed on behalf of the Algerian Government. The Algerian delegation's visit was arranged within the framework of the Indo-Algerian Joint Commission.

The protocol has identified dams, hydro-agricultural projects, water supply and sanitation and ground water development as the major areas of Indo-Algerian joint participation and cooperation.

The Algerian side agreed that the Water and Power Consultancy Services (India) Limited (WAPCOS), a public undertaking under the Ministry of Irrigation, will act as the nodal agency to provide con sultancy services in the above fields.

The two sides agreed to develop cooperation in specific fields by deputing and exchanging experts, particularly for studies and research. They also agreed to develop cooperation between the Algerian design offices and WAPCOS.

The Algerian delegation invited established Indian contracting firms to participate in the bids for construction of water resources projects within the framework of existing bidding procedures and principles of competition.

GERIA INDIA LATVIA

**Date** : May 15, 1984

## Volume No

1995

BURMA

Text of Shri Rao's Speech at Dinner in Honour of Foreign Minister of Burma

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 08, 1984 of the speech by the Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, at a dinner hosted by him in honour of His Excellency U Chit Hlaing, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma in New Delhi on May 8,

#### 1984:

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you and the members of your delegation to India. The visit of friends from a neighbouring country is a special joy as pg-159>

it revives our long traditional association and helps strengthen further the bonds which geography, history and culture have woven together. With Burma our contacts go back through millennia. There have been exchanges and synthesis of thoughts and ideas which have manifested themselves in the magnificent temples and pagodas of Pagan in the central region of your great country. The same spirit of harmony and mutuality of reflection should prevail today between our two countries.

Excellency, a nation marches ahead in the direction which is determined by its socio-cultural mileu, its vision of the future and its enlightened leadership. India and Burma were fortunate in having men of the stature of Mahatma Gandhi and Gen. Aung San at the helm of the freedom struggles in our countries. Today in India we are engaged in a determined effort to bring about a social order where fruits of modern science and technology would be available to all, but not at the expense of cultural and traditional values, distancing people from the roots from which they draw its vitality. I know that this is something which has been and continues to be very close to the hearts of the Burmese people and Government. We both have chosen a similar path towards a self-reliant growth. This path is not without hardships and sacrifices: but its results give confidence and self-respect to our people.

It is particularly important for countries like ours to preserve their sense of history and maintain their traditional independent outlook. There are attempts being made to accentuate divisions in an already divided world. Solutions are sought to be foisted on parts of the world, which are irrelevant to their needs. As a result, there is drift and uncertainty. The waters of the Indian Ocean, which wash our shores, are far from being a zone of peace, thirteen years after the United Nations General Assembly proclaimed them so.

#### NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER

In the dialogue on establishing the new international economic order, the North seems to be becoming increasingly self-centred and unmindful of the need for inter-dependence. They very modest targets and the changes requested by the developing countries have not been accepted.

In these circumstances, what should we, as independent, selfreliant developing countries do? The answer is quite clear. We must increasingly cooperate with each other; in unity there is vigour and promise. In the Group of 77, of which both our countries are members, there has been a heartening trend towards ECDC. This is a must, and we must do all we can to promise it.

Excellency, neighbourhood is often the result of geographical accident. But the awareness and concern our nations share transcends this. The Indian National Congress came into being in the year that saw the annexation of Burma. It is a reflection of both the vision of the Indian National Congress and the enduring affinity between our peoples that the very first foreign policy resolution of the Congress dwelt on the Burmese question.

In the century since, that feeling and affection have been enlarged and enhanced. But much remains still to be done. Let us, Excellency, resolve to let intensify the effort.

#### **RABINDRANATH TAGORE**

Excellency, today we celebrate the birth anniversary of our national poet Laureate, Rabindranath Tagore, a number of whose works have been devoted to themes based on Buddhist legends. At the very start of one of these, "Natir Puja", he invokes the refrain articulated during the lifetime of the Enlightened one:

"Our world today is wild with the anguish of hatred, The conflicts are cruel, and unceasing in their sorrow,

Crooked are its paths, tangled its bonds of greed."

Let us, Excellency, strive together for a world where the bonds of trust will prove more enduring than those of greed. Let us bring to mind King Alaung's prayer, etched in the Golden Cave Pagoda of Burma's great city of Pagan: "Tamed, I would tame the wilful; comforted, comfort <pg-160>

the timid; cool, cool the burning; awakened, wake those who sleep."

Together, we can work for that healing touch in a world scarred by the memory and the threat of conflict. Together we can help recapture some of the gentle and the good, the free and unfettered, making what seems distant and intangible almost immediate and palpable, like the first golden hues of sunrise cresting the Arakan Hills.

May I now request you, ladies and gentlemen, to raise your glasses in a toast to our distinguished guest and the members of his delegation, to the courageous and determined people of Burma and to their friendship with their neighbour, India.

#### RMA INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

## Volume No

1995

#### BURMA

Text of U Chit Hlaing's Speech

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 09, 1984, of the speech by His Excellency U Chit Hlaing, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma at a dinner hosted in his honour by the Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao:

I am most grateful to Your Excellency for your friendly words of welcome to me and my delegation and for hosting this splendid dinner for us. We are deeply moved by the warm and generous hospitality extended to us in your country.

It gives me very real pleasure to visit India. I thank Your Excellency for the invitation which has made this possible. The ties of friendship and goodwill between Burma and India are longstanding. But even in the realm of friends, these ties are much too valuable to be taken for granted or left unattended.

Excellency, India is a country which, by virtue of its ancient civilization and its courageous efforts towards economic development, occupies a highly esteemed position among the nations of the world. Any visitor to India cannot but be impressed with the determination with which it is translating aspirations into achievements. We feel much inspired by the accomplishments and constructive efforts of your country. We have also watched with interest the manner in which India has dealt with many acute problems of recent times.

Excellency, in conclusion, I would like to express my full confidence that the discussions we have, have been most conducive to enlarge the area of understanding between our two countries and pave the way for more fruitful relations.

Permit me to thank you again for the very warm reception given to us and to express my very best wishes for the peace, progress and prosperity of the people of India.

Excellencies, distinguished. guests and friends, may I now invite you to join me in a toast: to the health and well-being of His Excellency Shri Zail Singh, President of the Republic of India; to the health and well-being of Her Excellency Shrimati Indira Gandhi, Prime Minister of the Republic of India; to the progress and prosperity of the people of the Republic of India; to lasting friendship between the peoples of Burma and India; to the health and happiness of my kind host, His Excellency Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao; and to the health and happiness of the distinguished guests and friends present here. <pp-161>

RMA INDIA USA **Date :** May 09, 1984

## Volume No

1995

#### CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Protocol on Eleventh Session of Indo-Czechoslovak Joint Committee

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 24, 1984 on the protocol of the 11th session of the Indo-Czechoslovak Joint Committee:

Specific projects for industrial and technical cooperation have been identified by the Indo-Czechoslovak Joint Committee which met here in New Delhi from May 21 to May 24. These include engineering enterprises such as modernisation of forging presses of HEC, collaboration in the manufacture of tractors by HMT and power equipment, cooperation with BHEL. It is hoped that increased collaboration in these areas will escalate the total trade turn-over to a much higher level.

The protocol also covered cooperation between the two countries in the fields of science and technology and electronics.

The leader of the Indian delegation Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh, Minister of Commerce and Supply and the leaders of the Czechoslovak delegation, H.E. Mr. B. Urban, Minister of Foreign Trade of Czechoslovakia, signed the protocol at the conclusion of the discussions.

The expansion and diversification of bilateral trade was discussed in detail and it was agreed that Indian exports to Czechoslovakia particularly of non-traditional and manufacture products should be increased.

Greater efforts should also be made to increase Czechoslovak

exports of plant, machinery and equipment to India for the generation of more rupee resources and promotion of Indian exports.

The two sides also stressed the importance of having a long-term trade plan on the expiry of the current long-term plan in 1985 and also the need to have long-term contracting arrangements for import and export of specific items essential to the economies of the two countries as emphasised. The Joint Committee also agreed in principle to continue the rupee trading arrangements between the two countries and renew the trade and payments agreement for the continuance of such arrangements for another five years.

In the field of industrial cooperation the Joint Committee discussed in detail the possibilities for expansion of industrial collaboration between the two countries. The Czechoslovak side showed their keenness to supply medium merchants structural mill and universal beam mill for Visakhapatnam project and participation in the gas pipeline project through supply of pipes, compressor houses etc. The Czechoslovak side also evinced interest in the extension of the Kadana Hydro Power Station in collaboration with BHEL, particularly in view of their association with the first two units of this project. The Joint Committee also discussed in detail the collaboration arrangements which the Czechoslovak side is having with BHEL, HAC, HMT, Zetor Tractors, Ideal Jawa (India) and textile machinery manufacturers. THIRD COUNTRY MARKETS

The two sides affirmed the importance of cooperation in third country markets in the expansion of mutual trade and economic relations and agreed to identify potential areas and encourage their respective organisations to pursue the possibilities of cooperation in the identified areas.

During the course of discussions the Czechoslovak side also indicated their readiness to enter into concrete discussions for collaboration in the production of hydraulic vibrating road rollers, geological survey, production of concrete poles and production of diesel generating sets and diesel electric locomotivs.

Both sides agreed that long-term contracts for certain commodities may serve <pp-162>

as an additional instrument aimed at further promotion of mutual trade. The sides will encourage the respective organisations to enter into concrete discussions in this respect. The Czechoslovak side suggested that oil pipes (casings), steel sheets, urea etc. might be suitable commodities for long-term contracts. Similarly, the Indian side suggested that iron ore and concentrates, textiles, oil seed extractions etc. might be suitable commodities for export from India on long-term basis. The two sides reviewed the existing status of scientific and technological cooperation between India and Czechoslovakia. It was felt that effective measures should continue to be taken to promote scientific and technological interaction between the two countries. This will be in the form of exchange of visits of scientists, participation in symposia and conferences organised in India and Czechoslovakia, and collaborative programme in areas of mutual interest. It is recommended that official level delegations of the two countries meet in order to discuss and formulate a programme of scientific and technological cooperation and its implementation.

#### MUTUAL TRADE

The delegations reviewed the performance of the mutual trade exchanges during 1983-84 and the wide ranging fields of Indo-Czechoslovak co-operation.

It was agreed that the next session of the Joint Committee will be held in Prague after about a year to review the implementation of recommendations/suggestions made at this session of the Joint Committee and to discuss new possibilities of expanding and strengthening Indo-Czechoslovak commercial and economic relations.

# RWAY SLOVAKIA INDIA USA RUSSIA CZECH REPUBLIC **Date :** May 24, 1984

## Volume No

1995

#### CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Increased Collaboration Essential to Dynamise Trade

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 21, 1984 on the inauguration of the 11th Session of Indo-Czechoslovak joint committee:

Increased collaboration in the fields of science and technology, industry, electronics and energy could help considerably to further dynamise trade between India and Czechoslovakia. Although the total trade turn-over had doubled in 1982, from the turn-over in 1980, reaching the target fixed for 1985, three years earlier, the possibilities for increasing bilateral trade still remained large. Speaking at the plenary session of the 11th Indo-Czechoslovak Joint Committee, the two Chairmen, Shri V. P. Singh, Union Commerce Minister, and H.E. Mr. Ing. Hohumil Urban, Minister for Foreign Trade of Czechoslovakia shared a common perception on the potentialities of higher trade between their countries. Shri Abid Hussain, Commerce Secretary, H.E. Ing. V. Svic, Deputy Minister, Ministry of

Heavy Engineering and Metallurgy, representatives of the Ministries of Finance, External Affairs, Science and Technology and Department of Electronics, and members of the Czechoslovak delegation were also present at the meeting.

Diversification of India's exports to Czechoslovakia was necessary to give a new direction to the trade pattern. Elaborating on this, Shri V. P. Singh brought to the notice of the visiting delegation, India's progress in the industrial field. The wide range of industrial products, he felt, offered adequate scope for identification for import by Czechoslovakia. This would fulfil the decision of the last Joint Commission's meeting to diversify Indian exports to include value-added engineering items, manufactured products and consumer durables.

Cooperation in third countries was emphasised by the Commerce Minister. This could range from joint exploration of third country market to setting up projects. Third-country cooperation could become <pg-163>

one of the major areas of activity between India and Czechoslovakia. The Minister specified areas for consideration such as joint production of tractors in Burma, and three-country production amongst Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia and India. Other areas pointed out included refineries, power generation, sugar mills, cement and textile plants. Expertise, technology and experince in these fields could be shared for more meaningful cooperation. West Asia, Africa and Asia were areas where thirdcountry cooperation could be explored.

The Commerce Minister commended Czechoslovakian expertise in engineering. Certain areas, he felt, could be located for joint cooperation in this sector.

#### ELECTRONICS

Economic cooperation in other areas such as electronics and science and technology also offered scope for growth. The commercial relations between the two countries had gone beyond a mere exchange of commodities and collaboration in industry and projects would provide an atmosphere and the funds for dynamising the bilateral trade. Production cooperation and production sharing would generate more rupee funds so that Czechoslovakian imports from India could move away from traditional items and semi-manufactured goods.

The new long-term trade agreement which is to be signed this year was mentioned and both the Ministers felt that manufactured goods exported from India could be included in the new agreement.

Mr. Bohumil Urban, Minister for Foreign Trade of Czechoslovakia, also expressed his country's desire to maximise economic cooperation and hoped that the present session of the Joint Committee would identify areas for increasing the trade turnover. He further hoped that the Joint Commission would concretise and realise ideas exchanged at earlier meetings and help renew the dynamism and positive trend of trade. He referred to longterm contracting in certain items such as fertilizers, generating sets, printing machineries, tractors, electric locomotives, black

and white TV tubes, gas pipes and iron and steel products. These ideas could be reflected in the protocol.

#### BALANCED TRADE

The Czechoslovak Minister commended the evenly balanced trade between the two countries, but hoped for proportional dynamism. He stated that he understood and shared India's interest in transfer of technology, training of technicians and collaboration upto the point of full introduction and phasing of production plants. Being a traditional supplier of engineering and petrochemical equipment he hoped India would partake of their expertise in these areas. He expressed his country's willingness and interest in participation in third-country projects, but he felt it was essential to identify such areas and then encourage business firms from both countries to meet.

He invited the Commerce Minister to visit Czechoslovakia later this year and pointed out that frequent exchanges at such levels were useful.

Responding to the Czechoslovakian Minister, the Commerce Minister promised to interact with other Ministries in India to convey the Czechoslovakian interest in steel, refineries, down-stream plants of gas, etc.

#### INDO-CZECHOSLOVAK TRADE

Czechoslovakia is an important trade partner of India amongst the East European countries. The first formal trade agreement between the two countries was signed in 1959. Thereafter, the first five-year trade and payments agreement providing for bilateral, balanced trade in non-convertible Indian rupees was signed in 1963 and has been renewed thrice. The present trade and payments agreement which was signed in December, 1979 is valid upto December 31, 1984.

Since the signing of the first trade agreement, the volume of Indo-Czechoslovak trade has grown steadily. It has increased from Rs. 47 crores in 1963 to Rs. 66 crores in 1973 and reached a record level of Rs. 162 crores in 1982. <pp-164>

More than three quarters of India's imports from Czechoslovakia consist of engineering products, the remaining consist of chemical products and other goods. Main items of imports thus are steel and steel products; seamless pipes; tubes and casings; machine tools; ball bearings; diesel generating sets; organic and inorganic chemicals; textile machinery; shoe-making, tanning and leather making machinery; components and spares 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 yarns, iron ore, jute manufactures, tanned and semi-tanned hides and skins, mica, manganese ore, castor oil and shellac. Traditional items constitute about 60 per cent of the total exports from India to Czechoslovakia.

The trade plan for 1984 (January-December) was concluded on November 16, 1983, at New Delhi. The plan envisages a total turnover of Rs. 411 crores (imports from Czechoslovakia being Rs. 196 crores, and exports to that country being Rs. 215 crores). It aims at increasing the trade turn-over by 6.5 per cent as compared to the target set in 1983.

# RWAY SLOVAKIA INDIA USA RUSSIA BURMA YUGOSLAVIA **Date :** May 21, 1984

## Volume No

1995

#### DISARMAMENT

Immediate Nuclear Freeze Urged

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 22, 1984 on the call by the Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi and five other world leaders' call for disarmament:

Shrimati Indira Gandhi, Prime Minister of India, Mr. Olof Palme, Prime Minister of Sweden; Mr. Andreas Papandreou, Prime Minister of Greece; Mr. Julius Nyerere, President of Tanzania; Mr. Miguel de la Madrid, President of Mexico and Dr. Raul Alfonsin, President of Argentina have decided to make a joint appeal to the five nuclear weapon states - USA, USSR, China, UK and France for a halt to all testing, production and deployment of nuclear weapons and their delivery systems to be immediately followed by substantial reductions in nuclear forces.

The initiative for this move has come from Parliamentarians for World Order, an international organization which brings together Parliamentarians from over 50 countries. The appeal is being issued by these leaders in their respective capitals today.

Shrimati Indira Gandhi has also recorded the appeal for All India Radio and Doordarshan. Following is the text of the appeal:

"Today, the survival of humankind is in jeopardy. The escalating arms race, the rise in international tensions and the lack of constructive dialogue among the nuclear weapons States has increased the risk of nuclear war. Such a war, even using part of the present stockpiles, would bring death and destruction to all peoples.

As leaders of nations, member states of the United Nations, we have a commitment to take constructive action towards halting and reversing the nuclear arms race. The people we represent are no less threatened by nuclear war than the citizens of the nuclear weapons States. It is primarily the responsibility of the nuclear weapon States to prevent a nuclear catas-cpg-165>

trophe, but this problem is too important to be left to those States alone.

#### INTERESTS OF PEACE

We come from different parts of the globe, with differences in religion, culture and political systems. But we are united in the conviction that there must not be another world war. On this, the most crucial of all issues, we have resolved to make a common effort in the interests of peace.

Agreements which merely regulate an arms build-up are clearly insufficient. The probability of nuclear holocaust increases and warning time decreases and the weapons become swifter, more accurate and more deadly. The rush towards global suicide must be stopped and then reversed. We urge, as a necessary first step the United States and the Soviet Union, as well as the United Kingdom, France and China to halt all testing, production and deployment of nuclear weapons and their delivery systems, to be immediately followed by substantial reductions in nuclear forces. We are convinced that it is possible to work out the details of an arrangement along these lines that takes into account the interests and concerns of all, and contains adequate measures for verification. This first step must be followed by a continuing programme of arms reductions leading to general and complete disarmament, accompanied by measures to strengthen the United Nations system and to ensure an urgently needed transfer of substantial resources from the arms race into social and economic development. The essential goal must be to reduce and then eliminate the risk of war between nations.

#### OBJECTIVE

We will do everything in our power to facilitate ageement among the nuclear weapons States. We will continue to keep in touch with one another about the best ways and means of achieving this objective. We will be consulting with the leaders of the nuclear weapons States and with other world leaders as well as pursuing discussions through United Nations channels.

We affirm our belief in detente and mutual understanding, with broad international co-operation and respect for the right of each State to a peaceful, secure and independent existence and of the right of each people to organize its life according to its own aspirations. There can be no assurance of safety for one side only. That is why we attach such importance to a halt in the nuclear arms race that allows for renewed talks on nuclear disarmament.

#### COMMON SECURITY

All people have an overriding interest in common security and the avoidance of a nuclear war which threatens human survival. Citizens throughout the world are expressing, as never before, their concern for the future; this public discussion of peace and disarmament must continue and increase. The support and encouragement of an informed public will greatly strengthen governmental action to reverse the nuclear arms race.

We have faith in the capacity of human beings to rise above the current divisions and create a world free from the shadow of nuclear war. The power and ingenuity of the human race must be used, not to perfect weapons of annihilation, but to harness the resources of the earth so that all people may enjoy a life of security and dignity in an international system free of war and based on peace and justice.

Today, the world hangs in the balance between war and peace. We hope that our combined efforts will help to influence the outcome." <pp-166>

## DIA SWEDEN GREECE TANZANIA USA MEXICO SPAIN ARGENTINA CHINA FRANCE UNITED KINGDOM

**Date** : May 22, 1984

## Volume No

1995

#### DISARMAMENT

Prime Minister's Interview with NBC and CBS

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 23, 1984 on the Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi's interview to NBC and CBS:

In connection with the call for disarmament issued yesterday by Shrimati Indira Gandhi with five other world leaders, NBC and CBS network of the United States had interviews with her via satellite which were telecast live in the US (on the morning of May 22, 1984).

The transcripts of the interviews are as follows:

#### INTERVIEW BY MS. JANE PAULEY OF NBC OF THE UNITED STATES

Question: Good morning, Prime Minister. Do you think that the super powers are heading for nuclear war?

Prime Minister: They are certainly in the midst of a confrontation, which is not getting any better. And if you stockpile nuclear weapons, we fear they may be used, deliberately or by accident.

Question: Do you feel that we are at least in an unprecedented period of danger?

Prime Minister: Eminent scientists, American as well as Russian, predict a nuclear winter if nuclear warfare does break out.

Question: Neither side surely want the war - neither the Soviet nor the American. What kind of scenerio do you see that could trigger a nuclear attack? Is the Iran-Iraq confrontation sort of a flash-point perhaps?

Prime Minister: No, I wouldn't say so. But one can't tell. I entirely agree with you that neither the American people nor the Soviet people want war. I think by and large millions all over the world want peace and to be able to live their lives in harmonious conditions. But you know tension is growing and suspicion and fear. This is creating an atmosphere which is entirely devoid of goodwill. Question: How would you propose to bring the two parties together again to the negotiating table in Geneva without either one losing...?

Prime Minister: Actually that is for them to work out. All we can do is to try and persuade them and to voice the opinion of millions of people who would like some way to be found. As you know, the people concerned right now are the Heads of the States and Governments from different parts of the world who don't necessarily have the same system or opinions about various things but feel passionately for peace and for avoidance of any kind of world war. I know that this feeling is shared by people of all ages, all races and all nationalities. Now, somehow we have to give it a thrust so that it makes an impact. This was begun by the Parliamentarians for World Order. As you know, Parliaments are influential and important bodies and perhaps their members, if they take up this cause earnestly can make an impact.

Question: Who do you think is more to blame for the current impasse - the Kremlin or the White House?

#### PEACE-MAKERS

Prime Minister: Well, that would be very unfair. We are not here to blame or to find fault but to try to find a way out. We are peace-makers rather than faultfinders.

Question: If this initiative fails, do you think that there could be a nuclear war in our life time?

Prime Minister: I certainly hope not. And I don't think we should be discouraged with the failure of one initiative because there are many forums and groups and movements who are active in different ways. This is just one more effort. And if you are working for something good, you keep right on working at it.

Interviewer: Thank you very much, Madam Prime Minister. <pg-167>

#### INTERVIEW BY Ms. DIANA SAWIER OF CBS, USA

Question: Do you have a feeling that there will be a nuclear war?

Prime Minister: I think all the world does feel threatened today. What we read in American journals as well as those from other countries shows that many share that feeling of threat and menace. Nobody can prophecy whether there will be (a war) and we hope and pray that there won't be.

Question: Is it the possibility that makes you personally anxious?

Prime Minister: I am anxious. I happen to think that this world

is a beautiful one and the human race has done much to make it more beautiful in many ways, and we would like it to continue.

Question: Your group has called for a number of steps. You have called the super powers to halt testing, and deployment of any nuclear weapons at all... You have called for complete disarmament. What reasons do you have to believe that the White House or the Kremlin are ready to accept the call from these nations when the previous call, say, from the Non-Aligned, which you head, have proved of no avail?

Prime Minister: We are appealing to all those who have nuclear weapons, and not just to the two super powers, although India believes in disarmament, we think a beginning has to be made with nuclear disarmament and that is, a nuclear freeze, stopping of testing and deployment. One can't say whether people will heed this, but I do know that people in the US as well as in the USSR and the other countries do want peace. We have to keep on trying and perhaps we will succeed somehow, even if this initiative may not.

Question: In 1974 India did explode a nuclear device. You said that was in the interest of science and not to make the nuclear weapon. Here a lot of people feel that that spurred Pakistan to try to obtain a nuclear weapon. Isn't that exactly a microcosm of the problem that when India exploded the nuclear device the other nation in the region became afraid and try to...?

Prime Minister: No, I think Pakistan was trying even earlier. But ours was an entirely peaceful experiment well within the list of permissible experiments given by the International Atomic Energy Agency. And we have used nuclear power here in India entirely for peaceful and developmental purposes, such as energy, agriculture and medicine. We don't have and we don't want to have any nuclear weapons. So, I think there is a big difference.

#### N. P. T.

Question: Yet you have refused to sign Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty and you have refused to permit the inspection of all the nuclear facilities in India...?

Prime Minister: We think, it is unfair because we feel that things are asked of us which are not asked from those who do have nuclear weapons and who are producing them and stockpiling them.

Question: But other nations have signed the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty?

Prime Minister: It is for them to judge what they should do. But we think that we have a right to use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes and to tackle the very major problems of poverty and economic backwardness, which is what we are doing. Question: Which nation, do you believe, is more responsible for the breakdown of the arms talks, the United States or the Soviet Union?

Prime Minister: Now, since we are trying to make peace and to bring people together, I don't think it would help if I were to blame one or the other. We think that whatever has happened, we must find a way to break the deadlock and to get people to the negotiating table again.

Interviewer: Thank you, Madam Prime Minister. <pp-168>

DIA USA RUSSIA IRAN IRAQ SWITZERLAND PAKISTAN **Date :** May 23, 1984

## Volume No

1995

E. E. C.

India and EEC for Increased Economic Development

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 05, 1984, at the inauguration of the third session of Indo-EEC joint commission:

There were several possibilities for increasing economic development cooperation between India and EEC in industrial areas and also in the fields of science and technology. As some areas have already been identified separately by India and EEC it was hoped that the third session of the Indo-EEC Joint Commission would be able to identify specific sectors for definite programmes to be promoted. These ideas were exchanged today when the third session of the Indo-EEC Joint Commission was jointly inaugurated by the Union Commerce Minister, Shri V. P. Singh and leader of the EEC delegation, Mr. Ivor Richard.

Shri V. P. Singh is leading a 20-member delegation which includes Minister of State for Commerce, Shri N. R. Laskar, Shri Abid Hussain, Commerce Secretary, the Indian Ambassador to the EEC and representatives from the Ministry of Commerce, Ministry of External Affairs, Ministry of Industry, Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Economic Affairs, Department of Personnel and Directorate General of Technical Development. Although EEC was once India's largest trading bloc the Commerce Minister observed that the position had changed and in 1982-83 the exports to the Community aggregated to only 16.5 per cent of the country's total exports. Imports from the EEC to India, however, have maintained a steady growth. The volume of trade both ways went down for the first time in many ways last year.

India was not perturbed about the early trade deficits. However, the persisting trend of trade deficit raises certain signals, implying a reduced capacity to import and, therefore, making it difficult to maintain a liberal import policy stance for India. Shri Singh stated that it would be of interest to the Community to stimulate stable markets. In this context, he referred to India's request for enlarged access, security of access, and GSP improvements for goods like leathers, textile products, carpets, tobacco, tropical fruits and juices, coffee and marine products. Shri Singh was confident that the present meeting would evolve concrete time-bound action plans for quick, tangible results on these issues.

#### DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

The Commerce Minister hoped that the Community would be able to play an increasingly meaningful role in India's development process. He specifically mentioned India's proposals for access to funds from the European Investment Bank and hoped that this would be considered and approved. The Development Corporation Policy adopted recently by the Community pointed out to the need for assistance to non-associated developing countries. He was confident that the existing level of aid for rural and economic progress would be maintained and there would be new sectors and areas of interest for larger bilateral cooperation.

Shri Singh spoke of the problems being faced by developing countries such as the deteriorating balance of payments situation, construction in access to the markets of developed countries, decline in commodity prices, mounting debt burdens, general deceleration in concessional aid flows.

#### SPECIAL ROLE

The European Community, he felt had a special role in spearheading global economic reforms. The Member-States have had long association with developing countries, and a strong linkage with their markets. Therefore, the Community would be able to appreciate the problems of the cpg-169>

developing countries and they could work effectively together towards resolving them.

Shri Singh brought to the notice of the Joint Commission India's aspirations for being a supplier of finished leather and leather

manufacturers and the need of steady upgradation and value addition to the exports of these items. The Development Cooperation policy of the EEC warranted assistance to India in this sector which was endowed both with resources and skills. Trade promotion programmes for 1984, he hoped, would be settled soon as they had played a useful role. The Commission has a positive role to play and should ensure that the bilateral agreement on textile exports is implemented in the spirit in which it was negotiated and no action is taken which would erode or reduce India's access. There was need for a new look on some items of special interest to India, like shoes and shoe uppers, handcrafted carpets, to be allowed in larger quantities and volume.

#### WORKING GROUP ON TRADE

The Joint Commission should be able to pass a mandate to the working Group on Trade to formulate propositions to help reduce the imbalance in trade. The Commerce Minister was sure that the Group would come up with constructive suggestions to the Commission.

In his opening remarks Mr. Ivor Richard observed that the occasion of the Joint Commission is the culminating point in the relations between EEC and India and ensures the smooth functioning of the Cooperation Agreement. The Commission should reflect a broader outlook and make specific progress in those areas where mutual cooperation is of benefit to both sides.

He congratulated India on its record growth and credited the foregoing of the IMF loan as a measure of confidence. This, he recognised, naturally threw an emphasis on a further reduction of India's trade deficit even with the Community. He was aware that India's exports had slipped to the EEC and since no change had taken place in conditions of access for Indian exports to the Community, he would be interested in knowing India's views and the significance of this development.

#### INDIAN EXPORT EFFORT

Mr. Richard said that the Community would continue to look at other products of importance to the Indian export effort in the context of the Generalised System of Preferences. He referred to the complete liberalisation of trade in jute and the partial restoration of the sugar quota by the EEC. India and EEC have been examining industrial, science and technology, cooperation and there were great possibilities in these fields. Another area of industrial Cooperation which India and EEC could explore was programmes to encourage the development of entrprises and new technology to teach management to small industry and technical collaboration between universities and private enterprises.

He referred to India's vital role in South Asian Regional

cooperation and hoped that the EEC experience would be useful in Community cooperation.

Earlier when Mr. Richard called on Commerce Minister in the morning, Shri Singh pointed out that the liberalised investment and economic climate in India could be utilised by both countries to increase trade and Indo-EEC relationship should have long-term perspectives if the maximum benefit was to be taken. Mr. Richard hoped that the quality of Indo-EEC friendship would help to develop the trade between the two countries and that India would be able to push up its production in areas of export interest to the EEC.

#### INDO-EEC RELATIONS

A Commercial and Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA) between India and EEC was concluded in June, 1981. In addition to the expansion of commercial exchanges, CECA aims at promoting industrial cooperation, investment promotion and, scientific and technological cooperation. It embodies the Community's commitment to intensify its support for India's development programmes through direct <pg-170>

concessional transfers, and institutional and other sources of finance.

The first session of the Joint Commission took place in January, 1982, in Delhi and the second session met in Brussels in May, 1983.

In 1979-80 India's total export to EEC was valued at Rs. 1751.41 crores as against the import valued at Rs. 2176.73 crores showing a balance of trade of (-) Rs. 425.32 crores. Similarly, in 1982-83, India's total export to EEC worked up to Rs. 1436.77 crores as against the import valued at Rs. 3187.44 crores with a balance of trade of (-) Rs. 1750.67 crores.

EEC accounted for 16.6 per cent of India's total exports and 22.7 per cent of total imports during 1982-83.

Major items of exports to EEC countries are articles of apparel and clothing accessories, pearls and semi-precious stones, leather and leather manufactures, textile yarn fabrics and related products, floor coverings (including carpets), tea, tobacco, crude animal and vegetable materials, handicrafts, machinery and transport equipment and coffee.

The major items of imports from EEC countries are machinery and transport equipment, iron and steel, chemicals and related products, pearls, precious and semiprecious stones, milk and cream, non-ferrous metal, urea, metalliferous ores and metal scrap, butter, professional, scientific and controlling

equipments, manufacture of metal n.e.s, textile fibre and their waste, non-metalic mineral manufacture, paper and paper board, photographic apparatus and equipments, and synthetic rubber latex.

# DIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC RUSSIA PERU BELGIUM **Date :** May 05, 1984

## Volume No

1995

IRAN

Three-fold Increase for India's Exports to Iran

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 03, 1984, on the signing of the agreed minutes of Indo-Iran trade talks:

India and Iran have agreed to achieve a three-fold increase for India's exports to Iran subject to a minimum of US \$ 225 million. The Indian side on its part agreed to explore the possibilities of increasing non-oil imports from Iran. Having reviewed trade relations between the two countries and taking into consideration their mutual requirements and complementary economies, both sides agreed that there was vast potential, as also immediate possibilities for increasing and diversifying trade between the two countries.

Both sides expressed their desire and confidence that further exploration and implementation of this potential will help in narrowing the gap in bilateral trade exchanges and agreed to take necessary steps for achieving this. This was decided here today when the agreed minutes of the cussions between the delegations of the Republic of India and the Islamic Republic of Iran were signed by the respective Commerce Ministers, Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh and H.E. Mr. H. A. Jaafari.

The two delegations included the Minister of State of Commerce, Shri N. R. Laskar and Commerce Secretary, Shri Abid Hussain, from India, Mr. A. H. Vahaji, Deputy Minister for Commerce of Iran and other officials from various Ministries and Governmental organisations who have been having talks for the last three days <pg-171>

Speaking at the concluding session and signing ceremony of the agreed minutes, Shri V. P. Singh expressed the hope that in the

coming months there would be even greater vigour in the follow-up action so that the possibilities are concretised and the potential tapped. It has been agreed, he stated, that there is a great deal of scope for increasing commercial exchanges in several agricultural commodities, a vast range of engineering goods, chemicals, pharmaceuticals and dyes, leather and textiles. The two countries can meaningfully build-up self-reliance through industrial cooperation in such diverse fields as power generation, telecommunication, railways, cement and textile plants. India would welcome the diversification of Iran's exports to India. Both Governments are in complete agreement that such trade should be viewed not merely as exchange of commodities, but as an integral part of the fabrics of friendship, he said.

#### COMMERCIAL OFFICE

In the agreed minutes, the Indian side welcomed the suggstion of the Iranian side to open a commercial office in India and expressed the confidence that it would strengthen Iran's objective of better market information, selectivity and inspection procedures. Both sides agreed to exchange commercial information and statistics. India welcomed the recent move to include oil in the basket of commodities covered in the Asian Clearing Union and both sides expressed the hope that this would further encourage increased two-way trade exchanges, including oil.

The Iranian side expressed its interest in diversifying its exports to cover non-oil commodities. New items selected for import from Iran include red oxide, dry fruits, asafoetida, marble, dates, medicinal herbs, melaming manufacturing machinery subject to competitive prices.

In areas of heavy industry, the two countries concluded that there were tremendous possibilities for further cooperation for technology transfer in many industries which were previously proposed and are currently in hand. These included Iranian collaboration with Mahindra and Mahindra, BHEL, supply of spare parts

for engines and machineries, Kirloskar and Bajaj.

#### TEXTILES

In the field of textile industry, both parties have agreed upon collaboration and cooperation for the renovation, start-up and commissioning of some Iranian textile industries, technology transfer for some acceptable makes of textile machineries and technical assistance, exchange of technicians and training of Iranian trainees in India or Iran.

In the case of small scale industries India and Iran were of the opinion that there were great potentialities in expansion of cooperation and exchange of experiences and know-how on planning and setting up industrial estates and small rural industries, transfer of technology and cooperation in manufacturing agricultural machine and tools in rural areas and implementation of agro-based industry projects, consultancy, training and exchange of technicians.

In the field of railways, the two sides agreed to cooperate for various possibilities, specially through Iran State Railways and Ministry of Heavy Industries and Indian companies such as IRCON, RITES and PEC.

Fruitful discussions were held on the Kudremukh projects and the trial off-take of iron-ore concentrates by Iran. Constructive suggestions were exchanged and the Iranian side invited the Indian side to visit Tehran to pursue these discussions in an endeavour to reach a mutually beneficial agreement which was appreciated by the Indian side.

The operational problems regarding quality, proper packaging, the need to observe delivery commitments and avoidance of frequent requests for letters of credit extensions were perceived in a positive manner and cordial atmosphere.

#### SHIPPING LINE

Both sides noted the important role of Irano-Hind Shipping line in trade relations between the two countries and while reiterating support to this company felt that <pg-172>

appropriate freight rates and increased volume of cargo based on the advantages of geographical proximity could facilitate greater trade exchanges.

It was also decided to facilitate visits by businessmen to each others' countries. In this regard special mention was made of the need to further facilitate travel to and from Iran of Indian businessmen, and facilitate visas for representatives of Indian companies based in the third countries of the region. The Iranian side agreed to consider these proposals sympathetically.

#### PLENARY SESSION

In his opening remarks at the Plenary Shri V. P. Singh stated that the historical ties and the friendship between the two countries, commonality of interests as members of the Non-Aligned world and the same perception on South-South cooperation were factors which could help in consolidating the economic cooperation between the two countries. He observed that the complementarities offered suitable potential for increased trade. However, it would be desirable to evolve mechanisms at governmental and official-level to achieve the desired quantum jumps in economic and commercial exchanges. Together, the two countries could enter into new joint ventures and go beyond exchange of goods and services. Shri Singh mentioned areas of industry, agriculture and services for investments and building of projects. He invited Iranian cooperation in free trade zones.

Responding to the Indian Minister, the Iranian Commerce Minister agreed that the traditional ties between the two countries and the Non-Aligned principles have resulted in Indo-Iranian relations acquiring greater significance. He was leading a very large delegation representing various sectors and interests of Iran, specifically to know the potential of Indo-Iranian trade and to realise it. He also envisaged a major increase in the twoway trade. Offers received from the Indian side and possibilities suggested would be welcomed. Mutual confidence in trade relations, he observed, was an important principle for establishing a good momentum. Therefore, standardisation of quality and firm deliveries were essential for maintaining this momentum.

Mr. Jaafari expressed his thanks for all the information given to the preparatory team by the Indian counterparts and the facilities offered, and he hoped that the data so acquired would assist in the finalisation of concrete decisions. He referred to Shri Singh's suggestion on the trade agreement and said that the drafts had been exchanged and Iran was ready to discuss the new trade agreement and formalise it as soon as possible.

#### INDO-IRAN COMMERCIAL RELATIONS

Exports from India have fluctuated from 272.22 crores, in 1975-76 to Rs. 93.51 crores in 1978-79 to Rs. 125.32 crores in 1981-82 and in 1982-83 they were Rs. 74.04 crores. Imports from Iran have shown similar variations from Rs. 459.88 crores in 1975-76 to Rs. 352.46 crores in 1978-79, going up to Rs. 1298.22 crores in 1981-82 and in 1982-83 they were Rs. 782.65 crores.

Iran remains India's potential market in that region. Iran has the largest population (approx. between 35 to 40 million) among the oil producing countries and magnitude and pattern of its requirements presents considerable opportunities for Indian exports in this area ranging from supplies of essential commodities, consumer goods to joint ventures and transfer of technology.

During the last two-three years, exports to Iran have included machinery and transport equipment, textile yarn, fabrics, made-up articles, tea, rice, meat, chemicals, leather and leather manufactures, iron and steel products, etc. On the other hand, major items of imports from Iran have been petroleum oils, crude oils, petroleum products, crude fertilisers, crude minerals and crude vegetable materials. However, engineering goods have constituted major portion of India's exports to Iran. In the year 1977-78, Indian engineering exports were to the tune of Rs. 32.5 crores which rose to Rs. 55 crores in 1982 and are expected to cross Rs. 70 crores in the present year. <pp-173>

Jeeps, tea, leather and steel pipes and tubes are areas which have provided considerable scope for enhanced trade.

Iran has also indicated its interest for technology from India in areas such as development of water resources and construction of dams, ore-refining technology, manufacture of steel through direct reduction process, agricultural machinery/implements, development of small scale industry in rural areas (Jahad-e-Sazandagi), castings and forgings, railway locomotives, heat treatment of steel and, exploitation and, concentration of mining materials.

The Indo-Iran Joint Commission was set up during the visit to Teheran of the Foreign Minister from July 19 to 21, 1983. Under the Joint Commission, Sub-Commission II was set up.

There is a trade agreement with Iran which was signed on August 31, 1974. The Iranian side had indicated that they would like to replace the agreement signed earlier. The drafts have been exchanged for this purpose. However, till the finalisation of the new trade agreement, the existing trade agreement continues to be valid.

#### AN INDIA USA RUSSIA UNITED KINGDOM CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC MALI **Date :** May 03, 1984

## Volume No

1995

JAPAN

Nakasone's Visit to India

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 04, 1984 of the speech by the Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi, at the dinner hosted by her on May 4, 1984 in honour of the Prime Minister of Japan, H.E. Yasuhiro Nakasone:

The Government and people of India join me in extending a warm welcome to you, Mr. Prime Minister and to your gracious wife. We are also glad to have the distinguished Foreign Minister and other members of your delegation. Japan and India, the chrysanthemum and the lotus, have long kept each other company. Buddhism provided a great link. For centuries, scholars, pilgrims and traders travelled back and forth between our two countries. Several early Japanese books bear witness to the philosophy and art we shared. Then came the rise of Europe and Asia's decline. Contacts between our countries became minimal. Japan's victory over a European nation in the early years of this century was a signal to the world that Asia was up again. It provided an impetus to our own freedom movement.

When we became free in 1947, we were glad to establish diplomatic links with Japan, based on our own direct perceptions. We shared the feelings of horror and revulsion at the dropping of the atom bomb. It will be recalled that India did not sign the San Francisco Peace Treaty because we did not share the premise on which it was based.

Your country has made phenomenal progress in the last four decades. The Japanese miracle has compelled other developed countries to rethink about the motive force of growth. No less impressive than your technological achievements is your determination to retain your distinctive cultural heritage -- your gardens, your theatre, your picturesque ceremonies. A Japanese poet wrote that when one knows poetry well, one knows the reasons for order and disorder in the world. Yesterday's composers of exquisite haiku are today's makers of meticulous electronic equipment.

#### ECONOMIC SUPER POWER

It is now recognised everywhere that Japan is an economic super power but it has also, in the coming years, an increasing role to play in world affairs. Asia in particular is a troubled continent and Japan is a factor for stability.

In the past, the Buddha's message of compassion formed a link between us. Today the imperative of peace draws us closer. The Japanese are the only people to have experienced the effects of nuclear weapons. Now such weapons are more potent and with wider consequences. We in India, who have just laid the foundations of our edifice of development, know that our entire future depends on peace.

#### DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS

We have a common allegiance to democratic institutions. We also have some dissimilarities. Japan is famed for its ethnic and linguistic compactness. India teems in diversity. In our respective ways we show that if cultural homogeneity can be a source of strength, so can diversity be. In spite of these differences there is scope for enlarging our contacts and commerce. We should like to learn from Japan's technological advance. India's own growth provides opportunities for industrialised nations. In our homes and on our roads are several products of Indo-Japanese collaboration.

#### HISTORICAL DIMENSIONS

Economic co-operation is generally measured by compilation of statistics. But there is also a historical dimension. Increased trade between Japan and India would also solidly contribute towards making global interdependence a reality. Japan can and should serve as a bridge from the rich to the poor, from the developed to the developing, from the North to the South. The North should recognise that is own further well-being and growth depend on the rate at which the South progresses.

There are no political problems between our two countries. We share similar challenges and opportunities. We should work together to remove disparities and distrust and cooperate in ensuring human survival and development.

#### UNITY OF KNOWLEDGE

Mr. Prime Minister, you have spoken movingly and with deep conviction about the origin and purpose of life, and have referred to the arrogance of science. Science started out as philosophy and there is great need today to bring the two together again, to re-celebrate the unity of knowledge. The purpose of knowledge can only be to promote the True and the Good -- the good of human beings and all beings. All great civilisations have given importance to inner space, the spirit, the soul, or atma, as ancient Indian thought called it. We have now to call on the atma to control the misuse of the atom. Dr. Radhakrishnan said: "Mankind is still in the making. Human life as we have it is only the raw material for human life as it might be. There is a hitherto undreamt of fullness, freedom, and happiness within reach of our species".

Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen: may I ask you to raise your glasses to the health and well-being of Prime Minister Nakasone, Madame Nakasone and our guests from Japan and to the prosperity of the wonderful people of Japan?

PAN INDIA USA **Date :** May 04, 1984

## Volume No

#### JAPAN

#### Text of Mr. Nakasone's Speech

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 04, 1984 of the speech by the Prime Minister of Japan, H.E. Mr. Yasuhiro Nakasone at a dinner hosted by the Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi, in New Delhi on May 4, 1984:

I thank you most sincerely for holding such a splendid and heartwarming dinner <pg-175>

this evening for my party and myself. I also wish to take this opportunity to express my heartfelt gratitude for the welcome and considerations the Government and people of India have shown to us since our arrival in Bombay yesterday.

Your Excellency, in May 1957, I visited your country accompanying Prime Minister Kishi.

At the time, I had the privilege of meeting your late distinguished father, the unchallenged leader of independent India, Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru, and as I stand here this evening, with my heart full of emotion, I recall the eagerness with which the late Prime Minister preached his earnest desire for world peace and lofty ideal filled with his love of humanity.

#### MAJOR CHANGES

A quarter of a century has passed since, and the international situation surrounding us has greatly changed. Both India and Japan underwent major changes. Since yesterday, I have been deeply impressed to witness the marvellous development your country has achieved in the past quarter of a century. I am convinced this is a manifest to the success of the steady and active national policy management under the leadership of Your Excellency Prime Minister Gandhi and other leaders of India.

As I held talks with Your Excellency this afternoon, I was struck by Your Excellency's thoughtful words, dauntless attitude and warm sentiments over your people, and I was filled with deep respect by Your Excellency's tireless endeavours through the nights and days in search of happiness for the seven hundred million people of India.

Aiming at unity in diversity, India overcame various difficulties to establish firmly her position in the international society as the largest democracy. The abundant energy and the atmosphere of uninhibited freedom that I was able to catch through glimpses

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yesterday and today, are ample proofs of the vast potential India possesses. I am deeply encouraged to find that this vast potential, coupled with the outstanding leadership of Your Excellency and other Indian leaders, will present a bright future for India.

#### TWO NUCLEI

Your Excellency, mankind today is faced with the threat of two nuclei. The outer nucleus is atomic nucleus and the inner nucleus is DNA. The problem of outer nucleus is that if the United States of America and the Soviet Union engage in a warfare using that nucleus, the globe will receive catastrophic damages and the very destiny of mankind will not be satisfactorily guaranteed.

The problem of inner nucleus is that growing possibility of recombining genes as a result of the advance of life sciences. The closer we come to the origin of life, the greater the possibility of debasing the dignity of life is. Men with heart are boggled at this major question.

Peace in the outer world today is barely maintained by a balance of nuclear terror between the East and West. The inner dignity of men is protected by the feeling of awe and preservance of the origin of human life which, in other words, is the recognition to the utmost sublimity of things alive.

On these problems of two nuclei, and firstly on the prevention of nuclear war, I urged, at the summit of industrialised countries held at Williamsburg last year, the promotion of dialogue between the United States of America and the Soviet Union and the strengthening of cooperation and solidarity among the participating countries to achieve this end. At the same time, in order to prevent the debasing of human dignity by recombination of genes, I proposed to hold an international conference entitled "Life Sciences and Mankind" with the participation of life scientists, religionists and philosophers of the Summit member countries. With the support of the leaders gathered at the Summit, the conference was held this past March in Japan and produced useful discussions. Documents related to these discussions are to be distributed to those interested in the issue around the world. <pg-176>

#### HUMANE COMPASSION

I believe that mankind has to be delivered from the arrogance of science to turn to the shared and equal dignity as well as to the humane compassion embodying unlimited creative possibilities.

When, however, we turn our eyes to the Middle East, for example, we notice that the region has been continuously subject to warfare throughout its history. At one stage the warfare may have represented the struggle between the Christian civilisation and the Islamic civiliation whereas another stage the struggle between capitalism and non-capitalism.

Mankind, totally exhausted by confrontations and struggles, is seeking salvation. Your Excellency, I cannot forget the words stated in the speech delivered by the Indian Labour Minister at the MRA conference held in Caux of Switzerland which I attended shortly after the end of the war, "Is there any East and West because the globe is round"?

This is the thought of harmony and co-existence and not of confrontation. This views men as an inherently multi-dimensional being. And, is this not an expression of the philosophy which recognizes the dignity of any human being with diversity, magnanimity and relativity. Isn't this the oriental thinking that originated in India and reached China and Japan?

As I see India advocating Non-Aligned neutrality from the outset of her diplomacy, and contributing to the coordination and development of the world as the Chairman of the Non-Aligned nations today, I wish to pay my tribute to India which I see as acting on the basis of the human dignity, relativity and the philosophy of co-existence.

The diplomatic policy of Japan is not necessarily the same as that of India because of our geopolitical position or our characteristic as an ocean State without natural resources, which survives through trade.

#### NON-NUCLEAR PRINCIPLES

Japan, with the unique peace constitution which renounces war, makes it its national policy to commit itself to self-defence never becoming a major military power and maintains the three non-nuclear principles. I am convinced that such Japanese policy does have something in common with the fundamental policy of Indian diplomacy.

Together with Egypt, Babylon and China, India is the cradle of an ancient civilization.

The benefits of this ancient civilization nestled in your country spread to China and reached Japan. I am impressed by the fact that Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore, upon his visit to Japan in the early 20th century, appealed for the awakening of Asia.

I believe time has now come for the two countries to solidify our coordination to make efforts in spreading eternal peace and prosperity on this earth over the boundaries of races and nations with the spirit of peace, magnanimity and humanitarianism that we have adopted from our ancestors. Your Excellency, friendship is the cornerstone of Japan-India relations. When I visited Bombay yesterday, I donated some books related to Japan to the India-Japan Association of Bombay which has actively promoted the mutual understanding and friendship between Japan and India during the last thirty years. These books are proofs of my friendship to the people of India as well as a token of thanks to the gesture of friendship Her Excellency Prime Minister Gandhi showed to the Japanese people by donating books related to India to the Japan-India Association in Japan when Her Excellency visited Japan in 1969 as our State guest. I will be pleased if the books could be used to further promote the mutual understanding between Japan and India.

In closing my remark, I ask you all to join me in a toast to the health and happiness of Her Excellency Prime Minister Gandhi, to the further development and prosperity of the Indian people and to the brilliant future of Japan-India relations. <pp-177>

PAN INDIA USA SWITZERLAND CHINA EGYPT **Date :** May 04, 1984

## Volume No

1995

#### JAPAN

Japanese Prime Minister's Address to MPs

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 04, 1984 of the address by the Prime Minister of Japan, H.E. Mr. Yasuhiro Nakasone, to the Members of Parliament in New Delhi on May 4, 1984:

Honourable the Prime Minister, Honourable the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Honourable the Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha and Honourable Members of Parliament: I have come to India to build a new cooperative relationship, befitting the coming centuries, between the two most powerful democracies in Asia, Japan and India. I have come to forge closer Japan-India relations, which will promote the development of our two countries, and will contribute to the peace and prosperity of Asia and the world.

I should like to express my sincere appreciation to the Indian Parliament and Government for affording me this precious opportunity to state my views on this important matter. Excellencies, India and Japan possess undeniable influence in the international community, and with that influence come major responsibilities. Seeking "unity in diversity", the 700 million people of India have overcome ethnic, religious and linguistic differences to create the world's largest democracy. At the same time, as one of the first nations to embrace Non-Alignment in foreign relations, India is making vital contributions today, in its capacity as Chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement, to the cohesion and development of the Third World.

Japan, meanwhile, has become one of the world's leading industrial countries, accounting for approximately ten per cent of world's Gross National Product. As a democratic nation in East Asia that has assimilated Western civilization into its long tradition and unique culture, Japan is now making distinctive efforts on behalf of world peace and prosperity. Now is the time for our two leading nations of Asia to establish a new relationship commensurate with our international standing, and in the service to the international community.

Excellencies, the spiritual contacts between Japan and India go back well over a thousand years, and about a century ago we were sources of strength for each other, as India moved toward nationhood and Japan to modernisation.

#### SYMPATHETIC UNDERSTANDING

Allow me to reminiscence on a personal note for a moment. I met with Prime Minister Gandhi's father, the late Prime Minister Nehru, when I visited India for the first time 27 years ago, in 1957. I was in my late thirties at the time and Prime Minister Nehru told me that, when he was young, he was much encouraged by Japan's victory over Tzarist Russia in the Sea of Japan. It showed him, he said, that even a developing Asian country could defeat a great European power in the cause of preserving its independence and culture. I was deeply struck by Prime Minister Nehru's warm compassion on that occasion as he sought to comfort us Japanese, who were still disspirited and miserable from the devastation and defeat of the Second World war. He expressed these same sentiments in his autobiography, evoking the mood of Japan-India relations in the early 20th century. After World War II, when India achieved its independence, Japan was on trial before the world as a vanguished nation. However, at the Tokyo tribunal, the eminent Indian jurist Radhabinod Pal displayed a sympathetic understanding toward Japan's past deeds, and the Japanese people, in the depths of their despair and remose, were grateful. And of course everyone knows how, in 1949, Prime Minister Nehru sent an Indian elephant to the children of wartorn Japan. This elephant, which was named Indira after his daughter, the present Prime Minister, was beloved not only by the children of Tokyo, but also by people throughout Japan.

#### PEOPLE-TO-PEOPLE RELATIONS

People-to-people relations between Japan and India grew in this manner, so too did our economic relationship expand. <pp-178>

In our trade, Japan's pre-war imports of Indian cotton gave way to growing imports of iron ore, which were important in Japan's insustrial recovery. After Japan had regained its prewar economic levels, it was to India that Japan extended its first yen credits as economic cooperation.

While Japan-India relations of friendship and cooperation were advancing steadily, our two countries were each making spectacular strides in development. Drawing on the creativity and vitality of the Indian people, India achieved through a "Green Revolution" near self-sufficiency in foodstuffs, a goal one thought impossible. India also tackled the task of upgrading her industries, and has now become a nation of major industrial capacity, producing domestically almost all of her consumer goods. India has also made many noteworthy achievements in such advanced high-technology fields as space development and Antarctic exploration.

#### INDIA'S HISTORIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The Japanese people have a deep respect for India's historic and current cultural accomplishments. Yet, unfortunately, I cannot say that everybody in Japan has a perfect understanding of your impressive political and economic progress. In the other direction, I also wonder whether there are not at times some gaps in the understanding of the Indian people about Japan. Solid relations of friendship and cooperation are build on a foundation of accurate mutual understanding.

My present visit to India stems from my determination to take this first step towards creating a new Japan-India relationship, by conveying to you the profound respect and sincere friendship the Japanese people hold for India and by further broadening the understanding and appreciation the Japanese people have of India.

#### GLOBAL STRATEGY FOR PEACE AND PROSPERITY

Excellencies, this afternoon I had an extended meeting with Prime Minister Gandhi, during which we exchanged views on a wide range of subjects and I was able to speak with her frankly about my feelings for a new Japan-India relationship. If I may, I should like to take a few minutes here to explain my thoughts and Japan's policies on the issues of peace and security and on problems in international relations -- issues which figured prominently in my talks with Prime Minister Gandhi. Central to my beliefs is my deep conviction that mankind must never, and for all time, allow a third world war to occur.

The 20th century has already seen two global conflicts. Global

war is like the phenomenon of an enormous flood, caused when the pressures of power politics become too great, and the dykes are overwhelmed. Those who are engulfed in this flood and lose their lives are innumerable. Those who manage to survive quickly set to work on ways to prevent war, erecting new embankments and digging new channels to, ensure that the scourge of war never returns. I believe firmly that mankind must never cause such a flood to happen again.

After World War I, our new embankments and channels were the League of Nations and the Treaty of Versailles. Yet even as these new arrangements appeared to be working well, they were soon challenged severely by new forces. While both parties to a conflict always find rationalisations for their actions, ultimately it was dogmatic worldviews and nationalistic philosophy that unleashed once again a terrible flood of destruction upon the world. This was the Second World War, and regrettably Japan was one of the challenging forces.

After World War II, new channels to prevent war were erected again. The world started out with the creation of the United Nations system, and the reality, early in the postwar period, of the super powers' monoply of nuclear weapons.

However, the situation was totally changed from what it was after World War I. First, a large number of nations that were once colonies became independent States. Independence gave birth to political and economic activism in all corners of the world. Awakened peoples have come to criticize sharply those elements <pg-179>

of the post-war global structure that are not necessarily in accordance with justice and equity, giving rise to what we call the North-South problem.

#### ADVANCES IN SCIENCE

Another change that came was advances in science and technology that have drastically multiplied the destructive power of nuclear weapons. Today, enough nuclear weapons exist on the fact of our planet to ensure mankind's extinction many times over. At the same time, the secrets of manufacturing these weapons have spread, and it is no longer possible for a handful of nations to monopolize this technology. The international community now narrowly averts nuclear holocaust, maintaining a fragile peace through a balance of nuclear terror.

Unlike the situation preceding World War II. we now face the prospect of a truly global catastrophe. Whatever the means employed, any military action which carries the risk of escalating into nuclear war has the potential for triggering global devastation. That is why it is imperative that we seek through reasoned dialogue and negotiation, through peaceful and democratic means, to resolve international conflicts and to rectify the contradictions and irrationalities in the world system.

I find reason for hope in the startling advances that have been made recently in mass communications, world-wide satellite television broadcasting, and other telecommunications technology. Could not the spread of information deepen mutual understanding among all peoples, and be an effective means for making all peoples aware of the folly of war? Is not this technology becoming a great invisible force in support of world peace? If television and satellite-based global communications systems had been fully developed before World War II, is it not possible that we could have avoided that tragedy?

#### WORLD PEACE

In any event, all countries today must recognize the very harsh realities we face, and each must choose its strategy for preventing war and preserving peace. Reflecting deeply on the excesses of World War II, Japan has made utmost efforts to devise a strategy for attaining a lasting world peace and prosperity.

I should like to outline the main points of our strategy.

First, Japan recognizes that the question of peace and security has become too large today for any one nation to resolve on its own. We believe these issues must be dealt with through international cooperation and solidarity. Although the attainment of peace ultimately demands global consensus, Japan recognizes the stark reality that it is the balance and deterrence of power that are now actually preventing the outbreak of World War III. Therefore, we are seeking to build international cooperation as well as to provide for our country a modest and minimum necessary self-defence capability. We have security arrangements with the United States, and are pursuing a policy of comprehensive security for the nation.

#### GEOPOLITICAL POSITION

Our stance is based upon an assessment of our geopolitical position as an East Asian island nation, and of the military build-up in and around Northeast Asia as well as its potential threat. This balanced policy has proved effective, both in helping us achieve a domestic consensus, and in alleviating the anxieties of our neighbouring nations that Japan might develop into a military power.

Next, we know that our economic survival demands that we make free market principles the core of our domestic and external policies.

Needless to say, dependent as we are upon overseas resources and

overseas markets, we well appreciate that the maintenance of world peace and free trade are the very foundations for our national survival.

Japan has been especially anxious to strengthen its friendly relations with the Third World and Non-Aligned countries, and to improve and enhance our economic cooperation with developing countries. We seek to strengthen the bonds of coexistence and mutual prosperity on the basis of <pg-180>

mutual benelt and equality, in an effort to promote mutually peace and a better world.

Broadly speaking, these three policies are the mainstays of Japan's strategy for peace.

#### DEVELOPMENT OF JAPAN-INDIA COOPERATIVE RELATIONS

Excellencies, how then should we shape a new relationship befitting our two countries -- between Japan that is pursuing the policies I described and which possesses an enormous economy in East Asia, and the great nation of India that is continuing robust development as a leader of the Non-Aligned Movement?

I should like to express my views on this question, touching on four aspects of our relationship.

First is the question of how our two countries can cooperate in the cause of world peace and disarmament.

The area most demanding and deserving of our cooperation, needless to say, is that of preventing nuclear war. If we can abolish nuclear weapons, achieve disarmament, and devote the surplus thus generated to the development of the developing countries, we can hold out the promise of a better world for generations to come. As a start, I believe we must pomote efforts to bring the balance of power, including the nuclear balance, to the lowest possible levels under reliable guarantees. I am determined to do what I can toward this end.

Athough we differ in our foreign policies, although Japan aligns itself with the so-called free world and India with the Non-Aligned Movement, I believe there is great potential for us to cooperate in maintaining peace and promoting disarmament.

Since my appointment as Prime Minister, I have utilized summitlevel meetings and other means to pursue a foreign policy seeking world peace. On the opportunity of my visit to India, an influential leader in the Non-Aligned Movement, I am hoping to embark upon a new direction in Japan's foreign policy, to further strengthen our dialogue and cooperation with the countries of the Non-Aligned Movement -- a force which constitutes nearly two thirds of the United Nations membership. Discussions with your Government are very important in this sense, and this is certainly one of the main purposes of my visit.

#### BANDUNG CONFERENCE

In this vein, I cannot but recall the spirit of Asian friendship and conciliation which prevailed at the Bandung Conference, convened by the late Prime Minister Nehru, one of the most outstanding leaders of the Conference. Of course, this was not, strictly speaking, a meeting of the Non-Aligned Movement, nor was attendance restricted to Asian countries. But I cannot help but feel there was a distillation of the wisdom of Asians in the search, to avert conflict and contention through co-existence. Since then the ten principles of the Bandung Conference have undergone numerous historical trails, but their value as principles for ordering international relations, and as a beacon of hope for international solidarity, remains undiminished.

I hope that it will be possible, through frequent consultations with India in that spirit, to bring forth brighter wisdom for building the future of Asia and the world.

#### BILATERAL DIALOGUE

Now I should like to turn to the second aspect of our relationship, namely promotion of our bilateral dialogue on the international economy.

At last year's Williamsburg Summit, I urged all countries to show greater understanding of the developing countries' positions. I stressed that North and South are two wheels of the same vehicle, and that the world economy is not going to get very fair unless both are fully vitalized. I intend to maintain this position at the London Summit next month.

We in Japan have long felt that it is one of our responsibilities to cooperate with the developing countries in their nationbuilding efforts. We have made special efforts despite our own severe financial constraints, to promote official development 'assistance and other coope-<pg-181>

rative efforts on behalf of these countries' economic development and human livelihood. This is another area in which I feel we need a strengthened dialogue with India.

Third, I should like to speak about promoting bilateral economic and industrial cooperation. As India has consolidated the basis for its economic development with its steadily increasing petroleum production there have been an increasing number of industrial collaborations, in automobiles and other fields, between Japanese and Indian companies. Investment, technical collaboration, and other forms of private-sector industrial cooperation are based on each company's independent and rational assessment of economic condition. In this sense, the economic liberalization measures currently being undertaken by the Government of India have been welcomed by the Japanese Government and industry alike. We hope you will continue to move in this direction.

#### INVESTMENT SURVEY MISSION

Last fall, Japan dispatched an investment survey mission to India in order to promote industrial cooperation between Japan and India, and I am pleased that talks are proceeding on several industrial collaboration projects after that mission's visit. I should like to send another economic mission of private-sector businessmen to India to build upon this momentum.

The fourth aspect of Japan-India relations is that of exchanges in culture, arts and sports.

#### NEW CULTURE

Nearly 120 years ago, Japan opened itself to Western civilization, and embarked prodigious efforts to fuse our indigenous culture and Western civilization into a new culture, to develop new horizons of human civilization through a harmonious blend of Eastern spirit and Western science and technology.

India is also engaged in a similar effort to create a new culture, harmonizing traditional Indian culture with modern science and technology. Although we may have different cultural backgrounds, we have both been attempting in essence to meet the same historical challenge. I think it would be valuable for us to consult on this, seeking new ways we can cooperate as two countries with great traditions on the Eastern and Western edges of Asia.

The greats of ancient Indian civilization composed the Vedas, gave rise to Buddhism, and invented the cipher "Zero". These cultural benefits crossed the Himalayas and travelled East to bless Japan. Given this historical background, there is an endless stream of cultural pilgrims from Japan now travelling the silk road or coming ashore from the Bay of Bengal in search of their philosophical and artistic roots and birth place. These Japanese come in contact with the vast, profound and ancient Indian culture, appreciate the grandeur of nature on the Indian sub-continent and are filled with the spirit of renewed cultural and artistic creativity.

#### SPORTS EXCHANGES

I also place a special emphasis on exchanges in the field of

sports, where common rule transcending national boundaries are strictly observed. Noting the storm of applause that invariably ensures from all spectators for new world records or outstanding performances of athletes, regardless of nationality, I believe that sports exchanges have an especially important role to play in preserving peace, preventing war and promoting international dialogue.

In this regard, I recall that it was largely India's strong support which made it possible for occupied Japan to participate in the 1951 Asian Games in New Delhi, despite the opposition of some other participating countries. I should add that it was in large part to show appreciation for the support India had offered for Japan's restitution to the international community, that Japan sent an unprecedentedly large delegation to the 9th Asian Games which were again held in New Delhi thirty-one years later.

Excellencies, tomorrow morning, I plan to travel to Rajghat to place a wreath at the Samadhi of Mahatma Gandhi, Father of the Nation. Espousing a philosophy of non-violence and leading a simple

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life, Mahatma Gandhi by the very force of his personality subdued the rulers of the time and won the respect of all peoples in the world. The love and friendship which are epitomized by Mahatma Gandhi's famous ambition "to wipe every tear from every eye" is indeed the foundation for the building of India. I believe that it is this love and friendship that also constitute the foundation for the very survival of humankind, transcending all ethnic and state boundaries, and binding all countries and peoples together in solidarity.

It is in the spirit of love and friendship looking toward a new development of cooperative relations between Japan and India, that I should like, from this dais here today, to convey the Japanese people's respect, gratitude and affection to the Honourable the Speaker and Honourable Members of the Indian Parliament, and to all the people of India. Bharat Japan Maitri Ki Jai.

PAN INDIA USA RUSSIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC INDONESIA UNITED KINGDOM

**Date** : May 04, 1984

# Volume No

1995

#### JAWAHARLAL NEHRU AWARD

#### Nehru Award for International Understanding Conferred on Dr. Leopold Sedar Senghor and Dr. Bruno Kreisky

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 28, 1984 on the Nehru Award for International Understanding for 82-83:

Announcing the Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding for the year 1982 and 1983 here today (New Delhi, May 28, 1984) the Vice-President, Shri M. Hidayatullah who is also the Chairman of the Jury said:

I am happy to announce that the Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding for the year 1982 has been conferred on Dr. Leopold Sedar Senghor of Senegal and the award for the year 1983 has been conferred on Dr. Bruno Kreisky of Austria.

Dr. Senghor, former President of the Republic of Senegal, is an internationally eminent statesman and philosopher, a professor and a poet, a champion of Negritude and universal brotherhood, and above all a man of great vision and humanism, whose life and writings are a shining example of his constant endeavour to promote the idea of racial harmony, national liberation and progress, universal brotherhood and international understanding.

During his years in office, as also there after, Dr. Senghor has striven for the unity of African countries and inter-continental cooperation.

Dr. Senghor is an internationally acclaimed poet. He has won many prestigious awards for his poetry. He has also been awarded honorary doctorate degrees by a large number of universities all over the world.

Dr. Leopold Senghor's contributions to national liberation and progress, to poetry, literature and culture and to international statesmanship, understanding, friendship and peace are very substantial. It is therefore fitting that the Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding for the year 1982 should be conferred on Dr. Senghor.

#### DR. KREISKY

Dr. Bruno Kreisky, former Federal Chancellor of Austria, is a statesman, socialist, humanist and idealist of world renown. <pp-183>

As Secretary of State, Foreign Minister, Chancellor and Chairman of the Austrian Socialist Party, Dr. Kreisky has not only influenced events in Austria, he has also left an indelible impact on the international political scene during the last quarter of a century, not only in Europe but the world at large. Some of his principal achievements are in the context of the crisis in the Middle East and on North South Economic issues. Dr. Kreisky has shown, in both these spheres, great political foresight, wisdom and vision. His commitment to forging world peace and harmony has been unwavering.

Strongly opposed to colonialism, Dr. Kreisky after taking over as Foreign Minister in 1959, immediately supported the United Nations General Assembly Resolution on "Attainment on Independence of Colonial Lands and Peoples" of 1960.

Developing aid, according to Dr. Kreisky, must not be viewed as an act of mere international charity, but also as economically and politically beneficial to the donor countries. This recognition of the intrinsic inter-dependence between nations the "one world" concept - resulted in Austria supporting the concept of Global Negotiations between countries of the North and the South within the framework of the United Nations in the early seventies.

Dr. Kreisky has, time and again, forcefully rejected the concepts of "Politics of Strength" and "Rearmament" based on the argument that this would force one of the Super Powers to its knees. He has called for a return to the spirit signified by the European Security Conference in Helsinki.

#### INFLUENCE OF NEHRU

Dr. Kreisky has often acknowledged publicly the influence of Pandit Nehru on the evolution of his political thought and philosophy. It was on Nehru's advice that he established the Vienna Institute for Development Issues. His views on disarmament and detente, international cooperation and the mutual benefits of development effort, for both the developed and the developing countries, he once said, owe much to the influence of Nehru. While outside the Non-Aligned fold, he has helped in explaining the philosophy and message of Non-Alignment to the world and especially to the Western world.

For all these reasons the 1983 Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding has been conferred on Dr. Bruno Kreisky.

As in previous years the Jury has had a difficult task in naming the awardees from the many distinguished men and women who were nominated from all over the world. However, the final selection of Dr. Leopold Sedar Senghor for the 1982 Award and Dr. Bruno Kreisky for the 1983 Award was unanimous, and the Jury felt that both of them were the best and most highly qualified, by their ideals, natural endowments and achievements, to receive the awards.

#### BACKGROUNDER

When Jawaharlal Nehru passed away on the 27th May, 1964 people all over the world mourned his demise and shared in the profound grief of the Indian people. Among the many tributes paid to him was the decision of the Government of India to institute an award to be called the Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding to be given annually for outstanding contribution to the promotion of international understanding, goodwill and friendship among the people of the world. The Award is being administered by the Indian Council for Cultural Relations.

The Award carries an amount of Rs. 2,50,000\- in cash and a Citation which is presented to the recipient at a special ceremony in New Delhi.

The previous recipients of this Award are as follows:

U Thant, 1965 Award; late Martin Luther King Jr. 1966 Award; Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan, 1967 Award; Yehudi Menuhin, 1968 Award; Mother Teresa, 1969 Award; President Kenneth D. Kaunda, 1970 Award; President Josip Broz Tito, 1971 Award; Andre Malraux, 1972 Award; President Julius K. Nyerere, 1973 Award; Raul Prebisch, 1974 Award; Jonas Salk, 1975 Award; Giuseppe Tucci, 1976 Award; <pp-184>

Tulsi Meherji Shrestha, 1977 Award; the Most Ven Nichidatsu Fujii, 1978 Award; Nelson Mandela, 1979 Award; Barbara Ward, 1980 Award; Gunner Myrdal and Alva Myrdal (Jointly Awarded) 1981 Award.

An independent Jury meets to make the selection each year. The Jury consists of seven eminent Indians including the Vice-President and Chief Justice of India, who are permanent exofficio members. Other members of the Jury are:

(i) One Chief Justice of a State High court; (ii) One Vice-Chancellor of a University; (iii) One person representing the Press in India; and (iv) Two eminent persons from public life. The Secretary of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations is Secretary to the Jury.

Following are the members of the present Jury:

- 1. M. Hidayatullah, Chairman of the Jury.
- 2. Shri Justice Y. V. Chandrachud, Member.
- 3. Shri Justice S. S. Sandhawalia, Member.
- 4. Shri Syed Hamid, Member.
- 5. Shri Ganesh Shukla, Member.
- 6. Shri G. Parthasarathi Member.
- 7. Smt. Pupul Jayakar, Member.

#### 8. Shri P. A. Nazareth, Secretary to the Jury.

#### 1982 NEHRU AWARD CONFERRED ON DR. LEOPOLD SENGHOR

After careful consideration of the numerous nominations received from all over the world, the Jury for the Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding has decided that the Award for the year 1982 be given to Dr. Leopold Sedar Senghor, internationally eminent statesman and philosopher, a professor and a poet, a champion of Negritude and universal brotherhood, and above all a man of great vision and humanism, whose life and writings are a shining example of his constant endeavour to promote the idea of racial harmony, national liberation and progress, universal brotherhood and international understanding.

Born in 1906 at Jaol in Senegal, Dr. Senghor received his education in Senegal and France. He was the first African to obtain the Doctorate Degree and 'agregation' in France, where he later worked as Professor of French, Classical Latin and African civilization, first at the Lycee Descartes at Tours and later at the "Ecole Nationale de La France d'Cutre Mer". He is recognised as an authority on classical languages and French grammar and has been honoured for this by the French Academy. He has also been awarded honorary doctorate degrees by a large number of universities in Europe, America, Middle East and Africa. He has written many scholarly works, which have been translated into more than twenty languages. His works have been the subject of hundreds of dissertations, memoirs, research studies, doctoral thesis etc. in universities all over the world, Dr. Senghor is an internationally acclaimed poet, having written hundreds of poems which reflect the African personality and its hopes, aspirations and travails in changing social conditions. Among the honours he has won for his poetry are the Dag Hammarskjoeld International Prize and Gold medal for Poetic Merit (1965), Grand Prix International de Poesie des Biennales de Knokke-ie-Rutte (1970) and Prix de la Culture de Rome (1977)

Dr. Leopold Senghor was President of the Republic of Senegal from 1960-80 and during this period laid the foundation for the stable, democratic and humane Government which the country continues to enjoy.

During his years in office, as also thereafter Dr. Senghor has striven for the unity of African countries and inter-continental cooperation. He was present at the 1963 Addis Ababa Conference at which the Organisation of African Unity was founded. He has attended many of the OAU conferences thereafter and pressed for its ideals. He has recognised and urged the importance of traditions and values and envisioned a twenty first century world civilization and culture in which <pg-185>

every human race and ethnic group can make its own contribution.

He has actively supported efforts in Senegal and India to discover the common links between the Senegalese and Indian (Tamil) people. He has utilised international and other forums to encourage dialogue between cultures, and a new world political and economic order, based on cultural needs of individual countries.

Dr. Leopold Senghor's contributions to national liberation and progress, to poetry, literature and culture and to international statesmanship, understanding, friendship and peace are very substantial. It is therefore fitting that the Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding should be conferred on Dr. Senghor.

#### 1983 NEHRU AWARD CONFERRED ON DR. BRUNO KREISKY OF AUSTRIA

After careful consideration of the numerous nominations received from all over the world, the Jury for the Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding has decided that the Award for the year 1983 be given to Dr. Bruno Kreisky, former Federal Chancellor of Austria, world renowned statesman, socialist, humanist, staunch apostle for the dignity, equality and fundamental rights of man, as also for disarmament, international peace and universal brotherhood.

Born on January 22, 1911, Dr. Kreisky studied for and secured a doctorate in law. He joined the socialist movement as a student in 1927. Between this time and the outbreak of the war he suffered hardship, including imprisonment and exile for his political ideals. He spent the war years in Sweden. After the war, he served for a time as Austria's Political Representative in Stockholm. On return to Austria, he joined the Foreign Ministry and in 1953, was appointed State Secretary at the Foreign Ministry. In that capacity, he played an important part in the negotiations which led to the conclusion of the Austrian State Treaty.

In 1959 Dr. Kreisky was appointed Foreign Minister, and thereafter not only played an increasingly important role in international affairs but also in the affairs of the Socialist Party of Austria, whose leader he became in 1966. In the election of 1971, the socialists secured an absolute majority under Dr. Kreisky.

In the elections of 1975 again, the Socialist Party suceeded in gaining an absolute majority under Dr. Kreisky's leadership and increased their majority in the elections of 1979. In the elections held on April 24, 1983, Dr. Kreisky had declared that he would form government only when his Socialist Party gained an absolute majority. Since his party fell short of the absolute majority, he decided to step down. He is still Chairman of the Austrian Socialist Party. Dr. Kreisky is also a Vice President of the Socialist International and Chairman of the United Nations International Fund for Agricultural Development.

#### PRINCIPAL ACHIEVEMENTS

As Secretary of State, Foreign Minister, Chancellor and Chairman of the Austrian Socialist Party, Dr. Kreisky has not only influenced events in Austria, he has also left an indelible impact on the international political scene of the last quarter of a century, both in Europe and the world at large. Some of his principal achievements were in the context of the crisis in the Middle East and on North-South Economic issues. Dr. Kreisky has showed, in both these spheres, great political foresight, wisdom and vision. His commitment to forging world peace and harmony, has been unwavering.

As early as during the late fifties and early sixties, Dr. Kreisky recognised the importance of the newly emergent countries of Asia and Africa. He, therefore, started forging close ties with them. This manifested itself ultimately in Austria obtaining a "Guest" status in the Non-Aligned Movement to which an overwhelming number of Asian, African and Latin American countries come to belong. In point of fact, it was Austria that paved the way for other 'Neutral' countries of Europe securing a similar status in Non-Aligned Movement.

Development Aid, according to Dr. Kreisky, must be viewed not as an

<pg-186>

act of international charity, but as economically and politically beneficial also to the donor countries. With this idea in mind Dr. Kreisky took the initiative in organising conferences on Cooperation for Development, in 1962 and 1968. The first of these conferences led to the U.N. Declaration of the First Development Decade. Dr. Kreisky also worked actively, despite prolonged illness, in organising the North-South Summit at Cancun, Mexico in 1981. Even after giving up the Chancellorship, Dr. Kreisky as Chairman of the International Fund for Agricultural Development has been indefatigable in the pursuit of his vision of an economically interdependent and co-operative world.

#### VIEWS OF YOUTH

Dr. Kreisky has, time and again, forcefully rejected the concepts of "politics of strength" and "armament". He has also spoken out against the deployment of Pershing and Cruise Missiles in Western Europe. He has urged that in all democratic societies, the views of the youth as manifested by the peace movements, must be taken into consideration.

Dr. Kreisky has often acknolwedged publicly the influence of Jawaharlal Nehru on the evolution of his political thought and philosophy. It was on Nehru's advise that he established the Vienna Institute for Development Issues. His views on disarmament and detente, international cooperation and the mutual benefits of development effort, for both the developed and the developing, he has said, owe much to the influence of Nehru. Though outside the Non-Aligned fold, he has showed deep understanding and sympathy for the philosophy of Non-Alignment and has helped to explain it to the world, and especially the Western world.

For all these reasons stated above, the 1983 Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding has been conferred on Dr. Bruno Kreisky.

# DIA SENEGAL AUSTRIA USA FINLAND CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC UNITED KINGDOM FRANCE ITALY ETHIOPIA SWEDEN MEXICO

**Date** : May 28, 1984

# Volume No

1995

#### LIBYA

Protocol Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 31, 1984 on the signing of a protocol between India and Libya:

A protocol between India and Libya was signed in Tripoli on the conclusion of the fifth Indo-Libyan Joint Commission meeting. Shri Narayan Datt Tiwari, Union Minister for Industry and Mr. Jumaa Al-Arbash, Libyan Co-Chairman, signed the agreement on behalf of India and Libya respectively.

Libya has invited Indian expertise to set-up industries like paints, garments manufacturers, building hardware on turnkey basis. Libya has also requested for the management and cooperation of the tyre factory established recently for which India has agreed to make suitable arrangements.

The protocol lays the foundation of a new phase of extensive cooperation between the two countries is as a result of the meeting in Tripoli between Mrs. Indira Gandhi and Col. Muammar Qadhafi in April this year.

It was also agreed to raise the level of trade between the two countries. Indian companies will be participating in the construction of power projects, dams, buildings and roads. Problems concerning man <pg-187>

power, finance etc. were also satisfactorily discussed.

India has offered to provide complete consultancy in the field of land and water development and agricultural research. Decision was also reached to explore the starting of air and shipping services between the two countries.

The two co-Chairmen of the Joint Commission initiated an agreement on cooperation in the field of culture, mass media, information and sports. The agreement is based on the draft which was proposed by India and handed over to the Libyans last year.

Shri N. D. Tiwari also signed a memorandum of understanding with the Libyan Health Minister. It provides for deputation of more specialists, closer cooperation between the higher level medical institutions of the two countries, assistance to set up facilities in Libya for manufacture of medicines and medical equipments and arranging medical supplies.

During the course of his visit, Shri Tiwari had useful meeting with almost all the members of the Libyan Cabinet. He held discussions on a wide ranging subjects concerning industries, trade, energy, joint ventures projects, communication, land and water development, agriculture, health, education and culture, etc.

BYA INDIA USA RUSSIA **Date :** May 31, 1984

# Volume No

1995

#### SOVIET UNION

#### Merchant Shipping Agreement

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 31, 1984 on the agreement between India and USSR modifying the agreement on Merchant Shipping:

An agreement between the Government of India and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics modifying the earlier agreement on Merchant Shipping has been entered into through exchange of letters and has been notified in the Gazette of India Extraordinary on May 31, 1984. The effect of this agreement is that the cargoes handled by the Interlighter International Shipping Company, Budapest (a joint company of the Governments of Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria and Hungary) to and from ports of India, USSR, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria would be treated as covered by the terms of bilateral agreements of India with each of these countries.

In so far as India's agreement with USSR is concerned, a shipping company established in one State, will not be charged to tax by the other State on income from carriage of cargo in the bilateral trade. India may charge tax on income of a shipping company established in USSR from carriage of cargo from Indian ports to third countries, but such tax will be reduced by two-third, and vice-versa.

No Indian income-tax shall be levied or collected by Indian authorities on freight-earnings of Czechoslovakia vessels on the basis of reciprocity. The agreement with Bulgaria provides that no income-tax will be levied on freight-earnings on cargo carried in bilateral trade.

At present there is no agreement with Hungary. Hence the cargoes handled either way between India and Hungary by the Interlighter International Shipping Company, Budapest, would be outside the purview of this new agreement. </

DIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC HUNGARY BULGARIA NORWAY SLOVAKIA **Date :** May 31, 1984

### Volume No

1995

SOVIET UNION

New Directions in Indo-Soviet Shipping

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 29, 1984 on the Indo-Soviet Joint Shipping Committee Meeting:

Apart from reviewing the performance of the Indo-Soviet shipping service, the recently concluded meeting of the Indo-Soviet Joint Shipping Committee at Odessa (USSR) has sought to introduce new directions to improve the service. An important new element incorporated in the protocol is the strategy for achieving not only closer parity between the two partners in freight earnings as a whole but also "directional" parity between partners in the quantities moved so as to reduce to the minimum the empty movement of vessels and containers by each partner.

Another new concept brought up is the question of differential freight system, that is a lower rate for a commodity when moved in containerised form as compared to the rate applicable to its movement in break bulk form. This could be achieved without affecting the overall average revenue of the shipping lines and without introducing any uncertainties for them through a system of rebate on containerised movement made from a limited Rebate Fund provided in the budget in advance. It was agreed that this suggestion given by the Indian side would be examined.

In the discussions that preceded the protocol, some new areas of cooperation between Indian and Soviet shipping lines in respect of cross trade were also decided. It was agreed that the Soviet side would, whenever possible, use Indian liner vessels for shipment of cargoes to and from adjacent countries like Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Pakistan. In respect of tramp cargo, the existing arrangements of notifying and receiving offers from Transchart would continue and would be extended to rice shipments also.

The question of freight rebate on Indian postal mail was satisfactorily resolved. It was agreed by the Soviet side that 15% rebate would be given for the mail in keeping with the provisions of Indian law.

Another decision taken during the meeting was that in order to avoid uncertainties amongst user agencies, freight revisions on the Indo-Soviet shipping service would take place only with prospective and not retrospective effect. This was widely welcomed by the user agencies in both countries.

The Indian delegation during these discussions held at Odessa was led by Mr. Prakash Narain, Secretary, Shipping and Transport, and the Soviet delegation by Mr. V. M. Nikolaichuk, Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Merchant Marine of the USSR Government.

# DIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC BANGLADESH PAKISTAN UNITED KINGDOM

**Date** : May 29, 1984

# Volume No

1995

#### SOVIET UNION

#### Memorandum on Communication

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 27, 1984 on the signing of the Indo-USSR Memorandum on Satellite communication:

A memorandum of understanding was signed in New Delhi by Dr. B. I. Chirkov, Deputy Chief of External Relations, Ministry of PTT and Shri T. V. Srirangan, Wireless Adviser to the Government of India regarding inter-system coordination of some USSR Geostationary satellite networks with those of INSAT. Officers from P and T, Department of Space, Ministry of Communication (WPC) and Ministry of External Affairs also participated in the discussions with the USSR delegation.

As a result of the discussions both sides agreed to make suitable adjustments <pp-189>

modifications so as to facilitate the satisfactory co-existence of Statsionar-13, Statsionar-14, Statsionar-T-2, Potok-2 and Volna-8. The positions for these satellites in the Geo-stationary Satellite Orbit (GSO) had to be coordinated with those of INSAT-IB and INSAT-IC. Coordination of satellite networks is required under the International Radio Regulations with a view to ensuring harmonious co-existence of all the networks which share the common and limited resources of the Radio Frequency Spectrum and the GSO, and avoid unacceptable mutual interference effects.

The location of Insat-ID which has been proposed as a third in the series of first generation INSAT Satellite has to be coordinated with USSR Satellite Statsionar-1 and Statsionar-3, in addition to those mentioned above. The Ministry of Communications foresaw the requirement for Insat-ID and after approval by Insat Coordination Committee (ICC) the same was projected to the International Frequency Registration Board (IFRB) of the ITU within the orbit arc 80øE to 85øE.

DIA USA IRAN **Date :** May 27, 1984

### Volume No

#### UNITED NATIONS

#### Indian Resolution on Population and Environment Adopted at UNEP

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 29, 1984 on the adoption at UNEP of an Indian resolution on population and environment:

Realising that poverty and population are the greatest environmental hazards, the governing council of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) has unanimously adopted the Indian resolution on Population and Environment at the plenary session held in Nairobi on May 28. The Indian resolution was moved by Shri Digvijay Singh, Deputy Minister for Environment and leader of the Indian delegation. It is for the first time that a resolution on Population and Environment has been taken up at the UNEP level.

The resolution specifies that inspite of success in decreasing the rate of population growth, the global population continues to increase substantially and is, in combination with accelerated development, exerting an increasing pressure on natural resources as well as the environment. It also points out that an improved quality of life can be achieved only if development is commensurate with sound environmental management.

The resolution has urged upon UNEP to fully participate in the forthcoming Second World Population Conference to be held in Mexico city in August this year, a decade after the first World Population Conference held at Bucharest in 1974.

The Indian resolution has also urged UNEP to accord high priority to the interaction and balance between population, resources, development, and environment. It has also asked the UNEP to include as a topic the issue of population in relation to the environment in the State of the Environment Report for the year 1985, in the light of the outcome of the forthcoming Mexico Conference. <pg-190>

DIA USA KENYA MEXICO ROMANIA **Date :** May 29, 1984

### Volume No

#### UNITED NATIONS

#### High Level Mission from UN Council for Namibia

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 18, 1984 on the visit to India of a Special Mission of the U.N. Council for Namibia:

At the invitation of the Government of India, a Special Mission of the United Nations Council for Namibia, comprising the members of the Bureau of the Council led by the President of the Council, Ambassador Paul J. Lusaka (Zambia), visited India from 16 to 18 May 1984. Other members of the Mission were Ambassador A. Coskun Kirca (Turkey), Ambassador Ignac Golob (Yugoslavia) and Ambassador N. Krishnan (India). The purpose of the Mission was to call on the Chairperson of the Non-aligned Movement in order to acquaint her with the latest developments pertaining to Namibia.

2. During its stay in India the Mission was received by Shrimati Indira Gandhi, Prime Minister of India and the Chairperson of the Non-Aligned Movement. The Mission also called on Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, Minister for External Affairs, and the Foreign Secretary, Shri M. K. Rasgotra. The Mission further held substantive discussions in the Ministry of External Affairs with an Indian delegation led by Dr. J. S. Teja, Additional Secretary.

3. In the course of their discussions the situation in and related to Namibia was discussed, particularly in the light of recent developments in the region. The obstacles that stood in the way of bringing South Africa's illegal administration of Namibia to an immediate end were examined exhaustively. There was also an exchange of views on the role that the Non-Aligned Movement has been playing and could play in future in assisting the realisation of early independence for Namibia.

4. The Indian side reaffirmed to the Mission the full support of the Government of India as well as that of the Non-Aligned Movement as a whole to the heroic struggle being waged by the Namibian people under the leadership of their sole and authentic representative SWAPO for the independence of Namibia. The Non-Aligned countries were firmly convinced that only complete and unconditional implementation of the Security Council Resolution 435 of 1978 could bring about a peaceful settlement of the Namibian question. The Minister of External Affairs of India stressed the need for the Movement to continue to strengthen SWAPO in its struggle for the independence of Namibia The Government of India expressed its deep appreciation of the role being played by the United Nations Council for Namibia as the sole legal administering authority of Namibia until independence.

5. Recent developments in the region had not so far resulted in any progress on the implementation of the UN Plan for Namibian

independence. In this regard, the Government of India and the Mission firmly opposed any attempts by the South African Government or others aimed at bypassing the United Nations. They also denounced all manoeuvres by South Africa directed at imposing a neo-colonial regime on the Namibian people through the so-called "internal settlement" schemes.

6. Both sides categorically rejected South Africa's insistence on linking the independence of Namibia to irrelevant and extraneous issues as incompatible with Resolution 435(1978), other decisions of the Security Council and the resolutions of the General Assembly on Namibia, including General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960. They declared that the independence of Namibia cannot be held hostage to the resolution of issues that are alien to Security Council Resolution 435(1978).

7. The Government of India welcomed the holding of the forthcoming Extraordinary Plenary Meeting of the Council in Bangkok from 21st to 25th May 1984. It was hoped that this important meeting of the Council will be able to come up with concrete recommendation for action by the UN General Assembly and the Security Council in order to obtain an early implementation of the UN Plan for Namibia.

8. The President of the Mission, on his part, undertook to apprise the Extraordinary Plenary Meeting the outcome of the consultation that the Mission had with the Prime Minister and Chairperson of NAM, the Minister for External Affairs and senior officials of the Government of India.

MIBIA INDIA USA ZAMBIA TURKEY YUGOSLAVIA SOUTH AFRICA

**Date :** May 18, 1984

### Volume No

1995

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Vice President Holds Dinner in Honour of Mr. Bush - Text of Shri Hidayatullah's Speech

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 12, 1984 of the speech by the Vice-President, Shri M. Hidayatullah, at a dinner hosted by him in honour of His Excellency Mr. George Bush, Vice President of the United States of America: It gives me great pleasure to extend a warm and friendly welcome, on behalf of the Government and people of India to you Mr. Vice President and to Mrs. Bush. This is your first visit to India and we greatly look forward to your stay amongst us. Rigours of the prevailing weather notwithstanding, I hope you and Mrs. Bush will be able to travel in the country and carry pleasant memories and see yourself the deep feelings of friendship our Government and people bear towards the Government and people of your great country.

#### DEMOCRATIC IDEALS

Both India and the United States were once ruled by Britain. You became independent in 1776; it took us quite a while longer to achieve our independence in 1947. History gave our two countries a share of colonial experience, creating in us love for freedom and self-Government and an urge for them. The democratic ideals and the systems of Government, which we have chosen and adapted to suit our respective conditions, are also similar and make an additional bond between our two countries. However, India and the United States are differently situated and it is not unnatural that the perceptions and priorities of our two countries are sometimes different.

Your vast country, Mr. Vice President, is rich in resources. The pioneering spirit of your people has led them to legendary conquests in the realms of science and technology. These and other achievements of your country are admired by us as by the rest of the world. India, is still a developing country and is striving to overcome its probems resulting from centuries of colonial rule. In our struggle for freedom our leaders derived much inspiration from the heroes of your own earlier struggle; and India shall never forget the sympathy and support our Independence Movement received from the American people and their Government. These fellow-feelings were later translated into very substantial and valued American assistance in our development programmes which as you will see personally we have put to excellent use. This has helped us to lay the foundations of our relationship today thus leading to many positive and, mutually beneficial exchanges between our two nations now and in the future.

#### FOODGRAIN PRODUCTION

Mr. Vice President, your visit, brief as it is, will give you an insight into the magnitude of the problems which face our people and of our determination to overcome them. In her first broadcast to the nation as Prime Minister, on 26 January, 1966 Mrs. Indira Gandhi drew attention to one of these problems. "The coming <pg-192>

months" she warned, "bristle with difficulties. The rains have failed us causing drought and as a result agricultural production

suffered a sharp decline." She want on to refer to the need to import large quantities of foodgrains from abroad. Today, we are not in such bad plight. Our foodgrain production this year is expected to exceed 144 million tonnes, giving our country at least a most welcome self-sufficiency. We are able to face confidently the vagaries of our weather and are able to feed our population, almost double of what it was in 1947.

Our development strategy has two principal aims; first to provide the vast masses of people, who live in villages, a decent and dignified living; and next to modernise India's social fabric and its primitive economy which was allowed to regress and stagnate in the colonial era. In these tasks we have achieved some success. yet a great deal remains to be done. These are tasks in which we cannot contemplate faltering or allow failures. Our failures always have consequences which affect not only the way of life and the freedoms which we cherish, but affect also vast multitudes of people in other developing countries who are engaged in endeavours similar to our own. To fulfil these tasks, we need peace in India and in India's neighbourhood and an environment of peace, harmony and cooperation all around. India's foreign policy of Non-Alignment is the sum total of these considerations.

Our region has witnessed many conflicts in the past, conflicts which were not of our seeking. We only desire a harmonious relationship of peace, with independence and equality, and friendship and cooperation with our neighbours and also the world beyond. We believe our development and stability can be an important factor for peace in Asia and perhaps in the world. However, we do not seek to judge or influence others. We do not expect conformity from anyone with our way of life, or our social and political system. We believe in a world of many faiths and beliefs, of many colours, voices and ways of life: a diverse world, but a world of harmony and cooperation at peace with itself.

#### NEW AREAS OF MUTUAL INTEREST

Your visit, Mr. Vice President comes at a time when we are engaged in identifying new areas of mutual interest to our two countries in the realms of art and commerce, industry and agriculture, science and technology. A solid framework of cooperation between India and the United States is already in existence. Our Prime Minister's visit to your country in July 1982 opened up new possibilities, which we wish to build upon. The Festival of India in the United States in 1985, we hope, will further enhance the friendship between our two countries as it will provide an opportunity for a larger number of Americans to get a glimpse not only of our culture and traditions, but also of our recent achievements in science and technology. Indo-US collaborations in industrial ventures are on the increase. Trade between our two countries is growing and the projects currently under discussion should strengthen cooperation in areas of higher technology.

A very recent development on the Indo-American scene presents a new promise. A number of Indian scholars and scientists, entrepreneurs and professionals of various descriptions have gone from India to the United States in large numbers. They have woven a network of personal relationships stretching across the oceans. This community of about 350,000 consisting of highly qualified men and women of Indian origin is making an important contribution to American society. We hope, Mr. Vice President, that this Indian strand in the fabric of your society will ultimately contribute to the further strengthening of the existing bonds of friendship and cooperation between our two countries.

Your visit, Mr. Vice President, provides a welcome and happy occasion to review and reinforce personal contacts between the leaders and high authorities of India and United States. It is important that our two countries should understand <pp-193>

each other's concerns and sensitivities so that the two great democracies of the world may work together to create a world of peace, friendship and harmony.

Ladies and gentlemen, may I ask you to raise your glasses to the health, and happiness of the Vice President of the United States and Mrs. Bush and to the future of Indo-American friendship?

A INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date :** May 1@, 1984

### Volume No

1995

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Text of Mr. Bush's Speech

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 12, 1984 of the speech by H.E. Mr. George Bush, Vice President of the United States of America at a dinner hosted in his honour by the Vice President, Shri M. Hidayatullah, here tonight (New Delhi, May 12, 1984):

It is a privilege to have this opportunity to meet with you

tonight in this splendid and historic setting. Both Mrs. Bush and I are profoundly grateful for your warm hospitability and friendship.

In looking at the relationship between India and the United States, I am impressed by the many values our two countries share. First, of course, is our common heritage as two nations in the forefront of the anti-colonial struggle. We both know the pain and price of independence, and we both appreciate the necessity of carefully guarding our hard-won freedom.

It is significant, I believe, that in both our countries national elections will be held within the next few months. Our common democratic traditions hold our two nations in an enduring alliance of the spirit - the vibrant, unbreakable alliance of free men everywhere.

Closely related to our shared democratic ideals is the pluralistic nature of our two societies. The peoples of both countries - so varied in ethnic, linguistic and cultural backgrounds - have chosen to bind themselves together through democratic institutions in order to protect their diversity and their individual liberties.

Third, both societies value openness of discussion and debate, whether in the political arena or in a free press. Both India and the United States know that freedom of expression is the ultimate guarantor of our survival as free and proud peoples. We have seen too many countries around the world stagnate and decay - both spiritually and economically - as freedom withered under press censorship and state control.

#### FOREIGN POLICY OBJECTIVES

Given all this that our two societies have in common, some have asked why there is not greater accord between India and the United States in the way we look at the world. Let me say, first, that I count myself among those who believe there is no fundamental conflict between the foreign policy objectives of the United States and those of India. Each of us, in our own way, seeks a better life for our people in a world at peace with itself.

We do bring different perspectives to bear on the problems of our planet. Such differences are in the natural order of things; and as open, democratic societies which value the intellectual ferment stimulated by the debate of ideas, we should not confuse such debate with irreconcilable differences, nor give such debate a greater importance than it deserves.

#### SOUTH ASIAN STATES

Let us take, for example, my country's policy toward this region,

South Asia. The United States supports a system of stable, peaceful and prosperous South Asian states - States free to choose their own system of Government and to exercise their rights as sovereign, independent nations.

#### REGIONAL STABILITY

The United States recognizes the important role of a strong India, whose well cyg-194>

established democratic institutions held it serve as an anchor of regional stability.

Good relations between a strong, free and united India and its neighbours also contribute to regional stability and the peaceful, economically progressing South Asia we seek. We have welcomed efforts to increase regional cooperation, as well as India's efforts to improve bilateral relations with China and Pakistan. India and its neighbours, obviously, must determine the pace and path of the normalization process, but you should know that the United States stands ready to support it in whatever way we reasonably can.

In our view, the most destabilizing factor to emerge in the region in recent years has been the brutal Soviet invasion and continuing war against Afghanistan. The presence of more than 100,000 Soviet troops in that country has fundamentally altered the strategic balance in the region and created the world's largest refugee problem.

I look forward to discussing these and other matters with Prime Minister Gandhi and her officials. India and the United States have differences which we are sensitive to, but our common interests, which are grounded in a common commitment to democracy and human dignity, are larger and ultimately much more important.

Ladies and gentlemen, I ask you to join me in a toast to Vice President Hidayatullah and to the Republic of India.

# A INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC CHINA PAKISTAN MALI AFGHANISTAN

### **Date** : May 12, 1984

# Volume No

1995

VANUATU

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 28, 1984 of the speech made by the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, at the dinner hosted by her in honour of the Prime Minister of Vanuatu:

Prime Minister Father Lini, distinguished guests, I welcome you Prime Minister and your delegation.

You are a distant but friendly neighbour with whom we have had the pleasure and privilege of sharing platforms, of expressing ideas and joining in a common concern to build a better world. Our two countries are bound together by ideals like respect for the worth of individual human beings, democracy, equality and fairplay in international dealings and, above all else - peace.

The Bible tells us "to love thy neighbour as thyself." In fact all religions stress love and brotherhood. This is the relation ship we wish to have with those around us. Our small neighbours are obsessed by our size and sometimes let their imaginations run riot, alleging intentions which do not exist. We have no desire for power or role of leadership. We have enough land and enough people. Complex problems have been thrown up by progress itself adding to the age old ones. If we strive for strength, it is to ease the harshness of the path of development for our people; strength which releases their latent skills and talents, and which builds the human personality and enables us to look beyond ourselves, beyond the here and now to larger perspectives.

#### NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT

In the Non-Aligned Movement there are countries with different policies and systems. We cannot and do not agree with them on all aspects. yet on many issues we have similar views and on some we feel

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strongly. By conviction, by historical and political necessity we believe in peaceful coexistence. On this planet of ours, there is room for all, the big and the small and each one of them must have equal respect, equal opportunity.

I was born and grew up during our struggle for independence. It was a period when my family, and hundreds of thousands of others were mostly in prison. Some intrepid young revolutionaries gave their lives. Yet this untold hardship was considered as honour. A poem of Ralph Chaplan made a lasting impact on me. It exhorts us not to mourn the dead or the captive but

"Rather mourn the apathetic throng the cowed and meek, who see the world's great anguish and its wrong and dare not speak." We may have weaknesses and our feet sometimes falter as we hew our own difficult paths. The pressures on us are great. But we do dare to speak. We speak so that the wrong and exploitation of centuries can be relegated to the past and the promise which independence brought to our countries can be fulfilled.

#### COASTLINE

India's coastline stretches about 6000 kms. and Vanuatu consists of islands. We have a natural interest in the Oceans around us. For centuries the seas have provided food and livelihood, and the adventure of voyages of discovery or treasure hunting. Now once again their economic and strategic importance is to the fore. As growing numbers crowd the land, we look to the sea to augment resources of food and minerals. The rich countries experiment with under-water habitation. The thirst for knowledge and the desire to stretch their ability takes people to deep sea exploration. Much of this is beyond the reach of developing countries. How sad that the basic needs of millions are ignored and these resources and advances in knowledge become means of aggrandisement. The Indian Ocean is now part of global strategies with military bases and nuclear weapons to be used for domination and control rather than the harmonious well-being of humankind. Indian science is for peace and development. We have established a Department of Ocean Development and our scientists have done valuable work in this and other scientific endeavour.

#### SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

We, the Non-aligned, should resolve to use science and technology for the human good. This India is attempting, with whatever advances we have made, in agriculture, in machine-building, in space and nuclear science. Knowledge should be shared between fellow-developing countries. It is important to devise new international arrangements so that developing countries get the economic and technological help they need.

The terms on which these are provided must not become a further burden but be fair to us all. Like sunshine, the benefits of upto-date technology should not be confined to the affluent and the strong. Without it the developing cannot meet the aspirations of their people. That is the spirit in which India advocates greater North-South and greater South-South cooperation.

#### INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION

Prime Minister, you stand firmly for international cooperation. You came to Delhi for the Regional Conference of the Commonwealth in 1980. We missed you greatly at the Non-Aligned and Commonwealth Summits. I was delighted to have you at our consultations in New York where your participation was positive and valuable. The present visit will further strengthen the friendship which links our two peoples. We have already had useful discussions on how our two countries can work together in the cause of world peace and human progress. Your stay is brief, I hope you will have an opportunity to be better acquainted with some of the development work we have undertaken.

Ladies and Gentleman, I request you to join me in a toast to the health and personal success of Prime Minister Father Walter Lini and to the prosperity of the Republic of Vanuatu and its people. cpg-196>

NUATU INDIA USA

**Date** : May 28, 1984

### Volume No

1995

VANUATU

Text of Vanuatu Prime Minister's Speech

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 28, 1984 of the speech by H.E. Father Walter Hadye Lini, Prime Minister of Vanuatu at a dinner hosted in his honour by the Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi:

Your Excellency, I rise to say a few words in response to your courteous and most inspiring speech.

Firstly, allow me to again express to your excellency my very deep appreciation for the kind invitation which you extended to me to visit your beautiful country. The warm and friendly welcome and the generous hospitality accorded to me and members of my delegation on setting foot on your soil is very much appreciated.

Madame Prime Minister, as I indicated to you during our discussions this afternoon, Vanuatu and India enjoy the best of relations and we in Vanuatu treasure very much our friendship. I am sure that my visit here will promote better understanding and co-operation between Vanuatu and India and contribute to the strengthening of the cordial relations existing between our two countries.

We are proud of the fact that both our countries are members of the Non-Aligned Movement and the Commonwealth. In fact, Vanuatu is the only country in the South Pacific member of the Non-Aligned Movement and we were fortunate to join the Movement at the time when you, Your Excellency, is Chairperson of the NonAligned Movement. We are equally proud of the role Your Excellency is currently performing and of your courage and determination in putting forward our case, the case of developing countries, especially in the areas of the North-South Dialogue and disarmament.

#### SUSTAINED ECONOMIC RECOVERY

Madame Prime Minister, we support your clear analysis that the sustained economic recovery of the North can only be achieved if the economic development of the South is vigorously activated. More progress in deeds rather than words must be made out of the North-South dialogue. The resumption of global negotiations for the establishment of the new international economic order is long overdue. We follow with interest Your Excellency's efforts in the implementation of the Non-Aligned Summit suggestion for a programme of immediate measures and an international conference on money and finance.

Your Excellency, we admire you for your consistent calls that the central issue in securing wider progress on disarmament is the stopping of the nuclear arms race. The two Super Powers including the nuclear weapons States must come together and discuss seriously ways and means to stop arms race. As the New Delhi Non-Aligned Summit indicated very clearly. "the relationship between disarmament and development, the relaxation of tensions in the world and the halting of the arms race, which would release resources for development, are vital necessities for the developing countries and indispensable factors for global progress".

To us, India, the land of Mahatma Gandhi and of Jawaharlal Nehru, represents the spirit of liberation from colonial oppression, of non-violence and genuine Non-Alignment. In our Asia-Pacific region colonial situations still exist and there are cases of interference in the internal affairs of States. These are dangerous situations to the security and prosperity of our region and real efforts must be made to resolve these.

Your Excellency, it is my hope that our region can and will be peaceful if colonized peoples in the area are given their freedom and States adopt the principles of non-violence, genuine Non-Alignment, noninterference and non-intervention in each others' internal affairs. All of us must learn to trust each other and respect each <pg-197>

others' sovereignty, territorial integrity and national unity.

Finally, I now have much pleasure in proposing a toast. I would like you, ladies and gentlemen, to join with me in raising our glasses to the good health and continued wise leadership of Her Excellency, Shrimati Indira Gandhi and for the prosperity of this great nation, India. <pg-198>

### NUATU INDIA USA **Date :** May 28, 1984

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# Volume No

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FRANCE

India and France Agree to Work for Sustained Bilateral Trade

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jun 21, 1984 on the protocol on economic and technical cooperation signed by India and France:

India and France resolved to work for sustained and balanced bilateral trade and enhance economic and commercial cooperation. This aspect was particularly emphasised in the protocol signed yesterday (June 21, 1984) by Shri V. P. Singh, Minister for Commerce and Mrs. Edith Cresson, the French Minister for Foreign Trade and Tourism at the conclusion of the fourth session of the Indo-French Joint Committee for Economic and Technical Cooperation held in Paris from June 18 to 20, 1984.

The two countries agreed that the public sector enterprises in both the countries should identify the purchases they could make and establish durable relationship for mutual benefit. It was also agreed that the thrust that had of late been lent to exchange of visits of trade and business missions and delegations between the two countries needed to be further intensified for enhancing the awareness of each other's capability and potential. Further more, it had been desired that special feed back in style designs and quality specifications for specialised commodity groups like garments, leather goods and other consumer items be ensured for Indian manufacturers to adapt and develop products to suit the French market.

The French delegation reiterated their interest in several industrial projects, particularly in areas concerning on-shore and off-shore oil exploration, coal mining and equipment, telecommunication and electronic sectors including medium and large computers, oceanography and marine exploration.

During his visit to Paris for the Joint Committee Meeting Shri V. P. Singh exchanged views on several important sectors of bilateral cooperation with the French Ministry of Industry and Research, Economy, Finance and Budget, Agriculture and Foreign Trade. A special meeting of the leading businessmen and industrialists was convened on June 19 under the aegis of the CNPF (Federation of French Industries and Commerce) which in conjunction with Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) has established a joint business council for furthering economic and industrial cooperation between France and India.

#### COMMERCE MINISTER'S SPEECH AT INAUGURAL SESSION OF THE INDO-FRENCH JOINT COMMITTEE

India and France were asked to examine jointly how Indian exports to France can be significantly increased, particularly in the light of the liberalised import policy. The Minister of Commerce, Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh, who spoke at the inaugural session of the Indo-French Joint Committee for Economic and Technical Cooperation in Paris on June 18 said that steps should be taken on the domestic front to crystallise into concrete recommendations for expanding the areas of Indo-French cooperation and promoting trade and economic relations. The Minister pointed out that the low level stagnation of Indo-French trade did not reflect the prospects and possibilities of the complementarities of the two economies. The rationalisation of India's trade and industrial policies for the modernisation of its industry and for imparting greater competitive strength to its exports should provide a stimulus to Indo-French trade. <pg-199>

The establishment of four new trade zones in addition to the existing ones provided tremendous scope to the French industry for investment and collaboration in India, stated the Minister. The 100 per cent export-oriented units could provide another avenue for French partnership in Indian developmental export efforts.

Priority should be given to the development of industrial collaboration between India and France and cooperation in third countries. The Minister felt that there was need for a suitable machinery to be set up urgently which could act as a powerful catalyst in promoting such collaboration. The work done by the Joint Business Council in identifying the areas was commended by him. However, this needed to be followed up by the business communities for concrete results.

Agriculture was an important area which could be profitably exploited in expanding Indo-French cooperation. The Minister said that he was looking forward to new initiatives for the agricultural and rural development sector in the new protocol.

Both the countries had vibrant public sectors which could through mutually beneficial cooperation improve the use of each other's skills and resources in third countries, observed Shri V. P. Singh.

Improved access in markets abroad was essential to sustain export efforts. various types of restrictions were being imposed on a large number of products even in the EEC. The Minister made special reference to textiles, which he stated, he was aware was a sensitive area for the community. However, it was also of special interest to developing countries like India. The generalised system of preferences had benefitted developing countries but was yet to become an effective tool for the promotion of trade and industrialisation. The Community's GSP could be made more meaningful by the removal of quotas and ceilings and improvement of product coverage. There are a large number of areas where removal of tariffs and non-tariffs barriers in the Community could considerably help Indian exports. Sugar was an example of India's quota being reduced. There was need to restore it and further enlarge it in the context of India's trade deficit with EEC.

The Minister referred to the rules and principles covering international trade and the trade restrictive measures which violated these. He expressed his country's desire that the work programme adopted by the ministerial-meeting in GATT in November, 1982, is implemented speedily and the existing commitment translated into practice.

While appreciating the French development cooperation and financial assistance to the developing countries, the Minister stated that there was considerable room for improvement both in respect of quantum of aid to India and its quality.

The Commerce Minister called for gerater emphasis in Indo-French economic relations and hoped that the current round of deliberations ensured increased exports from India and greater bilateral cooperation.

#### INDO-FRENCH TRADE

The Indo-French Joint Committee was set up in January, 1976. The

last meeting was held in New Delhi in 1982. There is a Joint Business Council set up between Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) and Conseil National du Patronat Francais (C.N.P.F.) in July, 1980. They hold annual meetings, alternately in India and France. The last meetings, was held in January-February, 1984, at Delhi.

France is an important trading partner of India accounting for about 11.9 per cent of India's trade with EEC during 1982-83. However, exports have remained more or less constant around a figure of Rs. 150 crores, whereas imports have gone up from Rs. 207 crores in 1979-80 to Rs. 410 crores in 1982-83.

Major items of exports to France are articles of apparel and clothing accessories, textile yarn fabrics and related products, pearls, precious and semi-precious stones, leather and leather preparations, crude, animal and vegetable materials, floor coverings (including carpets), handicrafts, metal manufactures, fish and fish prepara-200>

tions, chemicals and related products and feeding stuff for animals.

Major items of imports from France are machinery and transport equipment, iron and steel, chemicals and related products, butter oil, sugar and lactose, nonferrous metals, urea, fixed vegetable oils and professional, scientific instruments, etc.

Besides the aluminium project and the Mirage tie-up, France has been collaborating with India in certain key sectors such as coal, mines development, telecommunications, oil exploration and electronics. The Joint Business Council has identified areas of collaboration and items for export which include fishing equipment, electric motors, electric cables, computer software and construction materials for export to France.

For import from France laboratory equipments, telecommunication, measurement control and civil engineering equipment have been identified.

A number of areas of common interest in the field of agriculture and allied sciences have also been identified by the two Governments. These include crop sciences, forestry, water management, farm machinery, livestock sciences, agricultural education and training and fisheries. An Indo-French Protocol for Cooperation in the field of agriculture and rural development was signed in 1980. There has been Indo-French cooperation in oil exploration and development and refinery. Some new proposals for development of India's offshore and on-shore resources are being considered.

# Volume No

1995

FRANCE

Indo-French Joint Protocol on Agriculture

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jun 26, 1984 on the Indo-French joint protocol on argiculture:

A joint protocol between India and France was signed in Paris yesterday (June 25, 1984). Under the protocol, the two countries will cooperate in the field of agriculture and allied subjects to the best advantage of the two countries. India's Agriculture Minister, Rao Birendra Singh and the French Agriculture Minister Mr. Michel Rocard signed the protocol.

#### ANCE INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date** : Jun 26, 1984

# Volume No

1995

INDONESIA

Foreign minister's Speech at Jakarta

The following is the speech delivered by the Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, at a banquet on Jun 04, 1984 during his visit to Indonesia:

Excellency, distinguished friends, I am happy to be with you in this historic and graceful city of Jakarta. My delegation and I are grateful for your hospitality. I thank you for your words of welcome.

To come to Indonesia is, for me, the realisation of a wish long

cherished. For centuries our nations and peoples have shared an awareness of each other. The world map, glanced from a distance, does not highlight our very neighbourhood. Yet only a narrow stretch of water separates the southernmost point of my country from the northernmost of your own. <pp-201>

We are imbued with a personality that is, in its essence, Asian. This is an attribute inherent with meaning. It speaks of the colonial experience and the will that necessitated its end. It speaks of the search for selfhood, and its realisation. It speaks of the history in which our present was nurtured and which gave it the roots that time could not wither.

#### INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY

But today that personality has been enhanced, our identity is not regional alone. We are partners in an international community which strives for excellence in every field on the one hand and is deeply concerned for its very survival on the other. Disaster seems to be closing in upon mankind and it is natural that man brings to mind the values and feelings he once held most dear. Trust and affection, generosity and compassion are innate in man. But these are not wanted in the mad race in pursuance of the very different aspirations that seem to be spurring some powerful rather power-drunk forces.

Excellency, we have been fortunate to live in a dynamic century. We have seen change, forged in the furnace of popular determination. We have seen progress at a tempo that has outpaced our own imagination. We have been witness to history at the moments of its creation. It has been a relentless century, relentless in its quest and its pace and in the demands it has made on the people who have lived in it.

#### ASPIRATION FOR EXCELLENCE

The aspirations for excellence which has distinguished our times should have made our world a greater and a safer place to be in. And yet, even as we virtually mastered the elements, we unwittingly fashioned new elements, which make all we cherished fragile and vulnerable. Security of one was sought to be based on the insecurity of another, the scarce resources of the earth were left to the mercy of those who manoeuvred to command them.

Excellency, our two nations comprise more than eight hundred and fifty million people. It is an easy number to recall, but it is important to remember what this number represents. Each is a person, who is perhaps aware of his ambition and yet unaware of his future. Each has but one life to live. With all the power and potential of this splendid century, he cannot hope to live his life to the fullest. This is the single task to which we must address ourselves. All else becomes incidental to it. The Non-Aligned Movement has struggled to chart a course through our uncertain and turbulent times. The shore is distant, yet the harbour light seems to flicker.

Excellency, the national motto of your great country is "Unity in Diversity". It is an apt thought for this beautiful land, spread in the vastness of the sea, with its many hues and colours blending gently together. It is the same in India. It is apt too for the way of life our peoples have chosen. Speaking in this country thirty years ago, Jawaharlal Nehru described the achievements of the Bandung conference. "We had to wrestle with our difference," he candidly said, for "we are not yes men to say to this country or that, or even to one another!"

This is a truth that remains at times obscured by the immediacy of a moment's discord. Homogeneous in will and purpose, but heterogenous in temporary responses, the Non-Aligned Movement has carried with it in the past quarter century not only its growing numbers but the millions the world over who have sought a sharing in its voice.

Excellency, we have today discussed many matters of common concern. I am grateful for the opportunity to share your views and your perceptions. Even where we have differed, we have appreciated each other's sensitivities. We have sought also to enlarge the fields of our bilateral cooperation in the best tradition of good neighbourliness.

I have come to Indonesia at what seems to me the perfect time of the year. Summer is unhurried and gentle, the land at its most green. It is difficult to think of the night of dark and chill casting its shadow on our earth. Let us together work to dispel it, to strive for a new world in the morning. <pp-202>

May I now request you to raise your glasses in a toast to our distinguished host and my friend, the Foreign Minister of Indonesia, to his great country and people and to their continued friendship and cooperation with India.

DONESIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC INDIA **Date :** Jun 04, 1984

# Volume No

#### NETHERLANDS

#### Indo-Dutch Agreement to Boost Commercial Relations

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jun 19, 1984 on the protocol and memorandum of understanding for cooperation in the agricultural sector signed between India and Netherlands:

India and Netherlands have decided to enhance and enlarge bilateral, economic and commercial relations between the two countries at the second session of the Indo-Dutch Joint Committee Meeting held in The Hague from June 12-15, 1984. Based on the discussions and decisions taken at the meeting a Protocol was signed by Shri R. Dayal, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Commerce, on behalf of the Government of India, and Mr. J. W. A. Huibregtse, Deputy Director General in the Ministry of Economic Affairs, on behalf of the Government of Netherlands. The two delegations expressed satisfaction at the growing mutual awareness among the Indian and Dutch entrepreneurs and businessmen during the last few years.

Among the strategies considered at the meeting a special thrust was sought to be lent to specific sectors like development of agro-based industries for export, consumer packs of processed fruits and beverages, nuts, an integrated development package for marine products including cold storage, traditional and nontraditional sports goods, electronics with special emphasis on software packages and engineering ancillaries and components particularly for auto-industries and, hand and other small tools.

Emphasising the reversal in Indo-Netherlands trade, after four years of sustained adverse balance of trade suffered by India, the Netherlands delegation pointed out the upward swing in aggregate Indian exports to Netherlands during the latter half of 1983 and the first four months of 1984, mostly brought about by exports of crude oil from India to Holland. It was realised that crude oil transactions needed to be developed on more sustainable basis.

Reviewing the industrial and economic cooperation between the two countries, the Indian delegation pointed out the areas in which the Dutch industries could take advantage of by participating in specified export-oriented industries in Inda's free trade zones and under the 100 per cent export-oriented scheme. There has been considerable interest evinced by the Netherlands business and industry circles in the manufacture of intermediaries and components requiring labour intensive processes for the final product to be turned out with Dutch technology at economical costs.

Realising the eminent position of the Netherlands in agriculture,

especially intensive cultivation through high technology as well as in water conservation and management, two steering groups, one for the shipping and transport sector and another for agriculture including animal husbandry, dairying and fisheries, have been set up under the aegis of the Joint Committee. A Memorandum of Understanding for Cooperation in the agricultural sector has also been signed by Indian Ambassador to the Netherlands and Mr. C. J. M. Braks,

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the Netherlands Minister for Agriculture and Fisheries.

A two-day Indo-Netherlands Joint Business Council Meeting attended by representatives of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) and their counterparts in the Netherlands was also held on June 12 and 13, 1984. The Joint Committee emphasised the desirability for a focal point to be introduced in FICCI as well as in the organisation of Netherlands industries for entrepreneurs on both sides to be brought together and to resolve their preliminary difficulties and problems while dealing with various agencies.

#### INDO-NETHERLANDS TRADE

The Netherlands is an important trading partner of India, occupying almost the same position as France and Italy in its trade.

Indian exports to the Netherlands have risen from Rs. 137.13 crores in 1977-78 to Rs. 151.28 crores in 1981-82, and the imports, too, have increased from Rs. 82.15 crores in 1977-78 to Rs. 246.41 crores in 1981-82.

While the Dutch exports have been showing a progressively rising trend, Indian exports, after showing growth until 1978, have been going down steadily since 1979. The spurt during 1983 is the result of exports of crude oil and the increased exports of cattle feed to Netherlands.

The balance of trade, which was in favour of India until 1979-80, has been adverse since then.

Major items of exports from India to Netherlands are feeding stuff for animals, articles of apparel and clothing accessories, floor covering, etc. including carpets, textile yarn fabrics and related products, leather and footwear and, meat and meat preparations.

Major items of imports from the Netherlands are urea, chemicals and related products, machinery and transport equipment, nonferrous metals, metalliferrous ores and metal scraps, milk and cream, iron and steel, butter and cheese, and vegetable oils. The Indo-Netherlands Joint Committee on Economic and Technical Cooperation was convened in New Delhi during March 21-23, 1983. Separate Working Groups, on Shipping and Transport and Agriculture were constituted and discussions held for identifying areas for cooperation in these fields.

A Joint Business Council between FICCI and the Central Board of Foreign Economic Relations of the Netherlands was established in February, 1982. The first meeting of the Indo-Netherlands Joint Business Council was held in New Delhi on March 22, 1983.

Approvals for 123 Industrial collaborations with the Netherlands have been accorded till 1983. These are mainly in the fields of electrical and electronic industries, power transformers, gas condensers, welding electrodes, petro-chemical items, etc.

Trade Development Authority (TDA) is implementing a Bilateral Export Development Project with the assistance of Dutch Government to promote exports of Auto Ancillaries, Hand Tools and Sports Goods.

# DIA USA THE NETHERLANDS RUSSIA FRANCE ITALY CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC **Date :** Jun 19, 1984

# Volume No

1995

NETHERLANDS

Memorandum of Understanding on Agriculture

The following is the text of a press release issued by the Embassy of India, The Hague on Jun 12, 1984 on the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding on Agriculture between India and Netherlands:

The Government of India and the Government of the Kingdom of the Nether-

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lands signed in the Hague on 12th June, 1984, a Memorandum of Understanding on Agriculture which is the second agreement envisaged during H.R.H. Prince Claus's visit to India in 1981. The first Agreement on Economic and Technical Cooperation was signed in New Delhi on February 8th, 1983. The Memorandum of Understanding was signed by His Excellency Mr. C. J. M. Braks, Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, on behalf of the Government of the Kingdom of the Netherlands and Her Excellency Mrs. S. Kochar, Ambassador of India, on behalf of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Government of India.

The Memorandum identifies besides agriculture several areas such as horticulture; improvement in the production of livestock and dairy products; land and water development; post harvest operations and establishment of agro-based industries; research in the fields of crop sciences, animal sciences and soil sciences; and the training and education of personnel.

It also stipulates establishment of a Joint Agricultural Steering Committee with representatives from both parties to prepare a biennial work plan, to set forth detailed administrative and financial procedures, to review the progress and to suggest measures for further implementation of the Memorandum.

DIA USA THE NETHERLANDS

**Date** : Jun 12, 1984

# Volume No

1995

### PRIME MINISTER'S PRESS CONFERENCE

### Shrimati Gandhi on North-South Dialogue

The following is the text of Prime Minister's reply to questions by PTI and UNI correspondents on Shri L. K. Jha's Mission:

Question: Madam Prime Minister. You had sent Shri L. K. Jha as your personal emissary to a number of Northern countries recently Could you tell us the purpose of this mission and your assessment of its results?

Answer: Shri L. K. Jha's mission was in continuation of the initiatives which I had already taken as Chair-person of the Non-Aligned Movement to re-establish a North-South Dialogue.

We want the participants of the London Summit to keep in view the worsening economic situation of developing countries and to think of what can be immediately done about it, what fresh move can be made for a North-South dialogue. NAM had suggested an immediate programme of action on various issues such as strengthening the resources of the World Bank, IDA and IMF, as well as a Conference with universal participation on Money and Finance for Development. I am not going into the details or of our long term objectives which are well known. My concern is that we should get moving.

Shri Jha was received in four countries by Heads of Government. In others by Ministers and officials. Their ultimate response will have to be a collective one and will be known only after the London Summit. However, most countries do recognise the need to do something positive to break the deadlock in the North-South dialogue. Some hinted at the possibility of another Cancun-type conference. All referred to the gravity of the indebtedness of developing countries. If such crises are to be overcome now and prevented in the future, obviously we have to identify what is lacking in the present world monetary system and to remedy it. The plight of the poorer developing countries calls for <pg-205>

special attention. The external resources on which they rely come to them not only through the Fund-Bank family but also bilaterally from Governments as well as through commercial channels. These prolems can be dealt with only at a conference of the kind which we had suggested.

What we are pressing for is not without precedent. The Williamsberg Summit had considered a somewhat similar proposal from the French President and had decided to set up a group of Finance Ministers to examine this issue in consultation with the Director General of IMF although not under its auspices. The Commonwealth also has had this subject studied and the Secretary General of the Commonwealth is sounding different countries so as to report to the meeting of Finance Ministers preceding the annual meeting of the Fund-Bank. As Chairperson of NAM I appointed a group of five international experts to undertake a similar study. Once different groups, crystallise their positions independently, it would be much more difficult to arrive at a common viewpoint or even a common forum for discussion. So a North-South forum to examine all these studies seems to be an essential first step in breaking the present stalemate. In an interdependent world it would be unwise to ignore these concerns. I hope the London Summit will take note of the deep concern of developing countries.

A UNITED KINGDOM **Date :** Jun 12, 1984

# Volume No

### **SPAIN**

#### India and Spain to Co-operate in the field of Tourism

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jun 02, 1984 of the joint statement issued at the conclusion of the Union Minister of state for Tourism and Civil Aviation, Shri Khurshed Alam Khan's State visit to Spain:

The Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation of the Republic of India, Shri Khurshed Alam Khan, visited Spain from May 28 to June 1st at the invitation of his Excellency Senor Enrique Baron, the Minister of Transport, Tourism and Communication of the Government of Spain. During the course of the visit, the two Ministers held extensive discussions on the possibilities of cooperation between the two countries in the field of Tourism and Civil Aviation. The Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation of India also visited Granada and Sevilla. The discussions were held in an atmosphere of cordiality and cooperation.

The two sides recognised the importance of development of close touristic relations between them and cooperation between the two official tourist organisations with a view to fostering closer ties between the two countries. They felt that the promotion of Tourism between the two countries would enlarge the awareness of their people of each other's history, life and culture.

The two sides recognised the need to pay special attention to the promotion of organised and non-organised travel, to the travel of expert groups between them and to participations in each other's congresses, symposia, exhibitions, sporting events, festivals of music and theatre. They agreed to adopt necessary measures in order to promote such tourist travels between the two countries, both at Governmental and non-governmental levels.

With a view to informing each other of the possibilities of promoting tourism, the two sides agreed to exchange touristic <pg-206>

information such as printed material and films. For the purpose of spreading information about touristic possibilities in each other the two sides would try, as far as possible, to participate in fairs and exhibitions related to tourism and travel in each other's territory.

It was agreed that India and Spain would help one another in the exchange of expertise in the field of tourism, particularly in the organisation of tourist publicity and training of specialist staff.

The Minister of Tourism and Civil Avation, Government of India

extended a cordial invitation to His Excellency, Mr. Enrique Baron, Minister of Transport, Tourism and Communication of Spain to visit India at his convenience. The invitation was accepted with pleasure.

AIN INDIA USA

**Date** : Jun 02, 1984

# Volume No

1995

THAILAND

Greater Potential for Bilateral Trade Between India and Thailand

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jun 23, 1984 on the first Indo-Thailand trade review meeting:

India and Thailand have recognised that there is greater scope for a major increase in the bilateral trade volume between the two countries and the present two-way trade of approximately \$ 120 million does not reflect the potential for trade between the two countries.

This was focussed in the First Indo-Thailand Trade Review Meeting at official level that took place at Bangkok from June 18-20, 1984. The Indian delegation to the talks was led by Shri T.S.R. Subramanian, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Commerce. The two delegations identified items that could be traded between the two countries which included light engineering goods, gems and jewellery, iron ore, chemicals and pharmaceuticals for export from India to Thailand; and cereals, pulses, tin, rubber and flourspar for import from Thailand to India.

The review meeting also discussed the 12 Indian joint ventures established in Thailand and the possibility of increasing joint ventures and collaborations between the businessmen from both sides. The question of Indian project exports in Thailand was also reviewed. The meeting noted that though at present the Indian projects' presence in Thailand was limited, there was great potential for further Indian project companies operating in Thailand.

In order to have a periodic review of the trade and economic relations between the two countries, the two delegations initialled a draft establishing a Joint Trade Committee which would meet alternately in Bangkok and in New Delhi preferably every year. <pg-207>

AILAND INDIA USA **Date :** Jun 23, 1984

# Volume No

1995

### UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Submarine Cable Link Between India and UAE

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jun 27, 1984 on the Memorandum of Understanding for a submarine cable link between India and the U.A.E.:

A Memorandum of Understanding between Overseas Communications Service of India of the Ministry of Communications and Emirates Telecommunications Corporation Ltd. of United Arab Emirates (UAE) was signed recently to construct, operate and maintain a submarine telephone cable linking India and U.A.E.

The Memorandum of Understanding states that the submarine cable will have a capacity of not less than 1,200 voice grade circuits. The total capital outlay for the jointly owned cable is estimated at 98 million US Dollars. The cable is planned to be laid between Bombay and Fujairah in U.A.E.

Indian share of the capital outlay on the cable is estimated at Rs. 48 crores. The submarine cable system is a very sophisticated equipment and has to be jointly purchased from known manufacturers abroad.

The ready-for-service date for the cable has been indicated in the Memorandum of Understanding as December 31, 1986.

ITED ARAB EMIRATES INDIA USA RUSSIA

**Date** : Jun 27, 1984

# Volume No

1995

### UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

#### Increased Indo-Soviet Cooperation in Coal

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jun 26, 1984 on increased Indo-Soviet cooperation in coal:

A high level six-member team led by Shri S. B. Lal, Secretary, Department of Coal, Government of India, which recently returned from the Soviet Union after an eight-day visit has identified four major areas where Soviet technical assistance would be made use of for the future development of Indian Coal Industry.

At the eighth session of the Indo-Soviet Commission on Economic, Scientific

and Technical Cooperation, held in December, 1983, the two sides had agreed to expand cooperation in the coal sector in India and draw up a long-term working for the period 1985-1990. The high level Indian team, which included Shri M. S. Gujral, Chairman, Coal India Limited and a representative of the Department of Heavy Industry discussed and finalised these new areas of cooperation.

The production of coal in India, which is expected to be 150 million tonnes in 1984-85 is stated to increase to 400 million tonnes by the year 2000 A.D. This deve-<pp-208>

lopment programme requires increasing efforts in coal exploration, development of new under-ground and opencast mines, design and construction of new washeries and coal preparation plants as well as transfer of technology for new uses for coal e.g. chemical utilisation of coal and gasification of coal at shallow depths and for power generation.

#### PROTOCOL SIGNED

In the protocol signed with Soviet First Deputy Minister for Coal Industry, Mr. V. V. Veliye, both sides agreed that development of three new coal mining projects in India will be taken up with Soviet assistance. These three projects, consisting of two opencast mines, one in Jharia coalfield and another in Singrauli coalfield, with a capacity of 10 million tonnes per year each and an underground mine of million-tonne capacity 2.5 per year in Jharia coalfield. These mines will add, when completed, 22.5 million tonnes to the annual production capacity of the Indian Coal Industry. Out of this 22.5 million tonnes, 12.5 million tonnes will be coking coal.

The detailed project reports of these projects will be prepared

with Soviet assistance.

### INSTITUTE OF COAL PREPARATION

In the context of the enhanced programme of setting-up washeries in India and to expand indigenous capability for setting-up washeries, it has been proposed to set up an Institute for Coal Preparation under Coal India Limited which will have divisions for planning of washeries, detailed designing of washeries and equipment, and will also supervise construction of washeries.

Soviet technical assistance will be made use of in the preparation of detailed project report for this organisation. A team of Indian experts will be visiting USSR by August, 1984 to finalise the set-up of this new Institute.

An agreement has also been reached for the expansion of cooperation in the field of coal exploration and coal utilisation including in the field of gasification of coal.

The team also reviewed the progress of on-going technical cooperation programme in the coal industry. During their stay in the Soviet Union, the team visited open-cast mines in Siberia and Uzbekistan and the Institute for designing of washeries in Moscow where they held discussions with experts. <pp-209>

DIA USA RUSSIA UZBEKISTAN **Date :** Jun 26, 1984

July

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# NGLADESH INDIA CHINA NORWAY SLOVAKIA FRANCE NEPAL MALDIVES USA UNITED KINGDOM LATVIA

**Date** : Jul 01, 1984

# Volume No

1995

BANGLADESH

India and Bangladesh for Increased Trade Generation

The following is the text of a Press release issued in New Delhi on Aug 01, 1984 on the signing of the Agreed Minutes between India and Bangladesh in Dhaka on July 27, 1984:

India and Bangladesh have called for increased collaboration through trade generating measures and have taken specific steps for tapping the export potential of Bangladesh. The decision, therefore, to renew the trade agreement btween the two countries for another three years and also to review the working of the same at least once a year is a definite step in that direction. These decisions were taken when the Agreed Minutes were signed between Shri Abid Hussain, Commerce Secretary and leader of the Indian delegation, and his counterpart Mr. S. Hassan Ahmed and the leader of the Bangladesh delegation in Dhaka on July 27, 1984.

The four-day talks emphasised the need to double the two-way trade during the current year and reduce the imbalance at the same time. Shri Abid Hussain stated that India had liberalised its import regime and wished to import more from its neighbours including Bangladesh for prosperity and harmonious relations among her neighbours. He referred to the slow utilisation of the lines of credit given by India to Bangladesh and stressed the need to quicken the pace of utilisation.

India felt it was possible to achieve a total turn-over of Rs. 100 crores this year and hoped that the loan of Rs. 60 crores which includes a Rs. 20 crore Government to Government loan and a Rs. 40 crore EXIM Bank loan to Bangladesh would be utilised for stepping up exports from India.

Details of procedures regarding the loan were discussed at the meeting and

direct contact established with Bangladesh banks. The Bangladesh side expressed keenness to utilise fully the credits on a priority basis. The loans are expected to give a boost to the export of capital goods, machinery and transport equipment to Bangladesh.

The leader of the Bangladesh delegation also underscored the need for increased cooperation in trade and commerce and felt that positive action should be taken by both sides to reduce the imbalance.

Both sides expressed concern regarding the declining volume of trade and agreed to take measures to rectify this.

### FOREIGN EXCHANGE EARNINGS

As a further attempt to increase foreign exchange earnings of Bangladesh, India expressed a desire to import natural gas. India also proposed that Bangladesh railway service be made available and transit facilities from West Bengal, Tripura, etc. through Bangladesh be examined

Other attempts to reduce the Bangladesh trade deficit include firm commitments from India for the import of 20,000 tonnes of newsprint for 1984-85 from Bangladesh. India has agreed to expedite the finalisation of this contract. Wet blue leather exports to India increased in 1983-84 and India has extended the period of duty-free import upto March 31, 1985. Bangladesh expressed the desire to export naptha and the Indian side requested specifications to examine the offer.

It was agreed that both sides will co-operate in increasing the export capabilities of Bangladesh through trade generating joint ventures. Several proposals for such

#### <pg-211>

cooperation are in the field of transport equipment.

Both sides were keen that trade cooperation in the fields of books, magazines and periodicals should be developed. India and Bangladesh will be holding two book fairs in each others' country in the current year for popularising their publications. Both sides further agreed to examine the possibility of import of these items through their respective State trading organisations. India has offered to supply 1,20,000 tonnes of coal to Bangladesh in 1984-85 through the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation (MMTC). Bangladesh expressed interest in the import of steel strips, cold rolled black sheets and refractories.

NEW ITEMS OF TRADE

India identified new, items which offer scope for increased trade. They are engineering goods like agricultural machinery and implements, power generation equipment, rice processing machinery and steel structurals. Chemicals like basic chemicals, drugs and pharmaceuticals and industrial chemicals, plastics and allied items, transport equipment such as two-wheelers, passenger vehicles and railway rolling stock were other areas which had potential for increased trade.

Trade promotion measures were discussed by the two delegations and the need for frequent exchange of trade delegations at both official and business levels and exchange of trade information emphasised. India will be holding an exhibition in Dhaka shortly and Bangladesh will be participating in the India international Trade Fair, 1984.

India has proposed a meeting of the Transport Coordination Committee under the two Commerce Ministers to look into the matters of telecommunication and transport facilities. Regarding standardisation, the Indian delegation brought to the notice of Bangladesh difficulties faced for the export of Indian agricultural implements for inclusion in the specifications prescribed for import in Bangladesh. The

Bangladesh side agreed to refer the matter to the Agriculture Ministry.

The talks were held in a cordial atmosphere and it was agreed that the next trade review will be held in New Delhi.

### INDO-BANGLADESH TRADE

Trade with Bangladesh was governed by an MFN (Most Favoured Nation) type Agreement. The period of validity expired in October, 1983. During the last Joint Economic Commission meeting in August, 1983, it was decided in principle to renew the Agreement for a further period of three years.

India's exports to Bangladesh have fluctuated from Rs. 52.66 crores in 1978-79 to Rs. 98.04 crores in 1979-80, Rs. 74.95 crores in 1980-81, Rs. 59.65 crores in 1981-82 and down to Rs. 32.47 crores in 1982-83. The imports from Bangladesh have varied from Rs. 1.77 crores in 1978-79 to Rs. 4.07 crores in 1979-80, Rs. 11.73 crores in 1980-81, Rs. 15.20 crores in 1981-82 and Rs. 9.24 crores in 1982-83.

The main items of Indian exports to Bangladesh are machinery and equipment, non-ferrous metals, chemicals, wheat, textile yarn and fabrics, non-metallic mineral manufactures, iron and steel, manufactures of metals and coal.

The main imports from Bangladesh are paper (newsprint), leather, raw hides and skins, bitumen and urea. Bangladesh exports to

India have been small and have indeed declined since 1981-82.

The trade turn-over has declined from Rs. 102 crores in 1979-80 to Rs. 41.7 crores in 1982-83.

The Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce & Industry (FICCI) and Federation of Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce & Industry (FBCCI) have signed an Agreement for setting up a Joint Business Council. The FICCI has invited its counterpart to send a delegation to India. The PHDCCI visited Dhaka in March, 1984 and EEPC visited the same in April, 1984. There are five working joint ventures between India and Bangladesh. <pg-212>

NGLADESH INDIA USA RUSSIA

**Date** : Aug 01, 1984

# Volume No

1995

CHINA

Coordination of Tea Policy

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jul 02, 1984 on the talks between Indian and Chinese delegations on tea policy:

India and China have agreed to work towards acheiving producers' unity with objective of ensuring stable and remunerative prices for tea. Both the countries were of the opinion that coordination of policy was necessary to protect the interest of the tea producing countries.

This agreement follows discussions held between the Indian tea delegation led by Shri V. C. Pande, Additional Secretary in the Ministry of Commerce, and Mr. Li Ke, minister's Representative in the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade, and other Chinese officials. The Indian delegation was in China from June 20 to 30, 1984.

The Chinese tea delegation is likely to visit India towards the end of the year.

The Indian delegation also visited the Tea Research Academy at Huangzhou, tea plantations in various places and tea factories in Huangzhou and Yingteh. The two sides further exchanged views on various aspects of tea production and exports. There was agreement on the need for more frequent and regular exchanges.

INA INDIA USA **Date :** Jul 02, 1984

# Volume No

1995

### CZECHOSLOVAKIA

#### Programme of Cultural and Scientific Cooperation

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jul 13, 1984 on the signing of a programme of cultural, scientific and technical cooperation:

India and Czechoslovakia signed here today (July, 1984) a programme of cultural, scientific and technical cooperation for the years 1984-86.

Dr. C. L. Anand, Joint Educational Adviser, Ministry of Education and Culture, signed on behalf of the Government of India and His Excellency Mr. Jana Lisucha, Charge d'Affairs of the Czechoslovak Embassy in india, signed on behalf of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.

The new cultural exchange programme signed between India and Czechoslovakia provides for continuance of the existing links between universities and institutions of higher learning in the two countries. The institutions and the fields of cooperation like life sciences, biomedical sciences, biocybernetics, motherand-child care have been identified. The programme also provides for cooperation in the field of care and education of the handicapped.

In the field of Art and Culture besides exchange of exhibitions, writers, performing delegations, the programme also provides for award of a scholarship for learning the music of each other's country. In the field of mass media, the provision has <pp-213>

been made for continuation of the cooperation between radio and television organisations in the two countries, participation in each other's international film festivals, exchange of journalists and persons working in the media. In the field of sports, provision has been made for the visit of a yoga expert to Czechoslovakia and a volleyball coach from Czechoslovakia to

India. Provision for India's participation in the Spartakiade and presentation of films on games, mass physical culture, gymnastics etc. by the Czech side also feature in the programme. Cooperation between the youth and students organisations of the two sides is yet another feature provided for in the cultural exchange programme.

# RWAY SLOVAKIA INDIA SWITZERLAND CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC USA **Date :** Jul 13, 1984

# Volume No

1995

### FRANCE

Indo-French Cooperation on Environment

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jul 27, 1984 on the agreement between India and France on cooperation on environment:

India and France have agreed to transfer of technology in combating long-term pollution that could emanate from nuclear wastes. In addition, the two countries will cooperate in establishing a network for monitoring air pollution in and around Delhi.

Both countries will also cooperate in setting up bio-sphere reserves and in supporting programmes of the Wildlife Institute of India.

There will be close linkage between the National Park of Vanoise, the largest and the oldest in France and the Great Himalayan National Park in Himachal Pradesh because of the commonness of problems and species of wildlife in these areas. France will also establish a network for monitoring methods for abatement of water pollution in the Sabarmati River, Gujarat.

These agreements were signed by the Deputy Minister for Environment, Shri Digvijay Sinh, and the French Minister for Environment, Madam Bouchardea, during Shri Sinh's visit to France last week.

Under the agreement, India and France have agreed to jointly work on a programme for tackling problems of desertification in North Africa. France has also agreed to transfer managerial methodology for a system of basin-wise river management of water resources.

ANCE INDIA USA **Date :** Jul 27, 1984

# Volume No

1995

NEPAL

Foreign Minister Hosts Dinner in Honour of Mr. Padma BahadurKhatri

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jul 12, 1984 of the speech by the Minister of External Affairs Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao at a dinner hosted by him in honour of Rt. Hon'ble Padma Bahadur Khatri,

Minister for Foreign Affairs of His Majesty's Government of Nepal here tonight (New Delhi, July 12, 1984):

It is my pleasure and privilege to welcome you to India. It is indeed good of you pg-214>

to find time to visit us at such short notice. Though we have had the opportunity to meet a couple of times over the past year within the SARC framework, I especially welcome this opportunity to further bilateral contacts between our two countries.

The ties between our two countries are rich, maniflod and diverse. They have their roots in ancient times and have played important roles in shaping our destinies. The warmth and affection that is present in the hearts of the Indian people for the people of Nepal have strong and unshakable foundations, rooted as they are in the constant and extensive interaction between our peoples. These are ties which both our countries treasure and which need to be constantly safeguarded as well as nurtured.

There are no serious problems between India and Nepal though there are issues on which there could be differences of perception. The progress that has recently been achieved in the field of water resources is a good example of the results that can be achieved through discussions in a spirit of mutual accommodation and a sensitivity for each other's interests. Excellency, both our countries are well aware of the vital importance that water resources play in development of our national economies. Concerned as we are with the well-being of our peoples, our Government is equally committed to the harnessing of all resources towards achieving this laudatory objective and will watch with keen interest and with the fervent hope and desire that the momentum achieved on Karnali will lead to further progress on other projects of importance to both our countries.

The progress and economic development of Your Excellency's country are of great importance and interest to India. Nepal has made impressive strides in recent years and, indeed, it has been our privilege to participate in Nepal's development in a variety of fields. Nepal is like wise assured of our abiding interest in her progress and prosperity.

Your Excellency, we live in a troubled age. We are surrounded by areas of tension and disquiet and of war and violence. It must be our common endeavour to ensure that the sub-continent in which both our countries lie, should remain tension free so that we can all devote our resources and attention to the overriding tasks of development. Our traditional ties that have for so long bound our two countries together in close friendship are a positive factor in fruitful cooperation and stability in our region.

Your Excellency, may I welcome you once again to India. I am confident that your visit will further strength the goodwill and understanding between our two countries.

Ladies and Gentlemen, may I ask you to raise your glasses in a toast to the health and happiness of His Excellency General Padma Bahadur Khatri, and to the everlasting friendship between India and Nepal.

PAL INDIA USA **Date :** Jul 12, 1984

# Volume No

1995

NORWAY

Norwegian Aid for Pollution Control

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jul 04, 1984 on the Norwegian aid to India for pollution control:

Norway has agreed to provide India instrumentation for assessing and combating deleterious effects of acid rains and ozone pollution. In addition, it will provide know-how for management and cleaning up of dumpings from ships in port areas.

Norway will also offer the know-how for controlling pollution from oil-spills <pg-215>

emanating from off-shore drilling as well as subsequent cleaning up operation.

It may be recalled that a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between India and Norway for cooperation in the field of environment, when the Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi, visited Oslo in June, 1983.

As a sequel to that, Norway has also agreed to offer financial assistance for funding specific projects in the Himalayan Institute of Environment and Development and the Wildlife Institute of India. it will also finance audiovisual programmes for creating consciousness on environmental issues in vernacular languages of India.

As a follow-up action, Shri Digvijay Sinh, Deputy Minister for Environment, visited Oslo for detailed discussions with the Norwegian Minister of Environment, Mrs. Rakel Surlien. Besides the know-how and financial and offer, the Norwegian Government assured Shri Digvijay Sinh, that in keeping with the international concern on whaling operations, Norwegian Government would make all efforts to cease commercial whaling at the end of 1985 season.

RWAY INDIA USA

**Date** : Jul 04, 1984

# Volume No

1995

SARC

Second Meeting of SARC in Male - Shri Narasimha Rao's Statement

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jul 11, 1984 of the speech by the Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao at the second meeting of the Foreign Ministers of South Asian Regional Co-operation in Male on July 10, 1984:

I am sure I am echoing the sentiments of all our colleagues when I say how happy we are to be here in this beautiful country for the second ministerial meeting of SARC. We have indeed been overwhelmed by the generous hospitality of our hosts ever since our arrival here. I would like to pay a warm tribute to the Government of Maldives for the excellent arrangements made for this meeting which I am sure will make a significant contribution to the success of our deliberations.

India has always enjoyed close and friendly relations with the Republic of Maldives. We look forward to a new dimension being added to these relations through our mutual cooperation in the framework of SARC. We are indeed most grateful to the Government and the people of Maldives for having afforded us this splendid opportunity to meet together to carry for ward our work as SARC participants. The congenial surroundings of these beautiful islands will be most conducive to fruitful consultations not only within the four walls of the conference halls and committee rooms but also in a more informal and relaxed atmosphere on the attractive beaches which surround us.

May I take this opportunity to pay a warm tribute to His Excellency Mr. Maumoon Abdul Gayoom for his inspiring inaugural address which we had the privilege to hear this morning. This address sets the tone for our deliberations.

The period which has elapsed since our last meeting in New Delhi has been a difficult one for all of us. There has been no easing of tensions in the world. Infact we have witnessed an intensification of conflict in many parts of the globe. The arms race continues unabated and threatens world peace and security. All this has had

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an inevitable fall-out in our own region. Meeting as we do in the middle of the Indian Ocean, we cannot but recall with regret that our long hard struggle to rid the Indian Ocean of tension and conflict has yet to bear fruit.

#### GRIM ECONOMIC SITUATION

The situation is equally grim on the economic front. Some developed countries are now beginning to emerge from the re cession. But the recovery is by no means strong and its promised impact on the developing countries is nowhere in evidence. Meanwhile the stalemate in the North-South dialogue continues. The debt burden of many developing countries has reached crushing proportions and threatens not only the prosperity and stability of these countries but also the commercial banking system in the industrialised world. The flow of resources to developing countries, instead of increasing, has actually diminished. The level of resources agreed upon for IDA VII is lower even in nominal terms than that for IDA VI. This is a matter of particular concern to the countries of this region, who are major recipients of IDA resources.

The pleas of developing countries for an increase in global liquidity to meet their balance of payments needs have also fallen upon deaf ears. Their efforts to increase their export earnings continue to come up against formidable obstacles. We cannot expect to bring about an improvement in this situation unless we intensify our own efforts to increase our mutual cooperation and to reduce our reliance on the outside world.

The countries of this region have been somewhat slow in initiating a process of regional cooperation. It is gratifying to note that once the political decision to launch such a process was taken we have been able to move to an active phase of implementation in a relatively short time. This has been largely due to the thorough preparatory work which was undertaken earlier. It is not yet a year since we met for the first time at the political level and declared our collective resolve to promote our mutual cooperation. Already in this short period work has begun in right earnest to implement the Integrated Programme of Action which we launched at that meeting. All the nine Technical Committees have held their meetings and have drawn up the modalities for implementing the programmes in their respective fields. The range of activities which are being undertaken is impressive indeed and cover important aspects of infrastructure and planning. The Standing Committee at its first meeting held in New Delhi earlier this year has already reviewed the progress of work and has given directions for the future. Since then work has continued in various sectors in pursuance of the decisions taken by the Technical Committees and the Standing Committee.

#### BENEFITS

The implementation of the programmes on which work has already begun will bring obvious benefits to the countries of the region. In the area of transport, for example, a well-integrated system of communications would be invaluable for the economic development of the region. It would ensure an effective flow of movement of goods and facilitate intra-regional trade. In the area of shipping the countries of the region face common problems in their efforts to increase their share in the transportation of sea cargo due to the conditions imposed by developed countries and liner conferences. The frequent escalation in freight charges adversely affects their balance of payments position. Cooperation among the countries of the region can bring about a greater degree of self-sufficiency and thus contribute to their development. A number of studies have been initiated in the transport sector which will contribute to the attainment of these objectives. One of the basic requirements for improved cooperation in the region is an effective system, of

telecommunications. Work is underway for the establishment and improvement of inter-country links.

In the area of science and technology a regional directory has been prepared, containing detailed information about faci-<pg-217>

lities available within the region. This information will provide a useful basis for identifying possibilities of cooperation in this important area. The countries of the region share a rich cultural heritage. An ambitious programme of cooperation in the fields of sports, arts and culture has been drawn up. Its implementation will no doubt make an important contribution in promoting closer relations among our peoples. A number of useful activities have also been initiated in other areas of cooperation such as agriculture, meteorology, health and population activities, postal services and rural development.

#### INTERNATIONAL FORUMS

One of the important objectives embodied in the SARC Declaration is the strengthening of cooperation among the countries of the region in international forums on matters of common interest. Three of the countries in this region are classified by the United Nations as least developed countries; two of them are land locked; two of them belong to the category of island developing countries and all of them are worst hit by the economic crisis. They have, therefore, much to gain from taking common positions on issues in the North-South dialogue. It was with this end in view that we had suggested the in clusion of an item on the agenda of the Standing Committee concerning the world economic situation. We were indeed heartened by the enthusiastic response to our suggestion.

There was a useful discussion on this item focussing on the current impasse in the North-South dialogue. An issue of particular concern to all countries of the region which was highlighted in the report of the Standing Committee was the question of the replenishment of IDA resources. It is a matter of deep regret that despite all our efforts we have not yet succeeded in securing a positive response on this issue. Another issue in the North-South dialogue in which the countries of the region can usefully cooperate is that of trade in commodities. Our countries command a significant share of the world market for a number of commodities such as tea, jute and cotton. In the past there has been a tendency towards competitive promotional activities. However, these can be effectively combined to optimise results. Mutual cooperation among the countries of the region can also help in securing a better deal in international arrangements.

#### RESOURCES

While we can be justly proud of what we have achieved so far, we cannot underestimate the enormity of the task that still lies ahead. As I said earlier the programmes already identified are quite wide-ranging and their effective implementation will call for determined efforts on the part of all of us; and these efforts will have to be carefully monitored and coordinated. They will also require the allocation of substantial resources, in addition to the generous contributions already announced. In the earlier stages of implementation it is inevitable that there is greater emphasis on activities such as seminars and workshops as these help in generating ideas for further cooperation. But as we gather momentum the emphasis will have to shift to activities which are more operational in nature. We would need to think increasingly in terms of regional projects involving more medium and long-term programmes so as to give real meaning and content to our mutual cooperation. To facilitate this process, we should think in terms of meetings at the level of Ministers in a few vital sectors well before the summit meeting.

### **GUIDING PRINCIPLE**

So far we have wisely refrained from taking on more than what we can manage with ease. However, in course of time we would have to consider the possibility of enlarging the areas of cooperation. Among the additional areas in which different countries have expressed interest in the past are trade, industrial cooperation, tourism, energy and technical cooperation. One of the important guiding principles for the further development of the programmes of regional cooperation must be the full involvement of the countries of the region. Obviously, the wider the base for such cooperation, the easier it would be to ensure this. If the process of regional cooperation is to be really effective, even 218>

tually it would have to encompass virtually all aspects of economic and social development. But we will have to go step by step; and each step will have to be carefully prepared.

#### MAXIMUM IMPACT

For the process of regional cooperation to have maximum impact, it is necessary to ensure the participation in it not only of governments but also of peoples themselves, including intellectuals, research scholars and the representatives of private trade and industry. I am glad to note that during the past one year or so further progress has been made in this direction also. The Committee on Studies in cooperation for development in South Asia in which many academic institutions of the region are taking part has almost completed the Phase I of its studies and is about to embark upon Phase II. These studies can provide useful inputs for our own work. Another welcome development has been the recent establishment of the South Asia Council for Cooperation in Trade and Industry pursuant to the recommendations of the International Seminar on Trade and Economic Cooperation among South Asian countries held in Delhi last year.

#### SUMMIT MEETING

An important item on our agenda is the question of holding a Summit Meeting of South Asian countries. We have no doubt that such a meeting would be of great value and significance in imparting a further impetus to the process of mutual cooperation upon which we have embarked. It will also provide the Heads of Government with an opportunity to discuss wider global issues of common interest. Obviously such a meeting will require thorough preparation so that we are in a position to put something concrete before our leaders. Before we initiate the preparatory process, we would need to have a clear perception of what we should aim to achieive at the Summit. I look forward to specific suggestions emerging in the course of our consultations and would welcome an opportunity for an exchange of views on this important subject.

During our discussions over the next two days we shall have an opportunity to review our work and plan for the future. We shall be considering the reports of the Technical Committees and the Standing Committee. We shall be reviewing the arrangements for financing the programmes. We shall be looking at possible new areas of cooperation. We shall be discussing the world economic situation in so far as it affects the countries of the region. And we shall be considering the preparations for a Summit Meeting. All these are important aspects of our work. But I believe that when we meet at the political level, we must look beyond our immediate tasks and view the process of our mutual cooperation in a wider context.

#### PEACE AND COOPERATION

As I said at the beginning, we are passing through troubled times. There are tensions and conflicts all around us from which no region of the world can remain immune. The prospects for peace and cooperation among nations remain grim. Any regional cooperation becomes meaningful only as a process which must eventually contribute to the solution of the wider problems which we in our region and mankind as a whole face today. By increasing our mutual cooperation we will contribute to the wider objectives of international economic cooperation.

### TECHNOLOGICAL SKILLS

With the launching of SARC, the countries of this region have ushered in a new area of cooperation and friendship in South Asia. The region is richly endowed with human and natural resources as well as technological and other skills. Let us make the fullest use of our resources and skills in our joint efforts to remove poverty, hunger and disease from our midst. We can also use the SARC forum for promoting cooperation between our region and other groupings and international organisations, with similar aims and objectives; to our mutual advantage. In a sense this process has already begun. The birth of SARC has attracted world wide attention and there are already indications of interest on the part of many countries as well as organisations to have a dialogue

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with SARC. We have also had the opportunity of participating in a meeting organised by UNCTAD of regional economic groupings and financial institutions to discuss mutual problems. I am confident that as the process af cooperation in our region gathers momentum our voice will command ever greater respect and understanding in international forums.

#### POLICY DIRECTION FOR FUTURE

India is happy to have been associated with SARC activities from the very beginning. We had the privilege and the responsibility of Chairmanship during a crucial period, when we moved to a new, decisive phase of our work. We were privileged to host the first Ministerial meeting at which the historical step of signing the SARC Declaration was taken. We were also happy to organise the first meeting of the Standing Committee to review the progress in the implementation of the SARC programmes and to give policy directions for the future. If we have been able to make a modest contribution to the attainment of our common goals during this period, it has been largely due to the efforts which all of you made towards this end and to the valuable cooperation which we received from each one of you.

With this second meeting the region's Foreign Ministers a new phase begins and new tasks beckon us. I am glad the direction and guidance of the collective endeavours will now be in the hands of our wise and able colleague Mr. Fathulla Jameel. It gives me immense pleasure and satisfaction to hand over the responsibilities of Chairmanship to him.

Before I conclude, I would like to recall the words of my Prime Minister, who said in her inaugural address at the first Meeting of South Asian Foreign Ministers: "As regional cooperation progresses, new tasks will unfold themselves, bringing in new problems. Let us not be daunted. Our very cooperation will increase our capacity to withstand

pressures. With unity we can hope to move ahead to a future of freedom peace and prosperity."

LDIVES INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC **Date :** Jul 11, 1984

# Volume No

#### 1995

#### SARC

#### Shri Rao Hosts Dinner in Honour of South Asian ForeignMinisters

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jul 09, 1984 of the speech by the Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao at a dinner hosted by him in honour of South Asian Foreign Ministers in Male (Maldives) on July 9, 1984:

Distinguished friends, I am grateful to you for accepting my invitation this evening. We are indebted to the Government and people of Maldives for the warmth with which we have been received. For some of us, including myself, this is a first visit. Others here this evening have been more fortunate. And what I have seen in the last few hours of this gentle and graceful land makes it easy to understand why so many wish to return here again and again.

Less than a year has elapsed since we last met. It was India's privilege to welcome the Foreign Ministers of South Asia to New Delhi to launch our integrated programme of action. Much that we visualised has happily happened, but much remains. We hope at our meeting in Male to give more of our ideas the firmness of the ground so that they can take root and be nurtured.

#### STRUGGLE FOR FREEDOM

The canvas of our people's expectations is vast and so is our potential to fulfil them. Fringed by the might of the mountains and the sweep of the sea, the South Asian region has been a cradle of time itself. History has seen it change and transform itself socially and politically, yet its personality has endured. In the furnace of our struggle for selfhood was forged our determination to be free nations. As free nations, each of us saw the necessity of

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association and cooperation with the world outside, in particular those close to us. Thus the idea of regional cooperation took shape.

Here in these islands of coral charm, the turbulence of the world seems remote. Around us is the sea which once brought the outside world to our shores for the first time. Today this very sea mirrors the closeness of our world both in its interdependence and its vulnerability. Fear and distrust have made our times fragile. It is only the imperative of working together that can make them whole again.

Excellencies, we have before us two days of discussion and dialogue. Our officials have been working already. I am sure I speak on behalf of all of us when I say we ook forward to our formal meetings as well as the informal consultations which contribute so much to the character of our cooperation. The detailed and thoughtful arrangements made by our host Government will greatly facilitate our deliberations. For my delegation it is a moment of particular happiness to be here in the Maldives, a nation with whom our bonds of affinity and affection are very old.

### JOINT PROGRAMMES

May I, in conclusion, express my deep appreciation to all of you for your valuable inputs to the fulfilment of our joint programmes. It was an honour for us to host the first SARC Ministerial meeting. We are sure that under the able guidance of Maldives, our nations will continue to succeed in their resolve to give the affection in herent between our peoples the sound foundation of efforts made together.

I would now ask you to join me in a toast to our gracious hosts, the people and Government of Maldives; to the success of our meeting and to the bright future of South Asian Regional Cooperation.

DIA MALDIVES USA **Date :** Jul 09, 1984

## Volume No

1995

SARC

Joint Communique

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jul 12, 1984 on the Joint Communique issued in Male on July 12, 1984 on the conclusion of the second meeting of Foreign Ministers of South Asian Regional Cooperation held on July 10 and 11, 1984 in Male (Maldives):

In pursuance of the decision taken at their first meeting held on

August 1-2, 1983 in New Delhi, the Ministers of Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka held their second meeting in Male on July 10-11, 1984 at the invitation of the Government of Maldives.

The Ministerial meeting was inaugurated by His Excellency Mr. Maumoon Abdul Gayoom, President of the Republic of Maldives. His Excellency stated that our societies are quite diverse, but their hopes and expectations do not vary. Together, our peoples are sure of themselves, confident of their identities and confident too of their ability to control their own destinies. He added that the moving spirit and objective, the very principles which gave birth to this association, is that of working together which has as its basic foundation, a promotion of the interests of this region an essential aspect of which is the maintenance and indeed the strengthening of our peoples' political, social and economic independence.

#### **INSPIRING ADDRESS**

On behalf of the Foreign Ministers, His Excellency Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, Foreign Minister of Pakistan thanked His Ekcellency Mr. Maumoon Abdul Gayoom for his wise and inspiring address. It was decided that the text of the address should form part of the final records of the meeting.

His Excellency Mr. Fathulla Jameel, Foreign Minister of Maldives was elected Chairman by acclamation. <pg-221>

The meeting noted with satisfaction the reports submitted by the Standing Committee following its first and second Sessions in New Delhi from 27-29 February, 1984 and in Male from 7-8 July, 1984 respectively. It considered and endorsed the recommendations of the Standing Committee.

### INTEGRATED PROGRAMME OF ACTION

The meeting expressed its deep appreciation for the valuable work accomplished by the Standing Committee in fulfilling its mandate of coordinating and monitoring the implementation of the integrated programme of action launched by the Foreign Ministers in their meeting in August, 1983. It also expressed its appreciation to the Chairmen and Members of all the technical committees for their dedication in carrying out their tasks and to the countries concerned for providing support and encouragement to various activities under the integrated programme of action.

The Foreign Ministers felt that considerable progress had been achieved in implementing the integrated programme of action in a relatively short time. They also took note of the decisions taken by the Standing Committee on specific issues referred to it by the Technical Committee as well as on a number of important matters connected with the future work of the technical committee including preparation of medium to long-term projects of regional cooperation and improving implementation. They expressed the hope that the implementation of these decisions would make a significant contribution to the achievement of further progress under the integrated programme of action. They stressed that as further progress is achieved increasing emphasis should be placed on operational activities and the formulation of specific projects. To this end, consideration should be given to the convening of meeting at the level of Ministers in some of the vital areas of cooperation already agreed upon.

The Ministers noted with appreciation the increased contributions announced by the participating countries for SARC activities in 1984-85. They called for necessary follow-up action to utilize the offers of external assistance that had been made.

#### TELECOMMUNICATIONS

The Ministers agreed that there was an urgent need for an improvement in telecommunication and air transport links specially between the capitals of all South Asian Countries. To this end they endoresd the decision of the Standing Committee with regard to examination by the technical committees on telecommunications and transport of the various proposals submitted by the participating countries and submission of recommendations for consideration by the Standing Committee.

The Ministers reviewed the current world economic situation and expressed their concern over the deteriorating economic and social conditions in the developing countries. In the past three vears sharply falling commodity prices, deterioration in the terms of trade, intensification of protectionist measures, excessive debt burden and a decline in the flow of financial resources had caused unprecedented balance of payments problems and serious loss of development momentum in the developing countries. They agreed that without redoubling of efforts by the international community including immediate measures the goals and targets of the international development strategy under the Third UN Development Decade and the substantial new programme of action for the least developed countries could not be attained. They expressed their deep disappointment at the lack of progress in putting UN to place international support measures and the continued stalemate in the negotiations on international cooperation. In this connection, they noted with deep regret that no appreciable progress was made in meeting the concerns of the developing countries at the London Summit Meeting of industrialized countries in early June, 1984 despite urgent actions suggested by various leaders from the Non-Aligned and developing countries.

The Ministers regretted that despite strong pleas from developing

countries had not yet been possible to augment the re <pg-222>

sources available for IDA VII. They reiterated the call to all donor countries to provide additional resources to enable IDA not only to bring about an increase in real terms in the flow of resources to existing borrowers over the level of IDA VI but also to meet the requirements of new borrowers. In view of the urgency of the matter, the Ministers requested the Chairman to formally convey the concern of the South Asian countries to the leaders of the industrialized countries and in particular to the Prime Minister of Japan.

The Ministers urged the SARC countries actively pursue proposals put forward by the Seventh Non-Aligned Summit and the Group of 77 at various forums and reaffirmed their resolve to cooperate closely in all relevant forums in seeking appropriate solutions to the problems affecting the developing countries.

#### VENUE OF SUMMIT MEETING

In pursuance of the decision taken by them at their first meeting in New Delhi in August, 1983 the Ministers agreed to recommend to their Heads of State Government, the convening of the First Summit Meeting of South Asian countries in Dhaka, in the last quarter of 1985. They expressed their deep appreciation to the Government of the Peoples Republic of Bangladesh for the offer to host the Summit Meeting. They emphasised the importance of thorough preparation for the Summit and decided to devote special attention to this matter at their next meeting.

The Ministers also agreed that the next meeting of Foreign Ministers would be held at Thimpu, in the first half of May 1985 and that it would serve as the preparatory meeting for the Summit. They expressed deep gratitude to the Royal Government of Bhutan for the offer to host the third Foreign Ministers' meeting.

The Ministers further agreed that the Chairman would consult closely with other countries with a view to finalising the date and drawing up the Draft Provisional Agenda for the Summit meeting. They also requested the Chairman after due consultation to finalise the exact date for the third Foreign Ministers' meeting in Thimpu.

The visiting Foreign Ministers expressed their deep appreciation to the Chairman His Excellency Mr. Fathulla Jameel and through him to the Government of the Republic of Maldives for the cordial and generous hospitality extended to their delegations and for the excellent arrangements made for the meeting.

DIA MALDIVES USA BANGLADESH BHUTAN NEPAL PAKISTAN SRI LANKA CENTRAL AFRICAN

# Volume No

1995

SOUTHERN AFRICA

#### Government Statement on Situation

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jul 24, 1984 on the Government statement on the situation in Southern Africa:

The Government of India has noted developments in the Southern African region over the past few months. These developments have resulted in critical changes in the situation prevailing in the area. The Government of India has always believed that the root cause of the problems faced by the Southern African region is the practice of apartheid by the regime in South Africa, which has led to aggression and attempts at de-stabilization of States bordering South Africa.

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The Government of India has always supported, and will continue to support, the liberation movements in South Africa and Namibia, by extending to them political, moral, diplomatic and material support in accordance with its capacity. It reiterates its support for the U.N. Security Council Resolution 435 as the basis for working out the independence of Namibia, and, at the same time, rejects any attempt to link this independence process to matters concerning the internal affairs of other States.

The Government of India supports the views and decisions arrived at by the African Front Line States after their meeting in Arusha on April 29, 1984, and calls upon like minded countries to express their solidarity with the liberation movement.

DIA USA SOUTH AFRICA NAMIBIA **Date :** Jul 24, 1984

# Volume No

1995

### SOVIET UNION

#### Indo-USSR Trade to Cross Rs. 4,000 Crore Mark in 1985

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jul 11, 1984 on the first meeting of the Working Group on Indo-USSR trade in Moscow from July 4-10, 1984:

The trade turnover between India and USSR is estimated to cross Rs. 4,000 crores in 1985. During the preliminary discussions on the 1985 trade protocol and the long-term trade covering the period 1986-90, it was observed that Indo-USSR trade was poised for quantum jumps in the coming years. The discussions were held at the first meeting of the Indo-USSR Working Group on Trade in Moscow from July 4-10, 1984. The Working Group was set up during the Eighth Session of the Indo-USSR Joint Commission on Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation in December, 1983. The Indian delegation was led by Shri Abid Hussain, Commerce Secretary, and the leader of the USSR side was Mr. I. T. Grishin, Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade. Other members of the Indian delegation included officicals from the Ministries of Commerce, Finance and External Affairs, Department of Heavy Industry, Indian Embassy in Moscow and the State Trading Corporation.

During the review it was noted with satisfaction that both countries had taken necessary measures to ensure the maximum implementation of the trade protocol, 1984. During the first six months of this calendar year almost 85 per cent contracting had been achieved. Contracts worth Rs. 1,780 crores have been concluded for USSR exports to India, while contracts for Rs. 1,450 crores for exports of Indian goods to USSR have been signed. The total contracting so far is more than Rs. 3,200 crores, which is higher than the level of Rs. 3,100 crores achieved in 1983 and the top reached in 1982. Considering the contracts which have already been signed and those which are likely to be signed during the remaining months of the year it appears that the two-way trade turn-over in 1984 will exceed Rs. 3,700 crores which represents an increase of approximately 20 per cent over 1983 achievement.

The Working Group examined the measures which are to be taken for the fullest implementation of the trade protocol for 1984 and have agreed to expedite their decisions.

#### NEW ITEMS

Both sides have identified a number of new items for widening the range of mutual supplies and ensuring the growth of trade. India proposed increased exports of cotton textiles, garments, woollen knit-

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wear, tobacco, leather and leather goods, engineering goods and

chemicals. India further proposed that in consideration of the desirability of utilising the production capabilities of the National Textile Corporation to a greater extent in the supply of cotton textiles to the Soviet Union. The delegation impressed upon the Soviet side the need to purchase cotton textiles direct from NTC to the maximum extent possible. The USSR agreed to consider the possibility of increasing their purchases from the Corporation.

### TRADITIONAL ITEMS

Besides certain new chemical raw material USSR has proposed increased exports of equipments and machinery. Both sides have agreed to continue efforts for widening the possibilities of trade of the traditional items. It has been agreed to hold an exhibition of Soviet equipment and machinery next year in Bombay. The need for increased cooperation between the State enterprises of the two countries was also recognised. To further Indo-USSR trade it was agreed to give greater attention to widening the range of goods of mutual supplies identifying new items as well as deveopment of new forms of trade cooperation. Preparations would also be initiated for the renewal of the trade agreement for 1986-90 and the progress will be discussed at the second meeting of the Working Group on Trade.

A INDIA RUSSIA **Date :** Jul 11, 1984

# Volume No

1995

UNITED KINGDOM

Grant Agreement Signed Between India and U.K.

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jul 23, 1984 on the signing of Grant Agreement between India and U.K.:

A Grant Agreement was signed here today (New Delhi, July 23, 1984) between the Government of India and the Government of United Kingdom for œ37.6 million (Rs. 56.77 crores) for local costs aid in lieu of debt relief for the year 1984. The agreement was signed by Mr. R. C. Beetham, Counsellor, British High Commission in India on behalf of UK Government and Shri Lalit Mansingh, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Finance.

The local costs grant is seventh in the series of annual grants by UK, provided in lieu of debt relief, and will be used for financing local costs of mutually agreed projects and programmes. Many of these projects are in poverty-focussed areas - the major on-going ones being a family welfare project in five districts of Orissa, an integrated family welfare project in the Kaira district of Gujarat, a primary education project in Andhra Pradesh, an agricultural extension project designed to promote the use of fertilisers by small farmers in six States, a marine fisheries project in Orissa and the HUDCO housing schemes for poor people in India.

The United Kingdom have played a prominent role in providing bilateral assistance to India. Since 1975, all British assistance has been in the form of outright grants. Total British assistance to date amounts to œ1754.6 million (Rs. 2807.36 crores). cyg-225>

### DIA UNITED KINGDOM USA

**Date** : Jul 23, 1984

# Volume No

1995

### UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

### \$41.4 Million U.S. Aid for Irrigation Programmes in Maharashtraand Himachal Pradesh

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jul 31, 1984 on the two agreements signed between India and USA for irrigation programmes in Maharashtra and Himachal Pradesh:

India and USA signed two agreements here today for a total amount of \$41.4 million (Rs. 46.7 crores) to support irrigation programmes in Maharashtra and Himachal Pradesh. The agreements were signed by Shri S. Sundar, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Finance, Department of Economic Affairs on behalf of Government of India and Dr. Richard M. Brown, Acting Director, US AID on behalf of the Government of USA.

The agreement for support to the Maharashtra irrigation programme provides \$ 25.9 million (Rs. 29.2 crores) by way of U.S. aid to increase irrigation efficiency by improving the management and physical infrastructure of irrigation systems and by improving the distribution, application and utilization of water. This amount consists of \$ 24.9 million (Rs. 28.1 crores) by way of loan and 0 1 million (Rs. 1.1 crores) by way of grant. Additional U.S. assistance of \$ 24.1 million (Rs. 27.2 crores) in continued support of Maharashtra programme is expected to become available in future.

The agreement for support to the Himachal irrigation programme provides \$ 15.5 million (Rs. 17.5 crores) to increase irrigation efficiency by introduction of new approahces to land and water management like community-based management systems as well as expansion of the area under irrigation through improved design and construction of minor and small scale irrigation schemes. This amount consists of \$14.5 million (Rs. 16.4 crores) by way of loan and \$ 1 million (Rs. 1.1 crores) as grant. Additional assistance of \$ 38.5 million (Rs. 43.5 crores) in continued support of the Himachal programme is expected to be made available by the US in due course.

The US loans are repayable in a period of 40 years, inclusive of grace period of 10 years and carry an interest rate of 2 per cent during the grace period and 3 per cent thereatfer.

With the signing of these two agreements, the total assistance provided by USA under the US fiscal year programme for 1984 amounts to \$ 86 million. <pg-226>

### A LATVIA INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC **Date :** Jul 31, 1984

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**Date** : Aug 01, 1984

# Volume No

1995

#### BANGLADESH

Indo-Bangladesh Cooperation in Science and Technology

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Aug 13, 1984 on Indo-Bangladesh cooperation in science and technology:

A programme of cooperation between India and Bangladesh for the period 1984-86 was finalised here today (New Delhi, August 13, 1984) in seven areas. The agreed upon areas of cooperation are: New and renewable sources of energy; low-cost housing and waste recycling; meteorology; medical research; food irradiation and medical sterilization; electronics; and science and technology policy and planning.

This was in pursuance of the agreement on cooperation in the fields of technological and scientific research for development between India and Bangladesh, signed in November 1982 and as a follow up of the second meeting of the Indo-Bangladesh Joint Economic Commission held in Dhaka in August, 1983.

The Indian side was led by Dr. S. Varadarajan, Secretary, Department of Science and Technology and Director General, Council of Scientific and Industrial Research. The leader of Bangladesh delegation was Mr. Safiur Rahman, Joint Secretary, Science and Technology Division.

R AND D PROJECTS

The two sides agreed to take up joint R & D projects in the following areas: (a) reduction of cost of biogas plants; (b) use of water hyacinth for production of biogas; and (c) microbiological investigation for achieving higher rate of conversion of cow-dung into biogas.

India agreed to arrange in-plant training of one or two Bangladesh personnel in photovoltaic technology besides supplying one solar photovoltaic pump for testing and evaluation under field conditions in Bangladesh.

In the field of low-cost housing and waste recycling, India offered to collaborate in any of the following areas: rice husk ash masonary binder; making durable concrete in aggressive environments; soil stabililization; concrete poles; concrete sleepers and mini cement plants.

Cooperation was also offered by India in the following four areas: production and use of rice husk lime binder; production and use of low-cost roofing sheets like asphaltic roofing sheets; improvement in design and construction of low-cost rural houses like mud houses; and design and construction of low-cost urban houses.

## MEDICAL RESEARCH

In the field of medical research, following programmes were agreed upon: training in various laboratory procedures for leprosy control programme at Central Jalma Institute of Leprosy, Agra; training in malaria parasitology and entomology at Malaria Research Centre, Delhi, and training in immunological techniques for detection of communicable diseases with special reference to filariasis and leishmaniasis at the Microbiology Department of AIIMS, New Delhi.

The two sides also discussed short-term programmes in the areas relating to meteorology viz., long range forecasting, marine meteorology, and weather Instruments. <pp-227>

NGLADESH INDIA USA

**Date** : Aug 13, 1984

## Volume No

## CANADA

#### Collaboration Agreements on Chamera Hydro-Electric ProjectsSigned

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Aug 03, 1984 on the Indo-Canadian collaboration agreements on Chamera hydro-electric projects:

Two loan agreements amounting to 620 million Canadian dollars between the Governments of India and Canada were signed here today (New Delhi, August 3, 1984) for collaboration in the construction of the 540 mw Chamera Hydro-electric Project on the river Ravi in Himachal Pradesh.

The agreements were signed by Shri P. K. Kaul, Secretary, Ministry of Finance and the Canadian High Commissioner in India and by Pirzada Ghulam Nabi, Chairman and Managing Director, NHPC and the Vice President of the EDC.

The 540 mw Chamera Project is proposed to be completed within six years beginning from April 1, 1984. This is perhaps the first time that a project of this magnitude is being proposed to be completed with such a short gestation period. The Chamera Project will serve as the take off point in transfer of technology from Canada in hydro-electric field, especially in respect of modernized project management and monitoring techniques including computerisation.

Under these agreements the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) is lending Cdn \$ 217.0 million and the Export Development Corporation (EDC) of Canada is lending Cdn. \$ 403.0 million. Additionally CIDA is lending separately Cdn. \$ 28.5 million under a CIDA power sector line of credit with India. These amounts will complement India's own substantial contribution. The total project cost is Rs. 809 crores.

The CIDA loan is interest free and is repayable by the Government of India in a period of 50 years inclusive of a grace period of 10 years. The EDC loan of Cdn. \$403 million to NHPC carries an interest rate of 9.5 per cent per annum and is repayable in a period of 16 years inclusive of a grace period of approximately 6 years. The Canadian assistance will be utilised for procurement of Canadian goods and related services including the latest construction equipment and machinery.

The Chamera hydro-electric project is the second project on the river Ravi being undertaken by NHPC, the first being the 180 mw Baira Siul Project which is under commercial production since April 1982.

### NADA INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

## Volume No

1995

## CHINA

India and China keen to Develop Potential of Bilateral Trade

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Aug 10, 1984 on Sino-Indian bilateral trade:

India and China have expressed a keen desire to develop the potential of trade between the two countries and to move towards long-term dynamic equilibrium in economic and commercial cooperation. The two countries believe that the volume of trade which is around Rs. 120 crores is not commensurate with the size of the

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countries and complementarities. Measures for increasing and diversifying trade and a review of the bilateral trade will be among the main issues which will be taken up when a high-level official delegation led by the Commerce Secretary, Shri Abid Hussain, will leave for China on August 11, 1984. Others in the nine-member delegation include representatives from the Ministry of External Affairs, Department of Economic Affairs, the Economic Adviser in the Ministry of Commerce and Director (East Asia), Chairman, MMTC, Chairman, EXIM Bank, Director, STC, and Adviser, EEPC. The 11-member Chinese delegation will be led by Mr. Lu Xue Jian, Vice Minister, Foreign Economic Relations and Trade.

This is the first visit of an official-level delegation after resumption of trade talks between India and China in 1977. The Indian team will also explore prospects of entering into 'Most Favoured Nation' type trade agreement with China. Although the balance of trade is in favour of China, India seeks long-term dynamic equilibrium rather than an arithmetical balance. Efforts will be made to diversify Indian exports into engineering and manufactured products. Indian exports consist primarily of raw materials and commodities like tobacco, cotton, iron ore, chrome ore and sugar, whereas Chinese exports to India consist of manufactures and value-added items such as chemical and related products, machinery and transport equipment, textile yarn and fabrics, made-up articles, paper and paper board, etc.

The Chinese modernisation programme has considerable potential for joint ventures and industrial collaboration. India is likely

to explore possibilities for offering consultancies and technology.

BILATERAL TRADE

Historically, India and China have been trading since long till trade between the two countries was discontinued after 1962. After resumption of diplomatic relations in 1976, bilateral trade was resumed in 1977. Starting with a modest level of Rs. 2.56 crores in 1977-78, bilateral trade between India and China increased to Rs. 117.18 crores in 1982-83. However, during the first nine months of 1983-84 (April-December, 1983) the two-way trade has been of the order of Rs. 48.03 crores only. The trend of trade till 1982 suggested a reasonable rate of growth.

INA INDIA USA RUSSIA ITALY

**Date** : Aug 10, 1984

## Volume No

1995

CHOGRM

Shri Rahim attends CHOGRM at Port Moresby

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Aug 14, 1984 on Shri A. A. Rahim, Minister of State, Ministry of External Affairs, attending the CHOGRM meeting in Port Moresby:

Shri A. A. Rahim, Minister of State for External Affairs returned here yesterday (New Delhi, August 13, 1984) after attending the Commonwealth Heads of Government Regional Meeting, 1984 at Port Moresby (Papua New Guinea) on

August 8, 1984. Eighteen countries from the Asia Pacific region attended the Meeting.

The Papua New Guinea Government also arranged the inauguration of their National Parliament building to coincide with the CHOGRM on August 7, 1984. The building was inaugurated by the Prince of Wales.

Shri A. A. Rahim, representing the Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi, held <pp-229>

discussions with various Heads of State Government and other dignitaries who had assembled there. He also met the expatriate Indian Community, (about 80 families) now residing at Port Moresby.

In transit, Shri Rahim also took advantage of meeting a cross section of the Indian community at Sydney and also in Singapore. The Minister also called on the Foreign Minister of Singapore Mr. Dhanabalan and had discussions with him on various bilateral matters.

An association called "The Indian Club" was inaugurated by Shri Rahim on August 11 at Singapore. The association would coordinate the efforts of the various sectional organisations. The need for such an organisation, it was mentioned by Shri Kidangoor Gopalakrishnan Pillai, the High Commissioner in Singapore, was being felt for quite some time.

There has been a reactivisation of interest among the Indian community in Singapore with the new High Commissioner taking active interest in such matters.

The communique issued on the conclusion of CHOGRM in Port Moresby said:

## CHOGRM COMMUNIQUE

"Commonwealth Heads of Government from the Asia Pacific region met in Port Moresby on 8 August 1984. Eighteen countries attended the meeting: Australia, Bangladesh, Brunei, Darussalam, Fiji, India, Kiribati, Malaysia, Maldives, Nauru, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Tonga, Tuvalu, Western Samoa and Vanuatu. A special welcome was extended to Brunei Darussalam which had become a member of the Commonwealth at the beginning of the year. The Prime Minister of Papua New Guinea, the Rt. Hon. Michael Somare, was in the Chair.

Heads of Government discussed a number of political and economic issues of common concern to the Asia Pacific region. They were conscious that many of the problems of the region could not be solved without understanding and active cooperation of countries outside it. They condemned the continuation of French nuclear testing in the Pacific and expressed their united opposition to any proposal to dump nuclear waste in the Pacific. They called for a greater sensitivity by the wider international community to the inter-dependence of States and the importance of its paying particular attention to the needs and aspirations of small States, of which there are many in the region, and which are especially vulnerable to the vagaries of the current international political, social and economic order. In this context they looked forward to the outcome of the study of the special problems of small States organised by the Secretary General in pursuance of the Heads of Government Meeting in New

Delhi last November.

Heads of Government considered that the CHOGRM process served a valuable purpose in facilitating useful consultative and cooperative relationships within the the region. They agreed that they would continue to meet on a periodic basis, as occasion warrants, and that their next meting would be held in Malaysia. Until their next meeting CHOGRM activities would be co-ordinated by Papua New Guinea as the current host Government with assistance as necessary from the Commonwealth Secretariat.

## CONSULTATIVE AND WORKING GROUPS

Heads of Government agreed that the consultative and working groups, whose reports were before the meeting, should continue to function in the existing areas of trade, industry, energy and agriculture, and that their activities should be the subject of review at senior official level at an appropriate time. They also welcomed the report of the group of experts on maritime issues which they had commissioned at their last meeting and agreed that its recommendations should be carefully examined in capitals. They also agreed that a working group co-ordinated by Fiji should be set up to examine ways in which the report's recommendations, subject to acceptance by Governments, can be translated into specific programmes of action. In the meantime, they asked the Secretary-General to ensure that the report is given wide <pg-230>

circulation elsewhere in the Commonwealth and beyond.

They decided that the funding of the activities of the groups should retain its voluntary character and become more widely subscribed by member Governments. In this context they requested the Secretariat to circulate proposals for a formula for contributions by Governments on the basis of relative capacities.

Heads of Government were particularly appreciative of the opportunity to meet in Port Moresby during the celebrations marking the opening of the New Parliament Building and expressed their thanks to Prime Minister Somare and the Government and people of Papua New Guinea for the warmth of their welcome and the excellent arrangements for their meeting.

PUA NEW GUINEA INDIA USA GUINEA AUSTRALIA REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE BANGLADESH BRUNEI FIJI KIRIBATI MALAYSIA MALDIVES NAURU NEW ZEALAND SRI LANKA TONGA TUVALU VANUATU WESTERN SAMOA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Aug 14, 1984

# Volume No

#### CZECHOSLOVAKIA

#### Indo-Czech Trade Shows Marked Increase - Mid-term Review inPrague

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Aug 04, 1984 on the mid-term review in Prague on Indo-Czechoslovak trade:

The total trade turn-over between India and Czechoslovakia is likely to go up in 1984 by 28 per cent as compared to the actuals of 1983. The buoyant trend is reflected more so in India's exports to Czechoslovakia which are expected to increase by almost 60 per cent in 1984 over the exports in 1983. These trends were indicated during a mid-term review of the Indo-Czech trade plan in Prague recently when an Indian delegation led by the Joint Secretary (East Europe) in the Ministry of Commerce was in Prague.

Against the achievement of the two-way trade turn-over in 1983 which was Rs. 133.5 crores, in 1984, the total turnover is expected to be in the range of Rs. 170.4 crores. India's exports to Czechoslovakia in 1984 are expected to touch a record level of Rs. 113.3 crores against the level of Rs. 68 crores in 1983.

During the discussions at Prague efforts were made to further identify new commodities and products particularly in respect of imports from Czechoslovakia so that the bilateral trade would grow in a stable and balanced manner.

It may be remembered that at the last session of the Indo-Czech Joint Committee which met in May, in New Delhi this year it had been decided that greater efforts would be made to expand and diversify the bilateral trade. Both sides had evinced interest in promoting cooperation in industrial and technical areas.

## INDO-CZECHOSLOVAK TRADE

Czechoslovakia is an important trade partner of India amongst the East European countries. The first formal trade agreement between the two countries was signed in 1959. Thereafter, the first five-year trade and payments agreement providing for bilateral, balanced trade in non-convertible Indian rupees was signed in 1963 and has been renewed thrice. The present trade and payments agreement which was signed in December, 1979, is valid upto December 31, 1984, and is likely to be renewed for another five years.

Since the signing of the first trade agreement, the volume of Indo-Czechoslovak trade has grown steadily. It has increased from Rs. 47 crores in 1963 to <pg-231>

Rs. 66 crores in 1973 and reached a record level of Rs. 162 crores in 1982

More than three quarters of India's imports from Czechoslovakia consist of engineering products, the remaining consist of chemical products and other goods. Main items of imports thus are steel and steel products; seamless pipes; tubes and castings; machine tools; ball bearings; diesel generating sets; organic and inorganic chemicals; textile machinery; shoemaking, tanning and leather making machinery; components and spares 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 yarns, iron ore, jute manufactures, tanned and semi-tanned hides and skins, mica, manganese ore, castor oil and shellac. Traditional items constitute about 60 per cent of the total exports from India to Czechoslovakia.

The trade plan for 1984 (January-December) was concluded on November 16, 1983, at New Delhi.

### RWAY SLOVAKIA CZECH REPUBLIC INDIA USA RUSSIA

**Date** : Aug 04, 1984

## Volume No

1995

## HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Thirty-Seventh Anniversary of India's Independence - PrimeMinister's Address

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Aug 15, 1984 of the English version of the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi's address from the ramparts of the Red Fort here today (New Delhi, August 15, 1984):

Brothers, sisters, elders and dear children, we assemble here on August 15, every year. It is not a mere ritual function. We assemble here in the memory of those of our brave countrymen who suffered during the long struggle for independence and also sacrificed their lives. This movement had a long time span and people today do not know about it as much as they should. The younger generation is hardly familiar with it. I cannot describe it all here. However, just to illustrate, how people belonging to different religions were associated with the struggle, I should like to make mention of some of our leaders who participated in the freedom movement. Tilak, Dada Bhai Naoroji, Dr. Ansari of Delhi, Tayyabji Saheb were people of one generation. Then, Mahatma Gandhi returned to India and the course of the freedom movement took a new turn in which not only the intelligentsia and other distinguished people participated, but also farmers, workers, the younger generation and people drawn from various walks of life became co-partners.

### NATIONAL FLAG

Why do we hoist the national flag on the Red Fort? This place had not been a symbol of independence. In fact, it is a symbol of the olden days. Netaji Subhas Bose declared that when we became independent, we would hoist the national flag on the Red Fort. For this reason, the first Prime Minister of India, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, hoisted the national flag here in August 1947, and since then, every Prime Minister is performing this duty. Prior to that, three of our brave countrymen were imprisoned in this Red Fort. They had not adopted our path. Although, their path was different, they too were prepared to sacrifice everything for the cause of freedom and their love for the country. People of Delhi know Shri Shah Nawaz Khan. He was a Muslim. Then, there were Prem Sehgal and Dhillon. This selection was <pg-232>

neither ours, nor of the alien rulers. Still, by coincidence, they belonged to three different religions. I am saying all this because I feel we should know how the country became independent.

#### FREEDOM OF THE COUNTRY

We got independence because people of all religions, all provinces and all communities were united. There was only one objective - freedom of the country. Freedom is our birthright. Today we have different issues before us. During those days, we had only one objective and we fought for it. Today, we have to preserve the independence thus gained and the efforts for this cannot be less arduous. The obstacles, the barriers, the dangers and the threats we faced during those days are all present even today, though in different shapes.

Some people say that I talk of these external dangers in order to divert the people's attention from the domestic issues. There cannot be a greater misunderstanding than this, because we cannot maintain the solidarity of the nation and solve our problems without knowing fully the travails the country is confronted with and the difficulties that people of all walks of life are facing. We are glad that we are free, but our hearts today are not full of joy. We have sorrows and anxieties. We are sad because we have not learnt the lessons of our history. We are sad because such forces are again raising their head which may endanger the unity of the country by spreading poison.

I should like to remind you that communal disturbances, which take place in the name of religion and cost lives of numerous innocent people and lead to destruction of property, are not communal alone, though they appear to be so. Behind these are political and economic considerations and narrowness of mind.

Communal disturbances have occurred in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh in the recent past. Some have also taken place in other States. The sorrow is not only that of individuals, families or communities but of the entire India. It is a black spot on the entire country and it is our duty to root out all such elements from our soil.

## DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM

In our democratic system, there may be differences in many spheres but we rise above them. To achieve the objective of keeping the country united, we have to transcend political and party-based differences, which create dissensions between one another. If we cannot remain united and the country does not remain strong, with whom shall we have differences? Against whom shall we fight? With whom shall we make friendship, if nobody exists? Brothers and sisters, if the country falls, nobody survives. When we were fighting for the freedom of our country, it did not mean only political freedom. It also meant social justice, equality and economic justice. Only one phase is over and another one is under way. We have to cover a long and difficult path. Whereas the enemies were visible during those days, now they are in disguise. Some of them are open enemies, but many become unintentional pawns of others.

Everyone of us has now Punjab in mind. I do not want to go into the story of Punjab here. I have spoken about it a number of times. However, since some sinister propaganda in being carried on, I should like to say a few words. A vast number of people are participating in this function though all of them are not present and visible here.

Since I spoke to you last year, TV and radio have reached a large number of remote village. So also power supply has improved and drinking water has reached many new areas. All efforts have been made to help the poor - be it in the field of medical assistance or educational. I shall talk about this later. At the moment, I should like to say that whatever movements are conducted in one or another State with any ostensible purpose, in course of time these pass into the hands of elements who do not subscribe to the objectives of the movement or have something else in their mind, giving a new turn to the entire movement. They bring violence, murder, intimidation and so on into <pg-233> the movements and the organisers of the movement lose control over the situation. This is exactly what has happened in Punjab.

#### PROPAGANDA

Propaganda is being carried on, specially in foreign newspapers and television giving the impression as if we did not even discuss the demands that had been put forward. You all know how long drawn-out the discussions were. Differences were narrowed down to only a few points. As taught by Gandhiji, Jawaharlal Nehru and Maulana Azad, it has been our policy, whether within the country or in the international field, to reach the maximum possible extent of understanding, thus maintaining friendship, and not giving any offense from our side.

Whosoever has any demand, be he pro or against me, I have always listened to it and have tried to meet it as far as possible. But I have my limitations. The resources are limited. Funds are limited. We cannot go beyond these limitations. Sometimes there are demands which please some sections of the people, but annoy others and can lead to serious discontent in other States. Therefore, we have to consider all the relevant factors. I should like to request those who have some demands either in the name of a State or a religion or a language or some other issue, to look around to ensure that the fulfilment of their demand does not aggrieve others. They should think whether their demand would not impose an economic burden on the country which may weaken the country or crush it altogether under its load. Economic hardship will not spare them either. We have taken care of every one in our plans and it is our effort to help all sections of the people and States, so that they may all progress and develop.

Nowadays, the relations between the Centre and the States are being discussed. I, too, have said that we can discuss them and I am confident that if the issue is approached sincerely, a compromise can be arrived at easily.

In 1960-61, the States were getting a sum of Rs. 500 crores from the Centre.

Now, they are getting Rs. 12,000 crores. A stupendous increase indeed. Still, neither the States are happy nor the Central Ministries are contented. They all say that they are not getting enough. I agree, that amount do not suffice for their needs, but we must also not forget that even in rich countries, the needs of all cannot be met fully.

Demands will not only remain, but will in fact increase. What we have to see is that while meeting the demands of those people who are comparatively well off, we do not ignore or cause harm to those people who are weak and underprivileged. They must not get poorer as a result of the fulfilment of the demands of the

affluent. The country will become strong only if the poor people of the country also become strong. In their strength lies the welfare of the affluent as well.

I hope that demands will be put forth not to further selfinterests, but to secure the welfare of the country and for helping the relatively weaker sections as well as for the allround progress of the country. This is why our emphasis has been on helping the weaker sections as far as possible. This is the objective of the 20-Point Programme through which 15 million families have been helped to raise their standard of living. Many countries do not have even a total population of 15 million. But in a country with a population of 700 million, the figure is not that impressive. There is no magic that can benefit all these 700 million people immediately.

#### **20-POINT PROGRAMME**

The 20-point programme was initiated only recently. Employment has been arranged through it and successes have been achieved in providing employment to a good number of young men, rural as well as urban. Progress has also been made in providing loans as well as in other fields. I know there are shortcomings. I know that some people have made mistakes. Some people have complained to me in this regard.

Those who do not reside in Delhi, or are listening to me for the first time, may be surprised to know that whenever I am <pg-234>

in Delhi, barring the holidays, I meet people in my house every morning, ranging from a few to a few thousand. These people come from all walks of life, all religions and all parts of the country. Some people say they come just to see me, some others narrate their woes, a few others lodge complaints and some others praise the progress made. There are people who think that I waste my time by meeting them. Many leaders of other countries do not do so. But I feel that this helps me in getting an idea of the true picture of the country and the feelings of the people. It is certainly not a waste of time.

The area under irrigation has increased considerably. Some of our farmer friends have launched agitations. But whatever we could achieve for the farmers during the last four years, remains unparalleled. Of course, the farmers were always given due consideration - during the freedom movement as also afterwards. Actually, they were at the root of our movement. They are our food-givers. I know that the prices of some of the commodities that they consume have gone up. We are trying to help them, have actually done so.

Chemical fertilisers are being supplied to them at rates lower than the actuals by providing subsidies to the extent of Rs. 800 crores. This is not an easy task for a poor country. The prices of their products have also comparatively increased. It is, however, true that the commodities that they need have become dearer in our countries as well as in other countries. It is also true that along with progress, demands keep on increasing.

People who could not even think of tractors and thrashers and were not using chemical fertilisers or pesticides two or three years ago have now started using them and their demands for these commodities are on the increase. Demands, however, outpace production. This results in rise in prices. We have to take all these factors into consideration. If we are dependent on them, they too are dependent on the production of the factories. We have to pay attention to the industrial workers also and ensure justice to them. Some-times we are at fault, at times the millowners are to blame and at other times they are themselves at fault. The existence of many unions in a factory or a unit and their internal rivalries not only result in wastage of time, but also harm production. We have to pay attention to such things.

#### FOODGRAINS

Every section should view its problems in the larger perspective of India to be able to appreciate the difficulties of others farmers, industrial workers, housewives, etc. Housewives are trying to run their households most economically in these days of rising prices. Not only the people of India, but of the entire world, are victims of rising prices. We are trying our best to make available essential commodities to the people throughout the country.

A sum of Rs. 850 crore is being spent to help the rationing system to carry foodgrains to the remotest areas. We are trying to augment this amount. If somebody indulges in dishonest practices and corruption, stringent action should be taken against him. For this, however, it is necessary to know immediately who did what and where. If people say it is done by all and everywhere, it will be difficult to take action against the culprits. Local people have to be vigilant in this regard. If they remain alert, no atrocities can be perpetuated on the Harijans, people of the minority communities and womenfolk. Alertness will help solutions to problems. We are trying to further tighten legislation in this regard. We also try to foresee the problems and solutions thereof, even before they come to the surface.

## SELF-RELIANCE

This is an age of self-reliance. Our slogan is that our nation should be self-reliant. What does a nation mean? It is not the land, but each one of you, wheresoever you may be living. We want all of you to be self-reliant. We are trying to help you to become that. It casts a responsibility upon you - the responsibility to do your duty. Please see that violence does not take place. Please see that holy <pp-235>

or religious places are not converted into focal points of violence and crime and accumulation of arms. It is your duty to see that communalism does not raise its head. Wherever there are indications, please go there, as our workers used to do during the days of the freedom movement. They used to bring about peace in the area by pacifying their anger.

This is feasible, because we have done it in the past. India has accomplished many tremendous tasks in the past and I am confident about the future as well.

Dangers always exist in a country. In a country of diversities of religions and languages, beliefs and traditions, internal rivalries are quite natural to an extent. But we have never considered diversities to be a symbol of weakness. On the contrary, diversities enrich us, and add to the picturesqueness of our society. We do not want any religion or tradition to be curtailed. Everyone should be able to follow his own path.

But all the paths should merge in the ocean of Indianness, as the rivers merge into the sea. The synthesis of different beliefs and traditions constitutes Indianness. We must follow our faiths sincerely and should not impose ourselves on people not belonging to our own faith. If the people follow their faiths sincerely, they will prove better citizens. No religion preaches violence. Every religion urges brotherhood, love and compassion. If the country follows this path, we shall be able to build a new society.

### NEW SOCIETY

A new society is even now being shaped, and modernity is emerging out of the old traditions. This is one reason why some problems have cropped up in our country. Some pressures and problems have also come from outside. Life is a mixture of sorrows and happiness. Each one of you, be it a child or the grown up, must have experienced this in your life. To rise above our sorrows or to be crushed under them lies in our hands. No Government or political party can offer help in this regard. It is our selfconfidence and the internal power that help us to over-come them. Today, on Independence Day, we should bear this in mind.

During the last four years, as you would have seen or heard, or read, some events have taken place every year which enhanced the prestige of our country in the community of nations and also in our hearts. We, however, do not take advantage of that as other countries do. By 'We', I do not mean me or the Government, but the people of India. We did not make use of them to strengthen further our unity and the national pride, as all others do. This has been our shortcoming.

#### ASIAN GAMES

When the Asian Games were held here, I know how pleased the people of Delhi were. Young men belonging to opposition parties also came to me and expressed their happiness and thanked me for holding the Games, although they said they did not agree with me in many other matters. A propaganda was, however, carried on that so much of money was being wasted without any useful return. You saw recently, in what spirit another country took up the same job. We have to see in what spirit the entire country should utilise such occasions so as to strengthen the unity, strength, morale and self-respect of the country, instead of viewing events from a partisan angle. This is the greatest need.

Now, another responsibility has developed upon us - the responsibility for some other countries besides our own. People call it leadership. I am not fond of becoming a leader. I would only say that we have been provided with an opportunity to serve a hundred other countries in the best possible manner. I admit there are differences amongst us.

Fighting is going on in some countries and we are trying to stop it, although we have not succeeded so far. For example, the war between Iran and Iraq. We are in constant touch with the leaders of these countries. We are also corresponding with other leaders to explore possible solutions. Many people have come here. Our officers and Ministers have also visited these two countries besides other countries and our <pg-236>

efforts are still on. Some other countries are also facing disturbances.

### SIMLA AGREEMENT

Recently, disturbances have broken out in one of our neighbouring countries. As you know, our policy has been of friendship and we have not ignored any avenue that leads to improved friendship, whether it is Pakistan, or Bangladesh, or Nepal, or Sri Lanka. They are our close neighbours. Many years ago, when Jawaharlal Nehru was Prime Minister, he had suggested that India and Pakistan should enter into a No-War Pact. The same thing was repeated by the late respected Shastriji and myself in different forms and on different occasions. Pakistan, however, did not respond. After I became the Prime Minister again, and they acquired sophisticated weapons, they linked it with the idea of such a pact. We are not against it. We ourselves want it, but we said: So far you had been ignoring our suggestions and now since you have raised this issue, you will it not be proper to have a treaty of friendship, cooperation and peace between us, so as to create a better atmosphere? If we enter into such a pact,

naturally, there will be no war. Otherwise also, all these were part of the Simla Agreement.

These have been recorded and duly signed by the two countries. If, however, you do not like that agreement, we can have a new agreement on these lines. But to say no to a Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Peace, and still ask for a No-War Pact, I ask you, my friends, how is it possible? How can we take it seriously? Still, we are trying to have something. I am sorry to find that their TV and newspapers carry reports about India which are far from reality and which may also be termed as interference in our internal matters. Still, we are taking up matters with them in all courtesy and in a friendly manner. But no Government can overlook the interests of the country and its self-respect.

The situation in Sri Lanka is quite grave and my heart is full of grief for those innocent people who are being attacked without having done anything wrong. There are extremists and terrorists there as well and it is evident that a Government is required to counter them. But the manner in which a particular community is being attacked for the last so many years has come in the way of restoration of peace and the situation has gradually deteriorated. We do not want to interfere. We do not want to put any obstacle in the unity of another country. That would not be in our interest. We want our neighbouring countries to be stable and friendly to wards us. We extended our hand of friendship and offered help in having a dialogue and arriving at some conclusions acceptable to all.

The grief is of our entire country, although our Tamil brothers are affected most by the happenings there. Already 40,000 refugees have arrived. It is possible that people other than the sufferers may also have come with them and there may also be some spies amongst them. I cannot say what is the actual position. Our frontiers are such that in spite of our best efforts, such intrusions cannot always be checked. Still, we are making efforts. Patrolling has been intensified. I urged the President of Sri Lanka to have a dialogue somehow. He had himself suggested this and we had hoped that under his leadership progress would be made and an agreement would be arrived at. But so far I find only reports of unpleasant incidents. We are fully seized of the problem and we have all sympathy for the suffering people.

## SEA FRONTIERS

Our sea frontiers are vulnerable. But when I talk about these, it is not for diverting attention from our internal probelms. I want our internal problems to be solved expeditiously so that we remain united and strong enough to face any danger. By accusing each other, or by lowering the morale of the police force and the army, we cannot make the country strong. Whenever aggressions have taken place, our jawans have faced them bravely and sacrificed their lives. Whenever a calamity has occurred, whether in the form of floods or something else -- our jawans have participated in the fight for peace and helped people. How can we not praise them? It is natural for a human being to <pg-237>

err sometimes, be it a jawan or a politician or a public servant. Just because of the fault of one, we should not weaken the morale of the country. This will be neither in the interest of the country nor in that of a citizen, or a political party. I am very sorry to see that some people do not hesitate in raising any point if it helps them get some publicity or benefit. I do not think that will really benefit them. On the other hand, this will harm the country and our morale.

We must remember, on this Independence Day, that just to attain independence is not enough. We have to strive consistently to preserve it. We must guard this flame of freedom from every storm through our labour and if necessary by laying down our life. Each one of us must take this vow today.

Earlier, when I referred to the 20-point programme, I stated that the uplift of the poor people and weaker sections of the society and to help the small farmers was our objective. More than Rs. 1,000 crore have been allotted for these programmes if a problem is faced in any part of the country, we take care of it. Soon the Seventh Plan will be launched. The objectives of this plan are already known to you. These are: food, employment and productivity. All these are inter-related. If production does not increase, there cannot be employment as also food. To achieve these objectives, we have placed adequate fund exclusively for the purpose. This will strengthen further the foundations of our country. Simultaneously, we have to help each other.

#### COMBINED EFFORT

The struggle for the country's freedom had started even prior to our movement, but it did not succeed, because it was not a combined effort. You know what happened in 1857. You may hear about it more this evening. Why did not that revolution succeed? Because the people, in spite of sympathising with it, did not step forward as soldiers for the cause.

We know that the last phase of the movement led by Gandhiji started on August 9,1942. We celebrate the day every year. Why did we succeed? It was not because of violence, or enmity towards anyone. Our enmity was not towards Englishmen or England, but towards imperialism. We fought against imperialism and even today we are with people fighting against imperialism, as in South Africa. Besides the local population, Indians too are there. They do not have any freedom. They do not enjoy even the elementary rights of citizenship. Therefore, how can we not raise our voice in their favour? You have to think over this. One great leader had said, if one person is deprived of freedom, all of us lose our freedom. If any country is enslaved, the shadows of slavery fall on us all. Freedom and peace must prevail universally. Their blessing must be available to all.

#### PEACE

India has been trying for peace everywhere. Recently, along with the Presidents or Prime Ministers of five other countries, I issued an appeal to the nations of the world against nuclear weapons. A one-hundredth part of the nuclear weapons now in store are enough to annihilate the entire humanity. Still, these weapons are being manufactured and accumulated. And India is blamed. India has some nuclear capacity. Our scientists have proved that they can do it. But we do not want to develop our nuclear capacity to produce a bomb. We do not have a singe bomb. We want to use nuclear power to produce energy, so as to help the farmers, we want to use it for medical science.

No programme of ours, whether it relates to space, or spots, or science, can succeed if our young men do not come forward. Had they not enough capability, we could not have advanced. We are doing all this to minimize the sufferings of the poor people and the middle class people of the country in whom lies the nations's strength. In some fields we lag behind. This is but natural in view of the fact that the industrial revolution took place in some major countries 200 years ago. Now, how do we catch up with them, if our young people do not engage themselves in constructive work but indulge in destruction? <pp-238>

I am repeating this off and on, because I know the creative capacity of our new generation. Our young people who are at school or college or in other institutions, have constructive talents. We have only to bring them out. We are forgetting our ancient ideals. We talk of religions and tradition, but do not pay attention to their basics. Their spirit calls for being good to others, helping others and creating a peaceful atmosphere. If we forget these ideals, we cannot advance. We have to bring about a social change and improve economic conditions. At the same time, we have to develop our spiritual strength without which we cannot be a great nation. We have to develop our moral values which are in abundance in India. We must not lose them.

## SYMBOL

This flag is a symbol, and not a mere piece of cloth. It is a symbol of the independence of India, the sacrifice of India and the bright future of India. Today, we all express our sympathies for all those who are suffering on account of drought or floods or communal riots or some other reasons, and pray for their wellbeing. I also pray for good rains, so that food production goes up and reaches one and all. This will help our country to march on the path of progress and show to the world a new road of peace and friendship.

I extend good wishes to you all on my behalf as also on behalf of the Government of India. Will you now join me in uttering the national slogan? Normally, only the children do it, but I hope that everyone of you who is here will also join. JAI HIND - JAI HIND - JAI HIND.

# DIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC LATVIA IRAN IRAQ BANGLADESH NEPAL PAKISTAN SRI LANKA RUSSIA

**Date** : Aug 15, 1984

## Volume No

1995

## INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON POPULATION

Shri Shankaranand's Speech at Mexico

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Aug 08, 1984 of the speech by Shri B. Shankaranand, Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare at the International conference on population in Mexico City on August 7, 1984:

Shri B. Shankaranand, Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare, reminded the developed nations of the world that "it is in the global interest that the industrially advanced countries should offer both technical and financial cooperation to the developing countries. Only such help would eliminate the unfortunate gap dividing the nations of the North from those of the South".

Shri Shankaranand was speaking at the International Conference on Population in Mexico City on August 7, 1984.

Poverty and rapid population growth reinforce each other in a vicious cycle, he told the conference. In breaking this cycle, the donors and developing countries must cooperate with each other. In developing countries, in urban areas the rapid population growth is creating major economic and social problems that are becoming unmanageable. Urban population is growing much faster in the third world nations than in the industrialised countries.

Attempts to tackle the population problem must go hand in hand with efforts to establish a new international economic order. The developing countries have to <pg-239>

slow down the population growth rate if they have to achieve meaningful social and economic development, Shri Shankaranand told the conference.

The critical reality behind family planning is that it has to be a human and social welfare programme. In order to achieve the goals of development plans, people should be placed at the centre and not be treated merely as statistics to be manipulated. Although the interplay between population and development has been recognised, the slogan "Development is the best contraception' is yet to move from the realm of rhetoric to something more serious.

### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Low rate of population growth is associated with high levels of economic development. About 22 per cent of the world population is concentrated in countries with low population growth rate and with high or moderate income levels. Most developing countries, however, experience a population growth of more than 2 per cent a year, implying a doubling of their population within 30-35 years.

It is known that over 80 per cent of the inter-country variation in fertility rates could be explained by per capita income, life expetancy at birth, effective literacy and distribution of income, in other words, by high socio-economic development.

Referring to the Indian situation, the Minister said that we realise that social and economic development is the real antidote to high fertility.

Developmental processes take time but time is not on our side in so far as control of population growth is concerned. Our studies have revealed that longer expectancy of life, reduction in infant and child mortality, and female education play a key role in bringing about positive attitudinal changes towards a small family norm.

There has been a growing recognition in an increasing number of countries that development cannot focus solely on economic growth and that greater emphasis must be put on social concerns such as elimination of mass poverty, the promotion of employment, and the satisfaction of basic needs for all people. Poverty and social injustice are the major obstacles to socio-economic development and improvement of the quality of life. As death rate falls on account of organised public health services and birth rate falls with the spread of education and improvement in living standards, it underscores the need for an integrated approach to development. Control of population is an integral part of our development strategy, the Minister added.

Talking about the conference, the Minister said that we have assembled here to review the world population plan of action since Bucharest conference and to evaluate the experiences of Governments and the United Nation bodies in the implementation of population policies and management of programmes in relation to population and socio-economic development.

### 20TH CENTURY

He said that in another 17 years time we would be crossing the threshold of the 20th century and our policies and programmes during this period would greatly influence the quality of life of the future generation. Population policy can succeed, he said, if it is conceived as part of social policy. We must have clear vision of our social goals with regard not only to the quantitative aspects of the population but also the quantitative aspects of life and human development. The conference must identify the demographic factors which will go a long way to improve the quality of life. As life expectancy and mortality rates are important indicators of the quality of life it is better that regionwise goals and targets are specified taking into account the regional conditions of the countries in each region.

## VOLUNTARY ASPECT OF FAMILY PLANNING

Talking about the voluntary aspects of the family planning programmes followed by India, the Health Minister said that India has built a large infrastructure for extensive family planning programmes. A large number of paramedical and extension workers have been trained. Emphasis has been laid on maternal and child health care <pg-240>

and we have been able to bring down maternal and infant mortality rates. Our aim is not only to curb population growth but to have happier and healthier families. In our circumstances, this means small families. We are totally committed to voluntary family planning. As a matter of policy we have never practised forcible sterilisation. We have been, and are, firmly against compulsion.

The responsibility of family planning must be borne by social and voluntary organisations, local institutions, trade unions, women's organisations and political parties. We have to keep family planning above sectional politics and to recognise it as one of our national priorities, demanding the whole-hearted allegience and cooperation of all.

We have learnt from our experience that the key to the success of family planning lies in strengthening community based health and family planning programmes and in securing professional backup support to these services. Our greatest hope is that a vast majority of the people wish to limit the number of their children.

India is the first country in the world to have adopted an official family planning programme as early as 1952. Since then increasing emphasis is being laid on this programme in our successive Five Year Plans. Recent trends in the programme have raised hopes that we may be able to reach the goal we have set for ourselves to achieve a net reproduction rate of one by the year 2000 A.D. We intend to cover 60 per cent of all eligible couples with effective contraception and achieve a crude birth rate of 21 per 1000, a crude death rate of 9 per 1000 and infant mortality rate of less than 60 per 1000 live births by the year 2000. We are aware that this is a stupendous task. But we are confident that the goals are attainable. While we are spending over Rs. 14.5 billions in the Sixth Five Year Plan (1980-85), we propose to spend Rs. 64 billion in the Seventh Plan. This is an indication of the growing resources needs of the population for developing countries.

## FROM BUCHAREST TO MEXICO

Talking about the importance of the Conference, Shri Shankaranand said that:

"The Bucharest conference made the Governments of the world population conscious, and Mexico has increased awareness.

"Limiting the size of the family and arresting the ever-rising rate of population growth is not the only aim, it is the human will not only to survive but also to live a healthy and happy life. Mankind has lived through various vicissitudes of development and destruction and has survived in spite of ever increasing uncertainty between life and death. The current global atmosphere is not encouraging for the suvival of the human race. It is really the irony of fate that the research activities in science and technology are moving fast in diagonally opposite directions: one for the improvement of the quality of life of mankind, and the other for its total destruction. Let us hope that the human will to survive shall ultimately prevail.

"We, therefore, engage ourselves in the noble task of protecting the poor against poverty, ignorance and exploitation and rededicate ourselves towards ensuring a better future for mankind," the Minister concluded.

## XICO TURKEY INDIA USA MALDIVES ROMANIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC **Date :** Aug 08, 1984

## Volume No

#### 1995

#### NAMIBIA

#### Shri Mirdha's Message to President of UN Council for Namibia

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Aug 26, 1984 of the message sent by the Minister of State for External Affairs, Shri Ram Niwas Mirdha to the President of the United Nations Council for Namibia:

Namibia Day commemorates the epic struggle of the people of Namibia in the <pg-241>

liberation of what is their rightful homeland from South African subjugation. On this day of remembrance and rededication, the Government and the people of India and the Non-Aligned Movement as a whole applaud and pay tribute to the great sacrifices made and steadfast determination shown by a brave people who have vigorously continued their struggle for the unexceptionable cause of freedom and self-determination.

#### INDIA'S FIRM SUPPORT

India has consistently and unreservedly expressed its firm support to the immediate and full implementation of independence plan for Namibia as laid down in Security Council Resolution SCR 435 (1978). We stand fully behind the South West African People's Organisation (SWAPO) - the sole and authentic representative of the Namibian people - particularly at a time when the racist South African regime is conceiving of every possible devious scheme to delay implementation of Security Council Resolution 435. We reject all such prevarications. The world cannot accept extraneous linkages which have no bearing on the basic issue which is the independence, freedom and dignity of the people of Namibia.

#### 100 YEARS OF COLONIAL RULE

Namibia completes one hundred years as a colony this year. Very soon, the international community will also be observing the 25th anniversary of the adoption of the UN Declaration on decolonisation. And yet, the South African regime continues with its brutal and repressive domination over the Namibian territory showing utter disregard for the UN resolutions and overwhelming world opinion. The only course before the international community now is to effect mandatory sanctions against South Africa under chapter VII of the UN Charter. This alone would compel South Africa to pay heed to the yearning for freedom amongst the Namibian people.

MIBIA INDIA SOUTH AFRICA USA

**Date** : Aug 26, 1984

## Volume No

1995

NON-ALIGNMENT

Observance of Non-Alignment Day

The following is the text of the speech by Shri G. Parthasarathy, Chairman, Policy Planning Commission, Ministry of External Affairs, on Non-Alignment Day at the India International Centre, New Delhi on Aug 31, 1984:

I welcome you all to this meeting to commemorate the Day of Non-Alignment. You will no doubt recall that in 1981, while celebrating the 20th anniversary of the Belgrade summit a decision was taken to commemorate the Day of Non-Alignment on September 1st every year. In a short span of time, this has become an honoured convention. It also serves as an opportunity to reassess the directions the Movement is taking and also to rededicate ourselves to the principles of Non-Alignment.

There was something inevitable about this country's adherence to the policy of Non-Alignment. Throughout the years of the freedom struggle, our leaders had refused to see India's independence purely in national terms. They saw it as part of a global process, which would be ultimately complete, only when all the subject peoples of the world attained full sovereignty. This is the reason why, in the years immediately after independence, we were so much preoccupied with the problem of decolonisation. The struggle against vestigial colonialism became, thus, the <pg-242>

primary concern of India's foreign policy; it was, however, not enough. There was also the pressing problem of ensuring peace in the dangerous nuclear age. Autonomy in decision making was essential for the newly independent countries to achieve not merely national goals, but also to create a congenial environment in which social, economic and political benefits would be realised by ordinary people everywhere.

## ASIAN RELATIONS CONFERENCE

Before independence itself, Jawaharlal Nehru was clear in his refusal to be conditioned by other people's thinking, to merely respond to other people's actions. At the Asian Relations Conference, four months before independence, he had stated, "for too long we, of Asia, have been petitioners in western courts and chancellories. That story must now belong to the past. We propose to stand on our own feet, and to cooperate with all others who are prepared to cooperate with us. We do not want to be playthings of others." Here is the germ of Non-Alignment which is the movement of the solidarity of the weak nations of the world who had tasted the bitter fruit of foreign domination.

## INTERNATIONAL CONTEXT

As the Movement has evolved, and the international context changes, the Non Aligned Movement has enlarged the scope of its activities. It is a credit to the foresight of the outstanding leaders of the Movement, who worked out its principles, that they did not look upon the movement as an expedient to meet the particular circumstances of the Cold War of the forties and fifties, but as a vital contribution towards the preservation of peace and peaceful co-existence, and the achievement of a new world order based on justice and equality.

### COLD WAR

Pre-institutional Non-Alignment in the fifties, faced two challenges, that of decolonisation and the prevention of a nuclear holocaust in an era of bitter ideological antagonism. Survival in the new world order, or for that matter, in any order, was possible only through among coexistence nations. The promotion of peaceful coexistence thus became one of the foremost objectives of the Non-Aligned Movement. The Cold War of the fifties and sixties was, not only a threat to the political independence and sovereignty of the newly emerging countries, but could affect the very survival of mankind. It was thus that Jawaharlal Nehru argued at the first summit in Belgrade, that nothing is more important, or has more priority, than the situation of war and peace.

The process of detente initiated in the late sixties, and continued during the seventies, was welcomed by the Non-Aligned countries, but even at that early stage the Non-Aligned nations realised that the arrangement was incomplete and unsatisfactory, precisely because it was dependent on temporary political adjustments between the power blocs, and, moreover, was by no means an irreversible process; neither did it encompass all areas of the world. Detente, therefore, had never really resulted in the abatement of tensions in several hotbeds of crisis. Military competition and confrontation continued, for example, in the Indian Ocean, despite the show of bilateral consultations in the late seventies. The Non-Aligned have, therefore, consistently declared that world peace is indivisible, and that the process of detente must be universalized and consolidated.

## MEMBERSHIP OF 101 COUNTRIES

The Non-Aligned Movement, with its membership of 101 countries, constitutes the single largest diplomatic fraternity in the world today. It is an indication of the historical role of this Movement and the significance of its achievements to date, that almost every newly independent nation seeks membership of the Movement, almost as a matter of course.

Today, in fact, individual countries and the Movement as a whole function in an international situation of great complexity. Not only have the power centres in the world increased, but their inter-relationships have also grown, and have influenced, directly and indirectly, the attitudes of individual Non-Aligned and developing <pg-243>

countries. Whereas, in the past, the policy of Non-Alignment, which had enabled individual countries to collectively face bloc pressures, and escape great power rivalries through adherence to certain basic criteria, today even these criteria may not be adequate. The global technological reach of the powerful nations has obviated the necessity of military bases, in the sense in which they were conceived during the heyday of the cold war. The concept of arrangements and facilities for security purposes has taken on a much more insidious character.

#### GROWTH IN COMMUNICATIONS

With the growth in communications, and the "demonstration effect" of developments in the more affluent regions of the world, the rise in the expectation of poorer countries has resulted in greater ferment, a greater urgency towards removal of inequalities and disequilibria in the social and economic structure of the international community, in order to better the conditions of their own people. The concurrent increase in the level of international political awareness has led to an increased insistence in their demands. This imperative for a more just political and international economic order has no doubt been frustrated by resistance to correct the imbalances existing in the world. The struggle for the new international economic order has, over the past years, moved from the stage of mere awareness and identification to that of militancy and forceful advocacy.

#### COMMON STAND

In hastening the collapse of classical Western colonialism, the Non-Aligned Movement has inevitably had to seek broadbased support for the decolonisation process from several political forces. The Movement has provided a forum for nations to forge a common stand against all neocolonialist and dominationist policies. While the struggle for decolonisation has, with a few notable exceptions, reached its culmination, fresh challenges are being faced by Non-Aligned countries in the form of new and subtler techniques to keep their nations weak politically and dependent economically.

### RALLYING POINT

Yet, while these dangers exist, their very articulation by the developing countries has served as a warning and safeguard. The objective factors underlying them have provided a rallying point for the Movement to focus attention on the urgent need to eliminate the existing economic inequalities in the world. It is through the Declaration of the NIEO, and successive experiences at the UNCTAD and UNIDO and other conferences over the 1970's, that the developing countries have realised, that the radical transformation of the international economic structure, would be the keystone of the political transformation of these States during the next few decades. The call for a restructuring of such relationships through a global round of negotiations was itself an expression of this awareness. Despite the difficulties and pitfalls encountered as a result of divergencies in interests, and the changing tactics required to be adopted between the North and the South, the essential objective of narrowing the gap of living standards, technologies and socio-economic infrastructure, as between the developing countries in the third world and of the industrialised north, has been increasingly recognised.

### NEW DELHI SUMMIT

The eighteen months since the New Delhi Summit, have witnessed a heightening of tensions between the power blocs. Tensions, mistrust and confrontation between the great powers are rising. Even the words in which they address each other are increasingly threatening and condemnatory. The very fabric of international peace is under serious stress. The world stands a helpless witness to a major escalation of the nuclear arms race.

During the last eighteen months the Movement has striven ceaselessly for a less dangerous world. India and the other Non-Aligned nations have, both in the United Nations and outside, agitated for an immediate and comprehensive banning of the <pg-244>

testing of nuclear weapons and for the prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons. Nuclear disarmament in our age should proceed in predictable stages from an immediate freeze to reduction of existing stockpiles and, finally, to a time-bound programme of total elimination of nuclear weaponry. This has been the thrust of the Non-Aligned position in all forums of the world. We have used all the opportunities in the United Nations and other international bodies to voice our demand for general and complete disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament. As our Prime Minister said during her New Delhi address, the Non-Aligned Movement is the greatest peace movement in history. It articulates the unexpressed yearnings of all people in the rich and in the poor countries, in the developed and the developing worlds, for mutual understanding and compassion in ordinary life. The concern of the Non- Aligned nations is not merely academic in this terrible problem which threatens to engulf all of us. There will be no survivors, no place to escape to, after a nuclear holocaust. The nuclear winter, as the latest researches have shown, will be universal.

### MAJOR GLOBAL PROBLEM

The other major global problem which preoccupied the New Delhi Summit was the imminence of a major economic crisis. During the eighteen months since then we have done everything in our power to alleviate the consequences of this chaotic situation. The world leaders' consultations in the United Nations last September initiated by our Prime Minister represented an innovative step forward in our search for some solution to this complicated problem. Some of our basic recommendations as for example, the conference on money and finance, the debt problem and programme of immediate measures, have not been accepted by the great powers. The Non-Aligned countries are determinated to pursue the effort to persuade the rich countries to see the justice of our view point.

### WORLD ECONOMIC FIELD

The latest developments in the world economic field are by no means encouraging for the developing countries. The slow recovery in the United States and some other Western economies, for which so much is claimed, has spread to only a few individual developing nations. Most other countries continue to be grievously affected by the high interest rates in the world's largest economy. The recent UNIDO meeting demonstrated how unwilling developed nations are to meet even the very modest demands from the developing states. The annual UNCTAD report, which has just come out, makes a forceful plea for integrated action by the United Nations and all its specialised agencies to help the less developed countries. What is needed is an interagency approach which would take an integrated view of the various problems in financial relations, in trade matters and multilateral assistance; quotas, tariffs and concessions, all to be grouped together as an inter-related whole. To deal with them on a piecemeal basis would be self-defeating. The Non-Aligned Movement should act with solidarity and promptitude, to devise a response to the challenges of the new protectionism and an excessive reliance on the market forces which fail to take into account the vulnerability of the smaller and weaker states.

## NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER

In our attempts to bring about a new international economic order, and in our desire to replace the present climate of fear by genuine peace and mutual confidence among nations, we have relied on the United Nations as the most efficient instrument available to us today in rearranging international relations. There is no alternative, we believe to strengthening the United Nations and its capacity for securing world peace.

### POLITICAL ISSUES

Several political issues demand our urgent attention. Peace in West Asia remains of paramount concern. It must be based on a just and durable settlement of the questions at the core of the problem: Israeli aggression and the self-determination of and nationhood for the Palestinian people. The valiant and oppressed people of Namibia also look to us for continued solidarity and support. The independence <pg-245>

of Namibia ought not to be thwarted or delayed any further. The United Nations has special responsibility in this regard and it should exert its great authority in resolving these issues.

There has been a marked deterioration in the situation in Southern Africa since 1983. The South African government is now engaged in a dubious constitutional reform, which is designed to divide the non-White population of the Republic. We are happy to note that the Coloured and the Asian communities have virtually rejected these so-called 'reforms' during the recent elections. The Non-Aligned Movement, in general, and India as a State, would continue to agitate actively for the full sovereignty of the peoples of Namibia and South Africa.

#### IRAN-IRAQ WAR

Another important question that has engaged our attention is the unfortunate and unresolved conflict between Iran and Iraq which has sapped the strength of both countries, and taken a heavy toll of human lives on both sides. Our Prime Minister has been in touch with the Presidents of Iran and Iraq and has sent them special communications. The Foreign Minister of India and others have visited Baghdad and Tehran. Even during the last few weeks, the Government of India have been seriously engaged in trying to understand the opposing points of view so that we can make a contribution towards solving this tragic conflict.

#### CENTRAL AMERICA

Events in Central America and the tensions prevailing in that region cause grave concern to Non-Aligned countries. I hope there will be continued support for the Contadora initiative for a peaceful resolution of the problems of this troubled region.

Developments in South West Asia and South East Asia continue to cause concern. We stand by the principle of non-interference and non-intervention by outside powers and shall persist in our efforts to reach a political solution acceptable to the parties concerned.

On most of these issues our Movement has adopted positions in accordance with its traditions, and the principles that have guided it since its inception. We had set out our views on these matters in the Declaration of the New Delhi Summit. Since then, as the Movement's Chairperson, India has tried to strengthen its role for independence, peace and development. In the times ahead, the Movement will have to address itself even more vigorously to these tasks.

## PRIME MINISTER'S CALL AT UN ASSEMBLY

In conclusion, I would like to recall the following words from our Prime Minister's address to the 38th UN General Assembly: "This is our last chance of appealing to the old and the entrenched not to infect the new with its diseases: neocolonialism, monopoly, economic oppression, class divisions and big-power-politics, as well as the idea that power is invincible and can feed on itself, with militarization as the ultimate tool.

For us, the Non-Aligned, and for all who are deeply concerned with the future of humanity, the question is whether we help the birth of this new creation, or throttle it before it can draw breath. The matter is not simple, because history has proved time and again, that ideas and movements can be obstructed, but not stopped. <pp-246>

## DIA YUGOSLAVIA USA PERU ISRAEL NAMIBIA SOUTH AFRICA IRAN IRAQ

**Date** : Aug 31, 1984

## Volume No

1995

## ITALY

## Agreement for Technical Cooperation Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Aug 08, 1984 on the signing of Indo-Italian agreements on

technical cooperation:

Two technical assistance agreements were signed here today (New Delhi, August 8, 1984) between Shri P. K. Kaul, Finance Secretary, Government of India and H.E. Mr. E. Pascarelli, the Italian Ambassador to India. The agreements, the first ones for Italian technical assistance grants for specific projects, provide for Italian grant of about US \$ 19 million in the form of Italian services and supplies for (a) development of temperate climate fruit crops in the States of J & K, Himachal Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh and (b) integrated agricultural development in the States of Haryana, Madhya Pradesh and Orissa.

For the project for development of temperate climate fruit crops, the Government of Italy is to provide, through Ms Agrotec of Italy, agricultural implements, irrigation equipment, vehicles, planting materials, equipment for fruit processing plants, etc. in the hill districts of J & K, Himachal Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh. The Italian contribution in this project will be about US \$ 6 million.

For the integrated agriculture development project, the Government of Italy is to provide, through M/s. Fertimont of Italy, fertilisers, tractors and other agricultural implements for increasing productivity of important crops like rice, sorghum, millet, etc. in selected districts of Haryana, Madhya Pradesh and Orissa. The Italian contribution for this project will be about US \$ 13 million.

Speaking at the occasion, Shri Kaul said that the agreements we have signed today are the first of its kind and a token of our renewed efforts to establish more meaningful relations with each other.

Appreciating Indo-Italian deep ties of friendship, H.E. Mr. E. Pascarelli enthusiastically said that with these agreements we have opened the way in the field of technical assistance and shall go even beyond agriculture and horticulture development.

ALY INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC PERU LATVIA **Date :** Aug 08, 1984

## Volume No

1995

JAPAN

#### 37.36 Billion Yen Loan Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Aug 07, 1984 on the signing of the 37.36 billion yen loan:

Notes were exchanged here today (New Delhi, August 7, 1984) between Shri P. K. Kaul, Finance Secretary and

Mr. Takumi Hosaki, Ambassador of Japan to India concluding agreement for extension of 24th Japanese Yen credit assistance to India of Yen 37.36 billion (equivalent to Rs. 162.3 crores approximately) for the year 1984-85. <pg-247>

Speaking at the occasion, Shri Kaul informed that the four Projects for which the loan assistance will be used are the Aonla fertilizer plant project, telecommunication Network expansion project, H-B-J gas pipeline project (Hazira-Baijaipur Sector) and the Eastern Gandak Canal Hydroelectric project. All the four projects included in the 24th pledge are infrastructure projects in priority sectors of our economy.

Appreciating the assistance extended by the Japanese Government to promote economic development effort in India, Shri Kaul said that Japan has traditionally assisted India in establishing a strong infrastructure for the economic development of our country.

The above loan assistance will be repayable over a period of 30 years including a grace period of 10 years and carries an interest rate of 3.25 per cent per annum.

PAN INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC **Date :** Aug 07, 1984

## Volume No

1995

POLAND

#### Mid-Term Trade Review

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Aug 07, 1984 on the Indo-Polish mid-term trade review:

Indo-Polish trade in 1984 is expected to reach Rs. 2077 million

indicating a growth rate of approximately 26 per cent for 1984 over the trade turn-over in 1983. Upto the end of May, 1984, the total value of contracts concluded amounted to Rs. 1,564 million and it was hoped that further contracts over Rs. 525 million will be signed and executed during the remaining part of the year. This was indicated when a mid-term review of the trade plan between India and Poland for 1984 was taken recently in New Delhi by the Joint Secretary (East Europe) in the Ministry of Commerce, and officials from the Embassy of Poland.

In 1983 the total trade turn-over was Rs. 1,650 million. Imports were provisionally valued at Rs. 800 million and exports from India at Rs. 850 million.

India's main items of exports to Poland are tea, de-oiled cakes, finished leather, raw cotton, cotton textiles, mica, spices, etc.

The main items of imports from Poland are equipment for power stations, mining machinery, machine tools, steel products, ships, equipment for railways, coking coal, cement, etc.

Efforts are being made to increase imports of items like coking coal, cement, non-ferrous metal, fertilizers, sulphur, etc., from Poland. This would help in generating additional rupee resources and promoting India's exports. cpg-248>

LAND INDIA USA **Date :** Aug 07, 1984

## Volume No

1995

YUGOSLAVIA

Banquet in Honour of Yugoslav President -- Text of Giani ZailSingh's Speech

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Aug 27, 1984 of the speech by the President, Giani Zail Singh at a banquet held by him in honour of H.E. Mr. Veselin Djuranovic, President of the Presidency of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia here tonight (New Delhi, August 27,1984):

It gives me great pleasure to welcome in our midst President Veselin Djuranovic and our other distinguished guests from Yugoslavia. You Mr. President, are well known and respected in this country, which you visited four years ago in another capacity.

#### HISTORICAL EXPERIENCES

The relations between India and Yugoslavia are rooted in the historical experiences of our two countries, in their subsequent endeavours for all round national development. Our friendship has been characterised by a unique tradition of personal contacts at the highest levels which was begun some 30 years ago by President Tito, an outstanding national and international figure and Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, the first Prime Minister of Independent India. An abiding friendship has been built on this historic basis which the leaders and people of India and Yugoslavia have nurtured and cherished. Regular exchange of high level visits contributed greatly to the strengthening of relations between our two countries. Our common commitment to the principles and purposes of the Non-Aligned Movement has given another dimension to this friendship.

Although our formal contacts are only little over three decades old, there has been a wide-ranging and fruitful growth of cooperation in different areas. Political dialogue at different levels has brought us close together. Our exchange in the economic, scientific, cultural and educational fields have developed steadily. However, we cannot be content with what has been achieved. We must continue to expand and diversify our mutually beneficial cooperation especially in the economic area. I am happy to note that during Your Excellency's visit our officials have met to work out concrete measures to increase our economic cooperation. I am sure that these efforts will meet with success.

#### ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES

In this period of global economic recession, it is natural for countries, rich or poor, to talk of their economic difficulties. We are aware that Yugoslavia, like many other developing countries, is currently engaged in the difficult task of economic stabilisation. I am confident that the efforts of your courageous people will be crowned with success. We too are facing tremendous economic challenges and have to overcome the burden of the colonial economy that we inherited in 1947 and to build a new India for the benefit of the common people. We have achieved some very satisfactory results. For some years now, we have attained self-sufficiency in food production and have been able to maintain adequate stock for our requirements. India has emerged as one of the leading industrial nations of the world. We have had some success in harnessing science and technology, including atomic energy and space for the nation's welfare. However, we are still far from fulfilling the tasks we have set for ourselves to improve the quality of life of our people. The journey ahead is long but exciting and we are determined to forge ahead.

## RELATIONS BETWEEN BIG POWERS

Excellency, as we meet today, we cannot but express concern about the worsening international situation. There is continuation of old tensions and eruption <pg-249>

of new ones in different parts of the world. The relations between the big powers have created an atmosphere reminiscent of the cold war era. The nuclear arms race continues unabated and new weapons are being systematically developed everyday without an early prospect of reversal, reduction, or elimination of this collosal threat to the future of civilisation.

There is also an alarming growth of regional conflicts. We have been witness to the tragic dimensions of such conflicts which have enmeshed even the Non-Aligned countries with whom we have friendly relations. We would repeat the call made at the 7th Non-Aligned Summit Conference to Iran and Iraq to put a peaceful end to the conflict.

## SOUTHERN AFRICA

The situation in Southern Africa and West Asia is of special concern to us. Efforts are being made by some Powers to impose an artificial solution to the problems of Namibia and in West Asia. We call on all countries to respect the relevant resolutions of the United Nations on these issues and to work for speedy solutions on this basis.

In our neighbourhood, we have seen tensions increasing and outside military presence growing in the Indian Ocean region. The Indian Ocean must be converted into a Zone of Peace.

The world economic situation is a matter of special concern to us and to Non-Aligned Movement. The developing countries are hit with particular severity by the world economic crisis. They face declining growth rates, increase in balance of payments deficits, a mounting debt burden, rising imports costs, declining export earnings and other serious problems. However, in the long-run the crisis affects all countries, rich and poor. The prosperity of the developed industrial countries is dependent on the economic future of the developing world. This is a global problem which will need a global solution directed to structural changes in the international economy. The Non-Aligned have suggested comprehensive measures to this end. We are glad that our two countries have cooperated in working towards their implementation -- including the holding of an International Conference on Money and Finance for Development.

#### PLEDGE

Excellency. our two countries have consistently stood for peace

and development, the values to which the Non-Aligned Movement is dedicated. It is appropriate that we should pledge ourselves to continue working for the unity and strength of Non-Alignment, which is growing in prestige and vitality and whose voice is now listened to with respect even by those outside the Movement. Our discussions today have also confirmed our common approach to major international issues as well as our mutual resolve to further develop our friendship and cooperation.

Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, may I now invite you to join me in a toast: to the President of the Presidency of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia; to the prosperity and happiness of the Yugoslav people; and to the friendship between our two countries.

## GOSLAVIA INDIA USA IRAN IRAQ NAMIBIA

**Date** : Aug 27, 1984

## Volume No

1995

YUGOSLAVIA

Text of Yugoslav President's Speech

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Aug 27, 1984 of the speech by the President of the Presidency of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia at a banquet hosted in his honour by the President, Giani Zail Singh in New Delhi on August 27,1984:

Thank you most sincerely for the warm words of welcome addressed to us.

Thank you, also, for the cordial hospitality we have surrounded with at every step. Such attention symbolizes the lasting friendship and close cooperation, which have existed between our two countries and peoples for three decades.

I have come to your country with great pleasure and satisfaction. In the minds of Yugoslavs, India and its people <pg-250>

have always been long-standing and evinced friends, and more than that. India is the symbol of friendship and the synonym of cooperation which we would like to have with all countries and peoples of the world. This country is the cradle of an ancient civilization which has given the world great cultural heritage and the vision of Gandhi and Nehru, this is the country of free aspirations and a dynamic modern development. I am pleased to be given this opportunity to get to know better the achievements of your people, which are followed in Yugoslavia with appreciation.

#### CLOSE RELATIONS

We have been developing close relations, based on mutual respect and understanding for three decades now. I take pride in pointing out here as well that the cooperation between Yugoslavia and India on a much broader, world plane can illustrate a consistent implementation of the policy of Non-Alignment in relations between countries and peoples. President Tito and Prime Minister Nehru as its founders, set great store by the future of Yugoslav-Indian relations, conceived on these foundations, which -- by their improtance -- transcend the boundaries of our two countries and reflect in the best possible way the common interests and aspirations pursued by our two countries along the road of their own. It is therefore very important to recall the meetings of Tito and Nhru when they together with President Nasser, created and developed the concept of Non-Alignment, the numerous meetings with your esteemed Prime Minister, Madam Gandhi, and our overall joint work over a number of years.

This continuity is the salient feature of our relations. The road we have traversed and everything we have achieved constitute a firm and broad basis for further all-round cooperation, cooperation which will more fully reflect, both our and your possibilities and needs. What I have primarily in mind is our bilateral economic and technological cooperation, which falls far short of the very developed political relations and is inconsistent with mutual interests of our countries. Objectively, in some other areas we can make greater use of the already rich experience we have gained in our common endeavours. There still exists much room which we have not properly explored and made use of. We must get to know each other even better and these are new challenges for our economic, scientific and other institutions, and our Governments. I am confident that we, as in the past, shall spare no effort in this respect in the interest of our peoples since we are convinced that despite significant results, our mutual cooperation could be much broader and more substantial.

#### SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

We have been following with great interest and sympathies the efforts you invest in comprehensive socio-economic development and we sincerely rejoice in your successes. We are confident that you will successfully overcome all difficulties, ensuring the friendly people of India further progress, happiness and wellbeing.

#### BILATERAL RELATIONS

Many interests common to us transcend our bilateral relations. They involve comprehensive peace, general security and progress, which are directly threatened by the present state of international relations. Let me mention only the omnipresent confrontation between the blocs, the arms race followed by military intervention and interference, numerous hotbeds of crisis which are not being solved and are fraught with new conflicts. To achieve domination, force and pressure are used as weapons against independent and free development of countries.

Each country, in its own conditions and in its own specific way feels the weight of the world situation. As part of this age, the Balkans and the Mediterranean, Non-Aligned socialist Yugoslavia has opted for good-neighbourliness and the action which implies the return of confidence and understanding between the countries in Europe and the world, and their directing towards the road of peaceful co-existence, equitable cooperation and unhampered social development, instead of confrontation, conflict and piling-up of weapons.

In its internal development and in the area of its international activity, Yugoslavia continues steadily along the Tito path.

#### PEACEFUL SOLUTIONS

We pledge ourselves to peaceful solution of all conflicts, strict respect of the principles of equality, sovereignty, territorial integrity and non-interference. This is our principled position, based on the Charter of the United Nations and in the spirit of the declarations we adopted at Non-Aligned gatherings. The Non-Aligned countries are obliged to be consistent in this respect, either in their mutual conflicts or when the use or threat of use of force anywhere in the world is concerned.

We are worried by the continuation of the Iraq-Iran war, by the ever greater toll of human life in both countries and the ever greater damage it causes to the Non-Aligned Movement and international relations as a whole, but also by the danger of further escalation and direct involvement of foreign factors. In our bilateral contacts, in the movement of Non-Aligned countries and in the United Nations, we are constantly advocating its early solution in the spirit of the principles of Non-Alignment and in accordance with the legitimate rights of people of both countries.

We are also in favour of a Middle East settlement on a widely recognized basis, with the participation of all parties concerned including the Palestine Liberation Organization as the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

We follow with special interest the developments on the African continent, where there are many challenges to peace, security and development. A consistent opposition to the policy of colonialism, pressure, aggression, apartheid and racial discrimination is in the service of the objectives of Non-Alignment, thus reflecting in the most authentic way the interests and aspirations of African peoples.

Economic inequality in the world is threatening entire nations and countries, their sovereignty and position in the international community.

#### EQUITABLE COOPERATIONS

The threat of a new global confrontation calls for urgent measures to establish an economic balance through equitable cooperation for development and on the basis of common interests, rather than through an assistance to alleviate poverty. The accumulated problems cannot be resolved by shifting the burden into the shoulders of developing countries and by pressures on their sovereignty and unhampered development. The developing countries need to be supported and enabled to become equal partners to developed countries. We, for our part, should be active in searching for the ways leading to a fruitful dialogue with the developed world on an equal footing, but also to strengthening solidarity and mutual economic and technological co-operation, which is for our goal, i.e. for a new international economic order, of vital strategic importance. I am confident that the developing world has enough abilities, knowledge, experience and capacity for this.

#### DIALOGUE

In stressing the need for co-operation and continued dialogue of Non-Aligned countries, based on the commitment to the original principles and an aspiration to implement them consistently, we primarily have in mind the ability of our Movement to achieve the unity of action in respect of the substantive issues of the present-day world and to further enhance its independent and nonbloc role in international relations. Non-Alignment, which has become orientation and vision of the vast majority of mankind, offers the only real and acceptable alternative for a way out of the present state of deteriorated relations and tension in the world. We appreciate so much more the engagement of your country as co-ordinator of our joint action, and the personal involvement of the Chairperson of our Movement, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, in many initiatives.

Alongside with expectations of Non-alignment to continue to act as a factor of peace, peaceful understanding and broad equitable co-operation among nations, its obligations also increase. These obligations <pg-252>

imply a substantial and successful engagement to solve the current conflicts and crises, as well as all potential focal points of crisis before they are fanned by foreign influences and interference, and put in the function of alien selfish ends. Through its active involvement, the Movement is, no doubt, positively acting towards initiating the broadest possible dialogue concerning the issues of peace, security and development, as well as in mitigating certain conflicts.

#### SEVENTH NAM

The development of the international situation following the Seventh Conference of Non-Aligned countries, here in New Delhi a year and a half ago, has proved the validity of its conclusions and the significance of its messages. The courses of action we have adopted on that occasion to overcome the over-all crisis of relations in the world, make requisite the efforts to assert the interests of the international community at large. An opportunity for such an action will also be the upcoming session of the UN General Assembly, at which India, as Chairman of the Movement of Non-Aligned countries, and a country of great international prestige will have a prominent place.

The Non-Aligned countries, therefore, are faced with major challenges and important tasks. Yugoslavia's strategic options are oriented towards achieving these goals. In this respect, its firm friendship and cooperation with the Republic of India occupies an important place.

I propose this toast to your health, Mr. President, to your health Madam Prime Minister, to the health of all our Indian hosts who are according us here an exceptional hospitality, to the happiness and prosperity of your great and beautiful country, to the friendship and cooperation between our two peoples.

GOSLAVIA INDIA USA IRAN IRAQ **Date :** Aug 27, 1984

# Volume No

1995

YUGOSLAVIA

Institutional Mechanism for Linked Deals

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Aug 28, 1984 on the signing of agreed minutes between India and Yugoslavia:

India and Yugoslavia have agreed to set up a consortium of importers and exporters as an institutional mechanism for giving a thrust to bilateral trade. This counter trade mechanism will function for the purpose of conducting and implementing inked deals over and above the normal trade flow between the two countries. An agreed minutes to this effect was signed today (August 28, 1984) between the Co-Chairmen of the Indo-Yugoslavia Joint Committee for Economic Cooperation, Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh, Indian Commerce Minister and Dr. Rikard Stajner, member of the Federal Executive Council of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

#### ITEMS WITH VALUE

Both countries have identified items with values which can be traded between the two countries in linked deals in addition to the normal trade taking place between the two sides. The terms and conditions are indicative and the two consortium members will make the contracts. The exchange of goods will be effected by March 31, 1985, and have been valued at US \$ 136 million.

An agreed minutes have also been signed between the two nodal agencies which will ensure that the linked trade dealings between the two countries are conducted on a balanced basis. India has nominated the State Trading Corporation and Yugoslavia have nominated the Federal Secretariat for Foreign Trade of Yugoslavia who will monitor the pace of contracting for exports on either side on a continuing basis. If the balance in contracting between imports and exports exceeds a level of \$ 10 million, the two sides will meet and take immediate action to correct the imbalance in trade.

#### BANKING ARRANGEMENT

A banking arrangement was also signed today between the State Bank of India <pg-253>

and the Yugobanka for import-export linked deals. Under the arrangement a special account for linked deals approved by the nodal agencies on either side will be set up in the State Bank of India, London. This account will be used only for payments related to the linked deals under the commercial contracts concluded between the Yugoslav and Indian exporters and importers after the contrarts have been approved by the nodal agency on either side and duly advised to the Yugobanka and the SBI.. If at any given point of time the debit or credit balance of Yugobanka exceeds a level of \$ 5 million the SBI and Yugobanka will inform

the nodal agencies and the Ministry of Commerce so that the concerned authorities on either side may initiate the necessary corrective steps.

An agreed minutes has also been signed between the Indian organisation, Project and Equipment Corporation, and the Yugoslav organisations PIM and ENERGOPROJEK, which are the two nodal agencies for third country projects. This follows the talks which took place in Belgrade last year when joint participation in third country projects as a promising area of cooperation between the two countries was discussed. The two nodal agencies will identify such projects which the two countries can usefully participate in on the basis of each others' capabilities. The Indian side referred to third country projects in the areas of dredging and construction of ports, power generation, petrochemicals and refineries, civil construction, construction of steel plants, hydraulic grates, railway projects and railway wagons, etc. The Indian side further mentioned that the Indian organisation such as EPI, BHEL, NBCC, MECON, IRCON, TSL, RITES, PEC have been in touch with various Yugoslav counterparts for identifying projects and areas for cooperation. Both sides agreed to extend necessary support to their respective organisations in finalising concrete proposals.

#### INDUSTRIAL COLLABORATIONS

The possibilities of industrial collaborations were also discussed and several projects have reached the take-off stage. The two sides expressed satisfaction on the implementation of some of the important projects such as machine tools and auto component sector.

It was noted that the collaboration agreements entered into between the Indian and Yugoslav organisations in the fields of fuel injection equipment, auto electricals, cutting tools, milling machines were progressing satisfactorily and it was agreed that both the Governments would take all necessary measures towards speedy and successful implementation of these projects.

The list of commodities which have been identified for linked deals are cement, newsprint and printing paper, viscose staple fibre, PVC Resin, chemicals and pharmaceuticals, continuous cost copper wire rods, aluminium and aluminium products, fertilisers (urea), other non-ferrous metals, spare parts (thermal power stations), cables (telecommunications), machine tools, oil field equipment and miscellaneous (roller bearings) to be imported by India from Yugoslavia. Tobacco, tea, finished leather and other products, iron ores/concentrates, manganese ore, diamond, dyes, spices, ground nut extractions, other oil seed extractions, castor oil, tractor and other heavy duty tyres, diesel engines, auto parts, coffee, bulk chemicals and pharmaceuticals and miscellaneous (e.g. molasses, cashew, mica, jute yarn and jute

products) are to be exported to Yugoslavia.

The values of both lists are \$ 68.50 million each to be exchanged upto March 31, 1985. With these measures it is hoped that the declining trade will be reversed and the imbalance of trade rectified.

#### CLOSE AND CORDIAL RELATIONS

In his opening remarks at the signing ceremony the Commerce Minister welcomed Dr. Stajner and the delegation and reaffirmed the close and cordial relations which has existed between the two countries from the days of Marshal Tito and Pandit Nehru. This friendship, he stated, was based on the foundation of Non-Alignment, peace and mutual benefits. Therefore, the two countries had satisfactorily <pg-254>

worked out a strategy to reverse the trends of declining trade which was mutually concerning them. In order to expand and diversify the trade and to make the economic relationship truly reflective of the traditional ties, the Minister stated that the two countries had agreed to an additionality in trade flows through closely linked import-export deals as well as through closer natural collaboration, both bilateral and in third countries. He was confident that the nodal agencies would monitor the trade flow under such link deals and was sure that the planned expansion of trade would be achieved on a balanced basis, particularly as there was abundant goodwill on both sides. He thanked Yugoslavia for its offer of credit for Yugoslav participation in Indian projects and welcomed the Yugoslav offer to accept repayment of this credit in terms of goods from India.

#### IMPETUS

Dr. Stajner expressed the hope that the impetus given to the relations between the two countries by this agreement would stimulate and enhance trade between the two countries. Matters related to India were always approved on a priority basis by his country and he hoped that the principle of balanced trade would apply to all deliveries. He referred to the Yugoslav offer of credit upto \$ 120 million made by the Yugobanka for International Economic Cooperation (YUBMIS) for participation in industrial projects in India. He was happy that both sides had agreed to make efforts to identify suitable projects for availing of the credit offer as well as products for export to Yugoslavia.

This is the first time that India has entered into counter trade with a country with which it conducts trade in foreign exchange. It is hoped that with this the declining trade will be reversed and trade envisaged so stepped up significantly to \$ 170 million in a one year span.

#### GOSLAVIA INDIA USA UNITED KINGDOM

**Date** : Aug 28, 1984

### Volume No

1995

#### UNITED NATIONS

#### India's Call to Developing Countries at UNIDO

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Aug 04, 1984 of the speech by Shri V. P. Singh, Union Minister of Commerce, at the IV UNIDO general conference in Vienna:

Developing countries have to continue to make concentrated efforts towards evolving integrated economic and industrial policies. It was necessary with a view to reducing their vulnerability from external shocks and be able to address themselves to problems of development. The developed countries have also to squarely shoulder the responsibility they owe to the world economy in the shape of facilitating structural changes, dismantling of trade barriers, increasing concessional flows, and adopting financial and economic policies that would reduce the asymmetry between the developed and developing countries.

Presiding over the opening session of the IV UNIDO General Conference at Vienna, Shri V. P. Singh, Union Minister of Commerce called for radical changes in the world monetary and financial system to respond to the new realities. He said that <pg-255>

the need for reform of the international monetary and financial system was widely felt. It had found expression in various forums. The Non-Aligned meeting of Heads of States in New Delhi in 1983, gave it a concrete shape by giving a call for an international conference on money and financial systems.

Shri Singh is leading the 13-member Indian delegation to UNIDO IV.

Shri Singh said that the vision of the Lima declaration on industry as 'a dynamic Instrument of Growth' seems to be lost.

The Minister said that the debtor developing countries are confronted with inflation fuelled by shortages and devaluation and their social and political fabric is strained virtually to its breaking-point. He added that violent fluctuations of exchange-rates and increasing interest rates were making it extremely difficult for developing countries to plan industrialisation. The developing countries as well as the developed countries both have paid for the vagaries of international finance.

Expressing his concern over the share of developing countries in world industrial production, Shri Singh said that during the last eight years, it increased from 10 per cent to 11.9 per cent recording an increase of only 1.9 per cent.

The Commerce Minister said that the present impasse in North-South economic cooperation has made it even more imperative for developing countries to intensify their efforts for some form of South-South Cooperation. "Collective Self-Reliance" is the password for the survival of developing countries. The present system geared to North-South exchanges has to be supplemented by channels of South-South exchanges, he added. <pp-256>

### DIA AUSTRIA USA PERU

**Date** : Aug 04, 1984

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# GHANISTAN INDIA ARGENTINA BANGLADESH ETHIOPIA MALDIVES NEPAL SWEDEN UNITED ARAB EMIRATES USA VIETNAM ZIMBABWE

**Date** : Sep 01, 1984

# Volume No

1995

AFGHANISTAN

Shri Gadgil Inaugurates India-Afghanistan Satellite Link

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Sep 27, 1984 on the inauguration of the India-Afghanistan satellite link:

The Minister for Communications, Shri V. N. Gadgil, today inaugurated the direct telephone circuit link via satellite between India and Afghanistan, by exchanging greetings with Mr. Mohammed Aslam Watanjar, Member of Politburo, Central Committee of the People's Republic Democratic Party and Minister of Communications, Kabul, Afghanistan.

Shri Gadgil said that the close ties of friendship and cooperation and cultural bonds between the two countries would be further strengthened by the establishment of direct telephone circuit via satellite. Mr. Mohammed Aslam Watanjar said that the establishment of Kabul-New Delhi new telephony channel, being coincided with the 20th Anniversary of the Intelsat, not only would improve the quality and quantity of the telephony communication between the two friendly countries but also would strengthen further the traditional friendship and historical relation between the two countries and their people.

#### TELEPHONE SERVICE

Earlier, telephone service between the two countries was working on High Frequency Radio Medium for a few hours daily. With the establishment of direct telephone circuit not only the available facilities have been modernised but also the facilities would be for round-the-clock, providing a high grade of reliability. As a result of this, the international telephone traffic between the two countries is expected to substantially grow, considering long standing mutual, cultural and commercial relationship between India and Afghanistan.

With the establishment of the above link the Overseas Communication Services will be operating Direct Satellite Telephone Circuit with 42 countries.

GHANISTAN INDIA

**Date** : Sep 27, 1984

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1995

#### ARGENTINA

India and Argentina Annual Trade Plan

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Sep 26, 1984 on the India-Argentina annual trade plan:

To effect a major break-through in trade, India and Argentina have decided to have an annual trade plan which has targetted the total turn-over in 1985 to \$ 100 million from an overage of \$ 10 million.

This was decided at the first meeting of the Indo-Argentine Joint Committee on <pg-257>

Trade which met in New Delhi from September 24-26, 1984. Minutes to this effect were signed between the Commerce Secretary, Shri Abid Hussain, and the Adviser to the President of Argentina, Dr. Raul Prebisch, here today.

It was further decided to substantially enhance the level of bilateral trade from the principle of progressive dynamic equilibrium from an average level of \$ 15 million to \$ 500

million by the end of this decade

#### FREIGHT RATES

The need for providing concessional freight rates was agreed to and an inter-Government agreement for maritime transport is also under consideration.

An Indian delegation will visit Argentina before the end of December, 1984, for finalising modalities for increasing trade flow and for the preparation of trade plan.

Certain items of trade interests like diesel locomotives, sophisticated highly specialised types of hand tools, construction equipment, jute mill machinery, textiles machinery, jute products, etc., have already been identified. Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited has indicated its ability to supply 400,000 tonnes of pellets to Argentina in 1985.

#### TECHNICAL CAPABILITIES

Both sides also apprised each other of the technical capabilities and proficiency achieved in various industrial fields, science and technology. It was agreed to have closer and more frequent contacts between the industrial organisations and experts of both the countries. Numerous areas like power generation, petroleum industry, pharmaceuticals, machine tools, earth moving equipment, telecommunication system, etc. were identified for setting up joint ventures in Argentina.

To further bilateral trade, views were exchanged on the possibility of establishing nodal points for conducting and promoting trade. Proposal for setting up a bi-national company for Indo-Argentine trade is also under consideration.

The committee has also agreed on wide-ranging areas of cooperation between the two countries including sectors like agriculture, live stocks, forestry, exchange of scientists and agriculture production technology. A detailed work plan is to be developed by the two sides in the field of agricultural research and education.

Indo-Argentine cooperation will, therefore, extend to multifarious areas like science and technology, agricultural research, industrial cooperation and strengthen economic and trade relations.

It is also expected that the President of Argentina will visit India in January, 1985.

GENTINA INDIA USA UNITED KINGDOM **Date :** Sep 26, 1984

## Volume No

#### 1995

#### ARGENTINA

#### Economic Cooperation Agreement

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Sep 26, 1984 on the initialling of an agreement on economic cooperation between India and Argentina:

An agreement on economic cooperation between India and Argentina was initialled today by Shri Romesh Bhandari, Secretary (Economic Relations) in the Ministry of External Affairs and Dr. Paul Prebisch, Adviser to the President of Argentina on Economic Affairs.

The agreement is expected to be signed during the visit of the President of Argentina, Dr. Raul Alfonsin to India in January 1985 when he is scheduled to pay a State visit and be the chief guest for the Republic Day celebrations. The President of India paid a State visit to Argentina in April this year, the first ever by an Indian Head of State. <pg-258>

The agreement provides for bilateral cooperation in various fields including agriculture, cattle-raising, fisheries forestry, oil gas and carboniferous exploitation, medicine and pharmacology, metallurgy, roads, railway and harbour development, machine tools and light industry, power-generating equipment for conventional and non-conventional sources for energy, telecommunications, electronics, medical, pharmaceutical and laboratory equipment, consultancy services, engineering and insurance.

#### JOINT STUDIES

In addition, the agreement envisages joint studies and medium and long-term programmes for economic development, exchange of technical information and documentation, training of technical personnel as well as contracts and agreements between companies for the development of direct relations regarding technical assistance and inter-bank agreements to finance cooperation projects and contracts as envisaged in the agreement.

It is also proposed to set up an inter-Governmental joint commission under this agreement for the implementation of the objectives envisaged therein.

India and Argentina have excellent relations and as leading members of the Non-Aligned Movement share a close identity of view on international issues. Both have worked closely together for disarmament and establishment of a New Economic Order.

There already exists a trade agreement, a cultural agreement and an agreement on the peaceful uses of nuclear energy between India and Argentina. Cooperation between the two countries is a notable example of South-South cooperation between developing countries.

#### GENTINA INDIA ITALY USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date** : Sep 26, 1984

## Volume No

1995

#### ARGENTINA

Indo-Argentine Cooperation to be Model for South

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Sep 24, 1984 on the plenary session of the first meeting of the Indo-Argentine Joint committee on Trade:

India and Argentina have called for economic cooperation and collaboration to develop trade on such a reciprocal basis so as to be a model to be emulated for South-South cooperation. The two countries were agreed that bold imagination and a strong will were essential to raise the levels of industrial production and build an industrial structure in their respective countries for their mutual benefit and to be an example for other Third World countries. At the plenary session of the first Indo-Argentine Joint Committee on Trade which was jointly inaugurated here by leaders of the two delegations, Shri Abid Hussain, Commerce Secretary, and Dr. Raul Prebisch, Adviser to the President of Argentina, a note of optimism and hope was struck in the confidence of the two countries placed on each other for the economic betterment of their peoples. For this purpose a permanent mechanism comprised of representatives from India and Argentina was envisaged for on-going and continues discussions to identify and analyse fields which offer scopes for cooperation and areas for collaboration

#### GENERATION OF NEW IDEAS

The call for such a mechanism was given by Dr. Raul Prebisch and in response the Commerce Secretary declared that as always Dr. Prebisch has asked and will act as a catalyst for the generation of new ideas and schemes for the promotion of trade and for the benefit of humanity.

Shri Abid Hussain strongly declared that third world countries must increasingly become self-sufficent in development and industrialisation and depend more and more on each other to raise the levels of industrial production. Technologies should be shared and markets identified amongst them. He said that Dr. Prebisch's presence heralded the tidings of improved relations between India and Argentina. Dr. Prebisch belonged not only to Argentina but to India <pg-259>

and to everyone, being a man of wide vision and going beyond pure economic order in his belief of a New International Order. Dr. Prebisch, he stated, was a person who could convert problems into challenges, who had succeeded tremendously and was a personality of whom the entire third world was proud of. The Secretary was confident that with his presence something would certainly be achieved and a new sense of activity imbued in the talks.

#### BALANCE IN TRADE

Earlier when Dr. Prebisch called on the Commerce Secretary he stated that Argentina's first concern was to identify what it could buy from India to assure as much a balance as possible in trade. Argentina, too, wanted to sell more and for this it was necessary to create an institution which would provide possibilities for increased collaboration. A task force for this purpose would be able to study areas and throw light on the possibilities. High technology, for example, could be an important area of collaboration.

Dr. Prebisch decried the attitude of the developed countries and the indifference they displayed towards economic improvement with the developing countries. What the Third World had obtained, he stated, was a meagre system of preferences full of limitations. Instead of advancing the contrary had happened and only marginal benefits gained by the developing world. The developed countries discouraged the third world from inward looking growth and advised it to export more. However, when they did, the developed countries imposed restrictions and did not pay attention to the rules of GATT.

#### SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

It was time, he observed, that the Third World was persuaded to develop trade and economic cooperation based on their own principles. Historically this was an opportune moment to combine efforts in the South not only in matters of trade but science and technology and also in cultural aspects. New ways of promoting reciprocal benefits must be explored and the two countries should aim at interaction on the economic front. India and Argentina should start building a process of development and not be afraid to create new principles to achieve this. Dr. Prebisch maintained that this was not mere rhetoric but a moment for concrete ideas to open new fields and vistas of cooperation. Emotion, he stated, was a good driving power when new things were started and he was confident that this did exist between the two countries along with hope and goodwill.

#### GENTINA INDIA USA

**Date** : Sep 24, 1984

# Volume No

#### 1995

#### BANGLADESH

Indo-Bangladesh Agreement on Inland Water Transit and Trade

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Sep 17, 1984 on the Indo-Bangladesh agreement on Inland water transit and trade:

An Indo-Bangladesh protocol on inland water transit and trade has been signed here today. The protocol was signed by Shri Prakash Narain, Secretary, Ministry of Shipping and Transport on behalf of India and Mr. A.K.M. Kamaluddin Choudhury, Secretary to the Government of People's Republic of Bangladesh, Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Inland Water Transport.

According to the protocol, the Government of India have agreed to pay an amount of 65 lakh Bangladesh takas in the first year of the operation of the protocol <pg-260>

and 75 lakh Bangladesh Takas in the second year. It was also agreed by the two countries to establish nodal points in each country for timely action of each others' operational problems and exchange of information.

#### COMMERCIAL OPERATIONS

An important decision taken during these talks was regarding extension of the validity of the protocol for a period of two years. This was considered useful to the proper planning of commercial operations of IWT between the two countries. It has also been agreed by the two parties that in the event of any unavoidable delay in formal extension of the protocol, the two countries shall allow the en-route vessels of the other country to complete this journey. This arrangement would overcome some of the practical difficulties faced by the crew of the on-water enroute vessels in the event of any delay taking place in signing of the protocol.

A high-level delegation led by Mr. A. K. M. Kamaluddin Choudhury, Secretary to the Government of People's Republic of Bangladesh, Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Inland Water Transport visited New Delhi between 12-17 of this month for holding talks on extension of the protocol. The Indian delegation was led by Shri Prakash Narain, Secretary in the Ministry of Shipping and Transport. The discussions were held in an atmosphere of cordiality and understanding.

The Central Inland Water Transport Corporation Ltd., a public sector undertakings under the Ministry of Shipping and Transport who is the prime IWT operator is operating services between Calcutta and Assam via Bangladesh and also between Calcutta and destinations in Bangladesh. The validity of the protocol is being extended on year-to-year basis. The last extension was signed at Dhaka on 8.11.1983.

#### TRADE AGREEMENT

Under arrangements stipulated in the trade agreement between India and Bangladesh, a protocol on Inland Water Transit and Trade has been operating since 1972. The protocol provides for mutually beneficial arrangements for use of the waterways for commerce between the two countries and for passage of goods between two places in one country through the territory of other. Both India and Bangladesh have been operating IWT Services under this protocol for more than a decade.

NGLADESH INDIA USA **Date :** Sep 17, 1984

### Volume No

1995

#### ETHIOPIA

India-Ethiopia to Cooperate in Field of Information and MassMedia

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Sep 28, 1984 on the signing of a memorandum of understanding between India and Ethiopia:

India and Ethiopia will exchange radio and TV programmes regarding culture, sports, arts, science, tourism, modern and classical music as well as documentary films including films on education and development. They will also cooperate with each other in the joint production of feature and documentary films.

A memorandum of understanding to this effect was signed here today between the two countries by H.E. Dr. Feleke Gedle <pg-261>

Giorgis, Ethiopian Minister of Information and National Guidance and member, Central Committee of the Workers Party of Ethiopia, on behalf of Ethiopia and Shri H. K. L. Bhagat, Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting on behalf of India.

#### PROCESSING OF FILMS

India will also help Ethiopia in processing of the films exposed in Ethiopia by extending laboratory facilities existing in India. They will cooperate in the development of media facilities including visual communication infrastructure such as photographic studies and film production facilities.

India will also extend training facilities to Ethiopian students at the Film and Television Institute of India, Pune. They will periodically organise film weeks and will participate in the film festivals organised in India and Ethiopia.

The memorandum of understanding envisages exchange of news between the two countries which would be promoted through suitable agreement between the Ethiopian News Agency and India News Pool Desk being operated by the Press Trust of India.

The two countries agreed that the Indian Institute of Mass Communication will continue to extend training facilities for candidates from Ethiopia. Suitable training to the Ethiopian candidates in rural communication services would also be imparted in India.

#### COOPERATION AMONG JOURNALISTS

India and Ethiopia will promote cooperation among the journalists of the two countries and towards this end would sponsor exchange of visits by journalists and experts.

In accordance with the technical assistance cooperation agreement of August 1983 between the two countries, India will participate in the establishment of a mass media training centre in Ethiopia. The present memorandum of understanding will be valid for a period of five years.

HIOPIA INDIA USA **Date :** Sep 28, 1984

# Volume No

1995

GROUP OF 77

Ministerial Meeting of the Group of 77 - Text of Shri Mirdha's Statement

The following is the text of a press release of the statement made by Shri R. N. Mirdha, Minister of State for External Affairs at the Ministerial meeting of the Group of 77 held in New York on Sep 26, 1984:

May I extend to Your Excellency our good wishes in the important task of guiding the deliberations at this Ministerial meeting of the Group of 77. i have no doubt that your able stewardship will enable meaningful discussions here and guide us to a successful outcome. Indeed our congratulations go to the delegation of Mexico for the dynamic chairmanship it was provided to our group in difficult and trying circumstances.

GLOBAL ECONOMY

Sir, we have had the honour and the privilege to listen to H.E. Dr. Raul Alfonsin, the President of Argentina. In his statement he touched upon the many pressing concerns that face us as developing countries. We welcome his advice and can assure him that we shall continue to pursue our efforts to provide with practical content, the decisions on International Econo-<pg-262>

mic Cooperation to meet the urgent needs of the developing countries and to revitalise the global economy. We would like to take this opportunity to thank President Alfonsin for his statement and to convey our sense of solidarity with the people of Argentina.

We meet again in New York in the 20th anniversary year of the founding of the group of 77 at a moment of special import and significance. We meet with a sense of pride as we look back at the long and difficult road that we have travelled together in the last twenty years. Our numbers have grown, and along with it,

also our sense of common purpose. Our determination in pursuing our objectives remain unshaken, and our faith in and commitment to the United Nations and the multilateral system for international cooperation is as strong as ever. We meet also at a time which calls for sombre reflection. Adversity is nothing new to the Group of 77 in its history of twenty years of struggle for change. In recent years we have experienced the severest recession in post war history which saw stagnation and even declining growth rates for most of our countries. The spectre of poverty still haunts us. The millions existing below the poverty line if indeed such conditions of hunger and deprivation can be described as existence, have continued to increase. At such a time when the most bold and imaginative response is called for from the international community we are witnessing an erosion of will and purpose. The very fundamental principles of dialogue and negotiation on equal footing amongst sovereign States and cooperative action for the common good are being questioned.

#### NON-ALIGNED SUMMIT

Mr. Chairman, the Non-Aligned Summit in New Delhi in March 1983 provided us with a reasonable, pragmatic and constructive economic programme for world recovery and development. This programme was endorsed by the fifth G-77 ministerial meeting at Buenos Aires. Since then we have pursued this programme with diligence and good faith. But time and again our efforts have been thwarted, at UNCTAD-VI in Belgrade, at the 38th Session of the General Assembly, at the second regular session of ECOSOC and most recently at UNIDO-IV. Mr. Chairman, we did not agree that all economic problem confronting us had their origin in a cyclical recession, nor are we convinced that the process of recovery, said to be underway, would automatically ameliortae the situation. We did, however, hope that the recovery would strengthen the resolve of our partners and enable them to be more forthcoming to assist in the resolution of fundamental and the immediate economic problems confronting the world. It is unfortunate that the countries said to be experiencing the strongest recovery are the very ones who are least inclined to seek meaningful solutions. Perhaps it is still not too late to hope that better counsel will prevail.

The reason why the recovery remains uncertain in several parts even of the industrialised world are not far to seek. It is because the developing countries have been left outside its pale. As noted by the 7th Non-Aligned Summit, reactivation of the development process of the developing countries and harnessing their potential for growth can place the recovery of the industrialised world on a surer and wider footing, just as recovery in the North would provide better external conditions for continued development in the South. This is the true meaning of inter-dependence.

#### DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

The Secretary General, in his report to the Committee on review and appraisal of the international development strategy, has stated that the normal mechanisms by which growth impulses can be transmitted remain disrupted. Increasing protectionism depressed commodity prices, high interest rates in the U.S., leading to a flight of capital from other parts of the world and the mounting debt burdens leading to a severe curtailment of the imports of developing countries are all symptoms of underlying structural imbalances which need to be urgently resolved. These problems have been further compounded by a sharp decline in the flow of resources, both public and private, to the developing countries. <pg-263>

The disruption of these mechanisms during the recession make impossible a sustained increase in world economic growth. To achieve this we have to give meaning and content to the North-South dialogue which unfortunately remains in a state.

Mr. Chairman, and Hon. Ministers, it is becoming increasingly fashionable in some circles to lay the blame for lack of progress in the field of international economic cooperation at the door of the United Nations system. As the Secretary General has pointed out in his report to the 39th General Assembly, this is a fallacy which confuses the cause for the effect. The cause lies in the blurring of vision, commitment and political will of some of the member States. I have little to add to the Secretary General's pertinent observations except to reiterate that on issues of global concern we see no alternative to negotiations on the basis of equality in a multilateral framework. It is ironical but perhaps not coincidental, that while criticising multilateral institutions for their alleged inefficiencies, a concerted effort is being made to erode their role as effective forums for negotiations, implementation and a supervision of commitments, and to transform them into forums for polite, and sometimes not so polite, exchange of views. The present impasse in the North-South dialogue is clearly due to the inability of developed countries to adopt requisite policy measures and to implement past commitments.

#### FLEXIBILITY

Mr. Chairman, there are several important tasks ahead of us. On the basis of the flexibility provided by the two phase approach of the New Delhi Summit, which was welcomed by the Williamsburg Summit a thorough and painstaking exploratory process has taken place over the past several months. Our best efforts have failed to produce an adequate response from the developed countries, nor is there the slightest indication of any change of their attitude. The question, Mr. Chairman, is whether we should allow this objective to suffer automatic and routine transfers from General Assembly to General Assembly as just another trifling matter? Or should we underline our commitment by refusing to discuss it in a perfunctory manner, and return to this subject when the achievement of more immediate objectives has generated the necessary will and confidence for its serious consideration.

#### INTERNATIONAL TRADE

Mr. Chairman, the urgent and critical conditions facing the developing countries which prompted the proposal for the implementation of a programme of immediate measures still remain. If anything, the need has become even more urgent. There is very little change in the external circumstances which confront us.

In the area of international trade, after a brief spurt, commodity prices have again declined. The price of copper in real terms is at its lowest level in the last 30 years, and the price of sugar has touched an absurdly low level of five cents per pound. These represent a general deterioration in the terms of trade against developing countries which no amount of domestic efforts can overcome. Protectionism has continued to increase and in areas where it already existed such as textile, it has been further intensified. The world economic survey estimates that one half of world trade is now subject to non-tariff barriers. There is an international commitment for the roll back and stand still of protectionist measures. This should be urgently implemented. Till such time as this is done, any proposal for a fresh round of trade negotiations will be largely without relevance to developing countries. Another factor inhibiting the growth of international trade is acute shortage of international liquidity particularly for developing countries. This needs to be corrected by an immediate and substantial new allocation of SDRS.

#### FINANCIAL FLOWS

Mr. Chairman, I referred earlier to the declining financial flows to developing countries. The resource position of multilateral development institutions is particularly acute. The level at which it has been possible to agree to the replenishment of IDA-VII would represent a fall of 20% in nominal terms and 40% in real terms

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from IDA-VI. Considering the importance of IDA lending to the low income and least developed countries we should undertake efforts with industrialised countries to conclude a supplementary funding agreement so that IDA-VII is at a level to meet the essential requirements and in any case no lower than IDA-VI in real terms.

Mr. Chairman, Hon. Ministers and delegates, we were particularly distressed to note that the economic and social council was unable to reach consensus on so pressing a matter as urgent measures to meet the critical economic situation in Africa. We fully support and shall work towards reaching agreement on measures to meet both the immediate and longer term developmental needs of the affected countries. Another problem which demands urgent attention is the external debt of developing countries. This needs to be tackled in all its global aspects.

#### MONETARY REFORM

While the several measures I have referred to have to be taken on an immediate basis, it is increasingly acknowledged that there is need for reform in the international financial and monetary system to remove the structural imbalance which leads to the appearance of some of these phenomena. It has been a year and a half since the New Delhi Summit called for the international conference on money and finance for development with universal participation. In this context it was felt that the international dialogue would be facilitated, if a high level group of experts from Non-Aligned and other developing countries examined the deficiencies in the existing system of depth.

Accordingly, in autumn 1983, the Chairperson of the Non-Aligned Movement, Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi, in consultation with the President of Algeria, Mexico, Tanzania and Yugoslavia, nominated an expert from each of these countries to constitute such a group. The report submitted by this group to the Chairperson of Non-Aligned Movement has been circulated to all members of the Group of 77.

#### PROCESS OF DIALOGUE

I should like to quote from the foreword of the Prime Minister of India to this report.

"I hope that the report will help in clarifying ideas on the issues of monetary and financial reforms and in reaching a consensus on possible solutions. It is time now to begin the process of dialogue in which every country affected by international economic relations could participate. This would be a step towards the evolution of an appropriate international financial and monetary system which responds to our requirements more effectively and, we hope, towards a more secure, stable, prosperous and equitable global economy."

I am sure that this report will be welcomed by all members of the Group of 77 and this Ministerial meeting will agree that it makes a positive contribution towards clarifying ideas and working out solutions to the pressing monetary and financial problems facing the world economy and particularly the developing countries. It is our hope, Mr. Chairman, that during the 39th General Assembly, consultations will take place on this idea which will enable a preparatory process to begin work towards achieving the proposed conference.

#### URGENT TASKS

Mr. Chairman, there are several urgent tasks to be accomplished in other areas. My delegation attaches particular importance to the field of science and technology. Access to and mastery of modern scientific and technological knowledge is essential. Many of our countries missed out on the industrial revolution. We have no intention of being left out of the technological revolution. We think that the area of science and technology is particularly a fit one to devise new and imaginative mechanisms of international cooperation for mutual benefit. I am happy to report that the work towards establishment of the Non-Aligned Centre for Science and Technology is proceeding satisfactorily. The draft statutes have been finalised and would be open for signature shortly. I am confident that the Centre <pg-265>

would make an important contribution towards scientific and technological development of Non-Aligned and other developing countries. We also attach great importance to the establishment of the long-term financial system for science and technology for development. My own country is fully prepared to meet responsibilities in this regard, and we urge all other countries, particularly, the developed countries, to urgently finalise the financial arrangements which would enable the launching of the financing system. Early completion of the on-going work on the code of conduct for transnational corporations and on the code of transfer of technology would further improve the environment for cooperative endeavour and mutually reinforcing efforts by all countries.

#### UNIDO - VI

Mr. Chairman, we note that UNIDO-VI held in Vienna in July 1984 was only able to meet with very limited success. The developing countries, in essence, tested the commitment of our partners by not insisting on a declaration or a plan of action. It causes concern, therefore, that after very painstaking negotiations, some delegations still felt compelled to vote against the general framework for international cooperation within which the specific resolutions were meant to be viewed. As the Director General of UNIDO has remarked it is difficult to characterise the conference as a success or a failure and this would really depend on the amount of additional resources which the international community would be willing to make available for the implementation of the resolutions agreed upon.

Mr. Chairman, many of us have urged in the pace of progress on North-South issues. It is vitally important to strengthen our South-South co-operation. This would improve the relative position of developing countries vis-a-vis the developed, both in terms of economic conditions as well as collective bargaining strength. At a time when international countries offer hope for the future, we must develop complementarities inherently available in our resources endowment and comparative development. We note with satisfaction the progress made by the G-77 in cooperation with UNDP and UNCTAD towards initiating discussions on the system of trade preferences.

#### SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION

The IFCC-111 meeting held recently in Cartegena, marks a watershed point in the development of South-South cooperation. To my mind with this meeting, we have reached the end of the necessary property phase of identifying areas and programme for South-South cooperation and embarked on a year of action and implementation. The task is not an easy one. The implementation and realisation of South-South cooperation will require utmost imagination, flexibility and cohesion to evolve new and diverse forms of cooperation and mobilise the resources for achieving it. We note that an inter-governmental expert group will be studying the various approaches and studies towards the South bank next year. Meanwhile, we should devise forms of financial cooperation suited to specific activities and projects and implement them wholeheartedly. The need for greater flow of information amongst ourselves, to increase the awareness of our own capabilities, experience and knowledge is essential. We hope that the research and information system of the Non-Aligned and other developing countries as well as the multi-spectral information network would be strengthened and fully utilised.

I would like to draw attention to the very successful seminar on the electrical industry, just concluded in India. Over a 100 foreign delegates participated in the deliberations and useful recommendations have emerged from it, which would provide practical support to South-South cooperation.

Sir, my country remains fully committed to the strengthening of South-South cooperation at all levels, and progress achieved in this area will go a long way towards strengthening the position of the South in international relations. I would like to share with you some of the areas in which we are making a contribution. India has technical assistance and coope-<pg-266>

ration programmes with over 80 developing countries which include a large proportion of countries from Africa. The period 1983-84 we have offered, under the Indian technical and economic cooperation programme, 820 fully financed training positions. Further, every year we allocate a number of scholarships for students from developing countries to pursue higher studies at Indian universities and specialised institutions. In keeping with our feelings of solidarity with our brothers of Africa, India has contributed recently Rs. 50 million to the UN trust Fund for African development which is being operated by the Economic Commission of Africa.

We have also provided offers in areas within the SADCC programme

where we would be able to assist in the efforts of the Southern African states towards industrialisation and the strengthening of their infrastructure. India is a member of the African Development Bank and has undertaken to subscribe 16.5 million units of account to the African Development Fund.

#### SOUTH ASIAN REGION

In the South Asian region, it is a matter of satisfaction to see the growing strength of South Asian regional cooperation and the increasing progress being made in the implementation of the integrated programme of action launched in 1983 by the SARC foreign ministers. At the July 1984 ministerial meeting at the Maldives it was decided to strengthen operational areas and to develop projects that would be beneficial to the SARC region. It is our conviction that SARC shall make a useful contribution to the objectives of South-South cooperation.

# A MEXICO ARGENTINA INDIA YUGOSLAVIA ALGERIA TANZANIA AUSTRIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC MALDIVES

### **Date** : Sep 26, 1984

## Volume No

1995

#### MALDIVES

Shipping Service Between India and Maldives

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Sep 27, 1984 on the shipping service between India and Maldives:

India and Maldives have agreed to put special emphasis on bilateral relations in the fields of trade-oriented agriculture, development of agro-based and small scale industries in Maldives. The National Research Development Corporation (NRDC) has specially prepared a project plan for appropriate technology for Maldives which has been handed over to the visiting Maldives delegation along with other relevant material from the National Small-Scale Industries Corporation so that the projects to be taken up there can be finalised soon.

A 6-member delegation from Maldives led by Mr. Elias Ibrahim visited India from September 25-27, 1984, and held extensive trade talks with Shri S. M. Krishna, Minister of State for Commerce, and also at official level.

During the talks it was also agreed that Indian experts would undertake detailed study and prepare feasibility report on coconut plantation and fisheries development in the Maldives.

Both sides have agreed to strengthen direct trade links and cargo services between the two countries. In this context it was agreed that it would be a good idea to set up an STC (State Trading Corporation) office in Maldives to take care of the wide spectrum of business opportunities between the two countries. It was also agreed that the shipping link between the two countries would be strengthened. The Maldivian Minister was informed that India has decided in principle to operate a regu-<pg-267>

lar shipping service from its West Coast to Maldives.

Maldives expressed a keen interest in buying many other items other than the traditional ones including sugar, salt, vegetables and engineering goods, as also attracting Indian joint ventures in Maldives.

### LDIVES INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC **Date :** Sep 27, 1984

# Volume No

1995

NEPAL

Indo-Nepal Water Talks Conclude

The following joint press release was issued in New Delhi on Sep 20, 1984 at the conclusion of the three-day Secretarylevel discussions on the development of water resources between India and Nepal.

An 11-man Nepalese delegation led by Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources, HMG Nepal, Shri M. S. Dhakal held discussion in New Delhi from September 18 to 20, 1984 with the officials of the Government of India on matters relating to development of water resources. The Indian delegation was led by Shri M. G. Padhye, Secretary, Ministry of Irrigation, Government of India. The discussions were held in an atmosphere of close friendship and mutual understanding.

KARNALI PROJECT

The two delegations reviewed the satisfactory progress being made on the Karnali project. It was decided that the Karnali committee should meet early to approve of the report of the experts group, presently evaluating the bids received from short-listed consultants. In respect of the Pancheshwar multipurpose project on river Sharda Mahakali, it was decided to continue the discussions on this project with a view to finalising the project for investigation and feasibility report. The joint technical committee on the West Rapti Balubhang project held further discussions for finalising the terms of reference for the consultants. These discussions would be continued. The delegation also discussed the question of water resources development on other rivers.

The leaders of the two delegations agreed on the need for frequent meetings at Secretary level so that through a continuous dialogue on these vital matters which concern the well-being of millions of people of India and Nepal mutually acceptable and beneficial arrangements are arrived at. Both sides agreed that the next Secretary level meeting would be held in Kathmandu, by January, 1985.

#### PAL INDIA USA BANGLADESH LATVIA

**Date** : Sep 20, 1984

# Volume No

1995

#### NON-ALIGNMENT

Shri Mirdha Inaugurates National Seminar

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Sep 01, 1984 of the speech by the Minister of State for External Affairs, Shri Ram Niwas Mirdha inaugurating the National Seminar on 'NAM Under India's Chair-<pg-268>

manship', organsed by the Indian Institute for Non-Aligned Studies on the occasion of Non-Alignment Day:

I greet you all on this important occasion in the Non-aligned calendar. Today, 23 years ago, the historic first Non-aligned Summit commenced its deliberations in Belgrade.

Similar functions are being held in other Non-Aligned capitals to

mark the occasion. If I may say so, the august gathering here assumes certain special significance. For one thing, India is currently the seat of the Chairmanship of the Movement. It was also at New Delhi about three years ago, that the Foreign Ministers of Non-Aligned countries at a special ceremony proclaimed 1st September as the day of Non-Alignment to be observed annually in a fitting manner by all Non-Aligned States as well as at the United Nations.

#### NATURAL POLICY RESPONSE

Non-Alignment was a natural policy response of the newly emerging independent States to the post-war political climate. Freedom was not complete if it was to be restricted to internal affairs only. Independence of action in world affairs was an essential constituent. India, like other States, was therefore against mortgaging its newly won independence by getting involved in the power play of the military blocs. In fact, even before its independence Jawaharlal Nehru declared, India's determination "to keep away from the power blocs or groups, aligned against one another which have led in the past to two world wars and which may again lead to disaster on a wider scale".

Since its early beginnings and the subsequent formal launching of the Movement in Belgrade, Non-aligned Movement has come a long way. World environment too has become much more complex. Most colonies then are independent States now. Struggle for freedom has turned into search for roads for development and selfreliance. The earlier bipolar structure has now given way to a more dispersed pattern of international power relationships.

#### VAST CHANGES

Notwithstanding these vast changes, the basic features of postwar system remain essentially intact. Attempts at domination and interference in the internal affairs of peoples and nations, through political and economic pressures, are continuing unabated. The search for military facilities by the Super Powers and their readiness to pursue their global and strategic interests at the cost of weak and poor nations have taken on much more sinister dimensions. The designs remain the same, only the methodology has become more sophisticated.

Non-alignment has become even more relevant in such a context. Its endurance as an article of our foreign policy is evident, in a succinct elaboration of the policy by Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi, when she said, 'Non-alignment is a dynamic and positive concept.' It involves active and free exercise of judgement on certain principles. It stands for national independence and freedom. It strives for peace not confrontation. It is against military alliances. It seeks equality among nations and the democratisation of international relations. Above all, it promotes global cooperation for development on the basis of mutual benefit.

#### MAJOR SUCCESS

A major success of the Non-aligned Movement was its role in accelerating the pact of decolonisation. It has been in the forefront of the crusade against racism and apartheid. Successive summits since Belgrade have raised their voice against the maddening arms race and called for general and complete disarmament and in particular nuclear disarmament. The Algiers Summit in 1973 gave a call for the establishment of a New International Economic Order. Specific action programmes on economic cooperation, were adopted, at this and all subsequent summits. The Colombo summit saw the launching of yet another concept seeking democratisation of international relations, namely, the New World Information and Communication Order.

#### GLOBAL ECONOMIC CRISIS

While the Non-aligned have been striving towards creating a better world order, the deteriorating world situation has been posing a challenge. The widening gap between developing and developed countries has become a source of instability threatening world peace and security. Economic pressures by means of artificial barriers in trade, technology transfer, access to resources and debt burden give cause for doubt about the very survival of some of the Non-Aligned nations, particularly smaller ones.

Along with this global economic crisis, the threat of a nuclear holocaust is looming large over mankind. The arms race, aided by the technological advance and abetted by a policy to negotiate from a position of strength, has reached perilous proportions. There is no more any restraint on the part of some nuclear weapon States on freely discussing the use of these weapons as a policy option. Scant regard is paid to the fact that there is no such thing as a limited nuclear war. A nuclear confrontation anywhere in the world affects the security and well being of populations everywhere.

It was against this backdrop of contemporary world situation that the VII Summit of Non-aligned Heads of State or Government met in New Delhi. Some people thought that with such a plurality of member states the Movement might end up in disunity and division. The results of the Summit must have disappointed them. The Summit was the largest ever gathering of world leaders at the level of Heads of State-Government. Their deliberations were marked by an atmosphere of solidarity, unity, tolerance and mutual accommodation. Even where differences existed the Summit faced them squarely and came out with concrete solutions on several issues. The New Delhi Summit recognised peace, independence, disarmament and development as the central issue of the day. It called upon the nuclear weapon powers not to push the world towards disaster. On specific issues such as South Africa, Namibia, Palestine, Central America and other questions agitating the non-aligned nations, the Summit took an unequivocal stand. On the economic front, the Non-aligned countries reiterated the call for a new international economic order and the launching of global negotiations. An international conference on Money and Finance for Development with universal participation was also proposed to devise measures to help developing countries in critical areas.

#### FOLLOW-UP MEASURES

We are now mid-way between the seventh and the eighth Non-Aligned Summits. Several follow-up measures have already been taken on the New Delhi decisions. About 50 meetings have been held since then under the Non-Aligned aegis. On the major issues such as Namibia, South Africa, developments in Middle East and Central America, the Non-aligned have been engaged in continuous consultations and coordinating action at the UN or influencing the parties involved. The New York consultations held last year have brought about a closer understanding and appreciation among several world leaders of the need to jointly do something on presing issues. While pressure on the developed nations to agree to the launching of global negotiations or applying correctives to the international economic structure has still not vielded positive results some progress has been made in identifying issues that should be taken up at the proposed International conference on money and finance.

The continuation of the unfortunate conflict between Iran and Iraq is of course a source of great anguish and anxiety. This war of attrition does not serve the interests of either party and may, in fact, have the unintended effect of strengthening the foothold of major powers in the region. The Prime Minister has, through various channels, conveyed to the leadership of the two countries the collective concern of the Non-aligned, and about the need to bring about an immediate end to the war. While the war is still continuing, this should not discourage us. We shall further persevere in our efforts.

Important tasks lie ahead of the Movement in the coming months. Several political issues demand our urgent attention. The Nonaligned countries have successfully dealt with several problem issues in the past. With determination there is no reason why their quest for a new world order based on peace, justice, equality and development cannot be realised.

On this day of Non-Alignment let us reaffirm our solemn commitment to advance the principles on which the Movement is based.

### DIA YUGOSLAVIA USA PERU ALGERIA SRI LANKA NAMIBIA SOUTH AFRICA IRAN IRAQ **Date :** Sep 01, 1984

# Volume No

1995

SWEDEN

Assistance for Malaria Eradication Programme

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Sep 13, 1984 on the Swedish assistance for malaria eradication programme:

The Government of India and the Government of Sweden signed an agreement here today under which Sweden has agreed to continue and broaden its assistance to India in the health sector. Under the agreement, Sweden will provide Swedish Kroners 90 million (Rs. 12.6 crores approximately) during the next five years to the National malaria eradication programme for the containment of P. Falciparum malaria.

The agreement was signed by Shri M. S. Mukherjee, Joint Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance on behalf of the Government of India and H.E. Mr. A. Edelstam, Ambassador of Sweden to India on behalf of the Government of Sweden.

#### OPERATIONAL RESEARCH

Swedish support will be used for equipment, field related research and other operational activities. Swedish support will be executed and administered by the WHO. The operational research will be carried out by the National Malaria Eradication Programme P. Falciparum Containment Programme (PFCP) and the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR).

Earlier also, Sweden has assisted in malaria eradication programme. Swedish assistance in this sector has amounted to SW Kr. 80 million during the period 1978 and 1984. The necessity for intensification campaign has been further highlighted due to the emergence of chloroquine resistant strain of p. falciparun in some parts of north east zone and the possibility of dissemination of the same to other parts of the country.

# Volume No

#### 1995

SOUTHERN AFRICA

Special Committee Against Apartheid - Delegation Meets Smt.Kaul

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Sep 17, 1984 on the special committee against apartheid delegation calling on Smt. Kaul:

India's condemnation and abhorrence of all forms of racism, racial discrimination and apartheid arises from its firm belief that fundamental freedoms and human dignity can only be enjoyed when there is no discrimination on account of colour, creed, class or birth.

This was stated by Smt. Sheila Kaul, Minister of State for Education, Culture and Social Welfare, when she met a mission <pg-271>

of six women leaders sponsored by the United Nations Special Committee on Apartheid, here today. Smt. Kaul added that India has consistently expressed her moral, material and political support for and solidarity with the black majority of South Africa.

The leader of the delegation, Dr. Naome Nhiwatiwa, M.P. and Deputy Minister for Information, Posts and Telecommunications of Zimbabwe informed Smt. Kaul that the Special Committee against Apartheid has undertaken a number of activities in heightening world consciousness against apartheid. Dr. Nhiwatiwa expressed her deep appreciation of India's stand against the oppressive activities of racialism in South Africa.

The other members of the delegation who were present at the meeting were: Miss Susan Nancy Gordon, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Trinidad and Tobago to the United Nations and Member of the Special Committee; Mrs. Cecilia B. Rebong, Third Secretary, Permanent Mission of the Philippines to the United Nations and Member of the Special Committee; Mrs. Elizabeth Sibeko, Observer Mission to the Special Committee of the Pan Africanist Congress of Azania (PAC); Mr. Ozdemie A. Ozgur, Political Affairs Officer and Ms. Pamela J. Maponga, Associate Political Affairs Officer. Earlier in the day the delegation called on the Secretary, Ministry of Social Welfare. They exchanged views on mutual matters with special emphasis on programmes designed for women and children in underdeveloped and developing countries.

DIA ZIMBABWE USA SOUTH AFRICA TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO PHILIPPINES **Date :** Sep 17, 1984

### Volume No

1995

#### UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Return of Hijackers - India Thanks UAE and USA

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Sep 03, 1984 on India's expression of thanks to U.A.E. and the USA for the return of hijackers:

The Government of India have been in close consultation with the Government of the United Arab Emirates and the Government of the United States of America concerning the return to India of the hijackers of IAC flight 421 who were taken in custody at Dubai. Thanks to the help and cooperation of these two friendly Governments, it has been possible for us to bring the hijackers back to India, thus resolving this issue in a manner consistent with our common counter-terrorist goals.

The Government of India are strongly opposed to all forms of terrorism anywhere. They view hijacking of civilian aircraft as a grave crime against helpless and innocent persons and are determined to do everything in their power to put an end to this form of terrorism. They fully respect the Hague Convention and will ensure that its provisions are strictly complied with.

The Government have consistently been of the view that hijackers of Indian aircraft should be returned to India so that they can be dealt with under Indian laws. Failure to return the hijackers promptly to stand trial only encourages terrorists to indulge in more such criminal adventures. The hijackers brought back to India will receive a fair trial in our democratic system, however despicable their crime may be.

The Government of India once again offer their sincere thanks to the Dubai <pp-272>

authorities, and particularly to His Highness Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid AL Maktoum, for their wise and firm action to end the hijacking in Dubai.

The Government also wish to place on record their gratitude for the understanding and friendship shown by the Government of the United States of America in refusing the hijackers' request to go to the United States and for their cooperation in ensuring their return to India. The Government have noted with appreciation the U.S. Government's opposition to activities directed against the unity and integrity of India.

#### ITED ARAB EMIRATES INDIA USA

**Date** : Sep 03, 1984

### Volume No

1995

#### UNITED KINGDOM

#### British Grant for Development Projects

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Sep 27, 1984 on the British grant for development projects:

A grant agreement for ??? 5 million was signed today by Shri Lalit Mansingh, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Finance, Department of Economic Affairs on behalf of Government of India and Mr. R.C. Beetham, Counsellor, British High Commission, New Delhi on behalf of Government of United Kingdom. This amount will be used to meet the foreign exchange requirements for import of capital goods from UK for the development projects financed by the Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India (ICICI). Earlier also during 1971-78 the UK Government had provided a total amount of ??? 18 million in the form of loans grants to ICICI for the same purpose.

The UK has been a major bilateral donor providing economic assistance to India since 1975 in the form of outright grants. Total British assistance to date amounts to ??? 1853.8 million (about Rs. 2808.7 crores) of which ??? 1133.8 million (about Rs. 1717.8 crores) is in the form of outright grants. The actual disbursement of UK assistance upto the end of March 1984 is ??? 1583.5 million.

# DIA USA UNITED KINGDOM

**Date** : Sep 27, 1984

# Volume No

# 1995

# UNITED NATIONS

# Statement by the Minister of State for External Affairs at theU.N. General Assembly

The following is the text of statement made by Shri Ram Niwas Mirdha, Minister of State for External Affairs, at the 39th Session of the U.N. General Assembly, New York, on Sep 27, 1984:

Mr. President, allow me to congratulate you on your unanimous election to the Presidency of the 39th Session of the U.N. General Assembly. As a distinguished son of Africa and an eminent representative of a country with which India has traditionally close and cordial relations, we are particularly gratified to see you preside over the proceedings of this august Assem-<pp-273>

bly. We are confident that under your able stewardship, we would be able to deal effectively with the many important questions on our agenda.

I should like to take this opportunity also to place on record our appreciation of the effective and statesmanlike leadership provided to the 38th U.N. General Assembly session by your distinguished predecessor H.E. Mr. Illueca of Panama.

I wish to pay tribute to our Secretary-General, Mr. Perez de Cuellar, for the indefatigable energy and quiet competence he has displayed in his stewardship of the United Nations during the past year. His patience and perseverance are characteristic of style of functioning that has added much prestige and honour to the office of the Secretary-General. He has won our admiration for his skilful handling of several crisis situations. We wish him every success in the future.

We welcome to the United Nations family its newest member Brunei Darussalam. Its admission as the 159th member is a reaffirmation of the principle of universality of membership of this Organisation. We look forward to working in close cooperation with that country's delegation in the United Nations.

We are at the threshold of the fifth decade of the United

Nations. As the United Nations approaches its 40th anniversary, it is but appropriate that we pause to review the historic role this organisation has been playing. This is also a time for introspection and reflection so that we can improve our own performance and make our organization more effective. In November, 1948, the first Prime Minister of India, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, addressing the General Assembly of the United Nations on behalf of newly independent India, stated and I quote:

"The Charter of the United Nations, in noble language, has laid down the principles and the purposes of this great organisation. I do not think it could be possible to improve upon that language. The objectives are clear, your aim is clear, and yet, in looking at that aim, we lose ourselves often, if I may venture to say so, in smaller matters and forget the main objective that we were looking at. Sometimes it seems that the objective itself gets a little clouded and lesser objectives are before us."

#### He further stated:

"I am convinced that, however good the ends, the larger ends of the United Nations, or the lesser objectives which we may from time to time have before us, either as individual nations or as groups of nations, it is important that we should remember that the best of objectives may not be reached if our eyes are bloodshot and our minds with passion... The lesson of history, the long course of history, and more especially the lesson of the last two great wars which have devastated humanity, has been that out of hatred and violence only hatred and violence will come. We have got into a cycle of hatred and violence, and not the most brilliant debate will get you out of it, unless you look some other way and find some other means. It is obvious that if you continue in this cycle and have wars which this Assembly was specially meant to avoid and prevent, the result will not only be tremendous devastation all over the world but the non-achievement by any individual power or group of its objective."

mine the very foundations of this unique organisation. India and other non-aligned countries are determined to reverse this trend.

As India did at the outset of the establishment of the United Nations, I would like now, once again to reaffirm on behalf of the Government and people of India our undiminished faith in the United Nations and our continued commitment to the purposes and principles enshrined in its Charter.

In his thought-provoking report on the work of the Organization for the current year, the U.N. Secretary-General has reiterated the need to preserve and strengthen the organisation for harmonizing the actions of nations and to enhance the concept of multilateralism which is a basic premise of our activity in the United Nations. He has rightly asserted that the realisation of the full potential of the United Nations depends upon a willingness to take active steps to experiment with new approaches on the assumption that our common and agreed objective is human survival in reasonably decent conditions. We need to ponder over this issue. The 40th annivarsary of the United Nations should provide us not only with a unique opportunity for rededication, but also for a reassessment, some soul-searching and above all concrete remedial action. Our commitment to the multilateral approach is important and must be strengthened if we want to realise the vision of the founding fathers.

Throughout the years of our freedom struggle India's leaders viewed independence not merely in national terms but as a part of the struggle of oppressed peoples everywhere for justice political, economic and social. In the course of its transformation India has built up a vast industrial infrastructure which enabled it to keep pace with the scientific and technological advancements taking place in the world. Our democratic institutions evolved over the years have given the people of India a deep sense of participation and commitment in determining the nation's economic, social and political priorities. India's economy envisages a predominant role for the public sector in areas of basic industry as well as a flourishing private sector consistent with our socio-economic philosophy which aims at prosperity and growth with social justice. The planning process adopted by India as an indispensable instrument for the development of all sectors of our economy involves the full participation of our population.

# INDIA'S NON-ALIGNED POLICY

In our international relationships, adherence to the policy of non-alignment has been both instinctive and inevitable. Even before the Movement held its first Summit in 1961, the essential principles of non-alignment had become the basis for the conduct of our foreign policy.

Today the Non-aligned Movement with its membership of 101 countries, constitutes the vast majority of the membership of the United Nations. It is an indication of the intrinsic appeal and relivance of this Movement as well as its significance and achievements to date that almost every newly independent nation seeks its membership.

As Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi said in her keynote address to the 7th Summit:

"Its significance is not to be measured by the number of divisions or the megatons of destructive power we command, but by the intensity with which we desire peace and freedom, development and international justice. Other Governments may have conflicting opinions on right and wrong. We the non-aligned have chosen peace, which surely is the right and inevitable choice. We have sought and continue to seek friendship with all, except Governments which are racist or threaten the hard-earned freedom of others. Non-alignment is not vague, not negative, not neutral. Non-alignment is national independence and freedom. It stands for peace and the avoidance of confrontation. It aims at keeping away from military alliances. It means equality among nations and the democratization of international relations, economic and political. It wants global cooperation for development on the basis of mutual benefit. It is a <pg-275>

strategy for the recognition and preservation of the world's diversity."

# DISARMAMENT

The question of disarmament has always remained a basic concern with India and other countries of the Non-aligned Movement. Governments and peoples all over the world are becoming increasingly aware of the grave threat posed to the very survival of humankind by the development, accumulation and deployment of nuclear weapons and their delivery systems. Two special sessions of the General Assembly have been devoted exclusively to this question. Yet, new weapons of mass destruction and their delivery systems are continuously being researched, tested, produced and deployed. A new arms race has begun in the chemical weapons field. New technologies are being developed which would make space, which has hitherto remained largely peaceful, a dangerous arena of military confrontation. Striking advances are also being made in conventional weaponry giving it a versatility and lethal quality unknown in previous years.

The escalating arms race, the rise in international tensions and the absence of willingness for constructive dialogue among the major nuclear weapon powers have increased the risks of the outbreak of a nuclear war. Clearly the dangers of total annihilation of humankind, indeed of any life on this planet, are so great and increasing with such inexorable rapidity that we cannot permit ourselves the luxury of either indifference or despair. Dangerous doctrines such as those of nuclear deterrence and of limited nuclear warfare are being propounded. No country will remain unaffected by the horror of nuclear conflict once it is unleashed. By the same token, none of us can remain indifferent to the need for speeding up disarmament negotiations. It is ironical that the principal justification for adding new and costly weapon systems in the arsenals of the great powers has been that it provides better negotiating positions for these countries in any arms limitation talks. The logic of this position is that disarmament can commence only after countries have armed themselves fully. Such bizarre logic cannot be expected to serve as a basis for any serious arms limitation exercise.

A fresh and concerted world-wide effort must, therefore, be made to halt the arms race. Nuclear weapon states bear the greatest responsibility and must adopt urgent, practical measures to prevent a nuclear war. Specific proposals have been made by India and other non-aligned countries for a convention under United Nations aegis prohibiting the use of nuclear weapons under any circumstances. The idea of a freeze on the production and deployment of nuclear weapons is gaining popular support and needs to be given a practical shape in order to break the present impasse in arms negotiations. Efforts for a comprehensive nuclear weapons test ban treaty must be expedited. Existing arms limitation agreements must be observed and new ones negotiated. At the same time a concerted effort ought to be made to prevent a new and potentially more dangerous and destabilising round of the arms race in the area of space-based systems. Diplomats and experts engaged in arms limitations and disarmament negotiations must now take due note of the mass popular upsurge in the world against nuclear weapons.

# PEACE INITIATIVE

A major peace initiative in this regard was taken recently by the Prime Minister of India Mrs. Indira Gandhi together with the heads of State or Government of Argentina, Greece, Mexico, Sweden and Tanzania. This Five-Continent initiative launched on 22 May, 1984 states, inter alia, and I quote:

"As leaders of nations, member states of the United Nations, we have a commitment to take constructive action towards halting and reversing the nuclear arms race. The people we represent are no less threatened by nuclear war than the citizens of the nuclear weapons states. It is primarily the responsibility of the nuclear weapons states to prevent a nuclear catastrophe, but this problem is too important to be left to those states alone".

The Joint Declaration urges as a necessary first step the five nuclear weapon <pp-276>

states to halt all testing, production and deployment of nuclear weapons and their delivery systems, to be immediately followed by substantial reduction in nuclear forces. This first step must be followed by a continuing programme of arms reductions leading to general and complete disarmament, accompanied by measures to strengthen the UN system and to ensure an urgently needed transfer of substantial resources from the arms race into social and economic development. The essential goal must be to reduce and then eliminate the risk of war between nations. Mr. President, the Six-Power Peace appeal has received the overwhelming support of the international community. People all over the world have an overriding interest in collective security and the avoidance of a nuclear war. The appeal represents a significant step in mobilizing wider world support for the nonaligned objectives on Disarmament, as set out by the Seventh Summit in New Delhi.

Non-aligned and like-minded nations must now think of other forms of action. The bulk of global military expenditure of US dollars 1000 billion a year is accounted for by a handful of industrialised countries. A significant reduction in this enormously wasteful expenditure will not only help ease tensions the world over but contribute to recovery and growth in the world economy and could be used to augment the presently decreasing levels of assistance to developing nations. The proposals for a World Conference on Disarmament and Development deserves to be taken up seriously by the member states.

India attaches great importance to general and complete disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, and the prevention of nuclear war. A number of proposals submitted by my delegation to begin a serious nuclear disarmament programme are already before the General Assembly. It is our earnest hope that during this session our proposals, as well as others in this field, would be considered in all seriousness and meaningful decisions taken.

# INDIAN OCEAN AS A ZONE OF PEACE

In our own neighbourhood, the Indian Ocean continues to be an arena of competitive attention and mounting great-power military presence, posing a direct threat to the security and integrity of the littoral and hinterland states. The increasing militarization of the Indian Ocean and its use as an arena for strategic powerplay is a matter of immense concern to us. The establishment of new command structures has been accompanied by the induction of sophisticated weaponry in the area. The 1971 Declaration on the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace remains unimplemented.

Ever since the expansion of the Adhoc Committee in 1979, it has been the earnest hope of the littoral and hinterland states that the Permament Members of the security Council and the major maritime users of the Indian Ocean would contribute towards the early convening of the Conference on the Indian Ocean and to the early realisation of the objectives of the 1971 Declaration. The evidence of the last few years has belied this expectation. On the contrary, efforts are afoot to distort the fundamental structure and elements of the 1971 Declaration. We believe that the Colombo Conference should be convened urgently to begin the process of elimination of great-power military presence from the Indian Ocean in realisation of the objectives of the Declaration. During the current year the non-aligned countries have undertaken serious efforts to complete necessary preparatory work for the conference and have tabled a framework for its agenda. We hope all members of the Ad-hoc Committee will display the necessary political will and address themselves to this question in a constructive manner.

### SOUTH ASIA

The countries of South Asia are currently engaged in an active search for regional cooperation on the basis of mutual benefit. This is in consonance with our own policies over the years, of reinforcing the fabric of understanding and cooperation among the countries of the region. At the recent Ministerial-level meeting of South Asian countries in Male, a detailed <pg-277>

review of the implementation of programmes was undertaken. We recognise this will be a long process and will call for much patience and perseverance. Even now the induction of sophisticated arms in our neighbourhood serves external strategic interests and is complicating the task of peaceful cooperation in our region. Not-withstanding this we have no doubt that the process of regional cooperation will continue to gain strength in the months and years ahead and will not only assist the economic and social development of the countries of South Asia but will ultimately promote good-neighbourliness and harmony in the area.

While on the subject of South Asia it is with considerable regret that I find it necessary to refer to recent developments in Sri Lanka which have taken a turn for the worse and have caused us deep anguish and aroused global concern. There has been a recrudescence of indiscriminate violence and killings by the armed forces on a scale which recalls the tragedy of July 1983. Reports indicate that the armed forces in that country have conducted large-scale operations in areas where the Tamils constitute the overwhelming majority of the population resulting in heavy loss of life and property of the innocent Tamil population. If the spate of violence in the northern province continues, it is bound to have serious repercussions in other parts of Sri Lanka and precipitate in influx of refugees into our country. We already have 40,000 Sri Lankan refugees in Tamil Nadu.

The ethnic problem in Sri Lanka cannot be solved by military action. It is a political problem involving the just rights of the Tamil minority and only the determined pursuit of the political process of consultations and mutual accommodation can lead to a constructive way out.

After the communal violence of July 1983, the Prime Minister of India had offered her good offices to help find a political solution to the problem. President Jayawardene of Sri Lanka had accepted this offer and the efforts of our special envoy to promote the process of dialogue have been undertaken with the full concurrence of the Government of Sri Lanka. While talks within the framework of the All Party Conference are continuing, innuendos and insinuations are repeatedly being made against India.

We have reaffirmed our stand in favour of Sri Lanka's integrity and unity and expressed opposition to all forms of violence and separatism. Because of the large number of Tamil refugees from Sri Lanka in the Indian State of Tamil Nadu, and because of the many age-old links between the Tamil population of the two countries, the repression and denial of human and political rights of the Tamils in Sri Lanka give rise to repercussions in our country which we are trying to deal with as best as we can. But it is a travesty of facts to suggest that we are in any way responsible for Sri Lanka's problem. This problem exists right there in Sri Lanka and it has to be resolved there. For our part we do not, and will not, permit any activities directed against Sri Lanka from our soil. It is, therefore, regrettable that leaders of Sri Lanka continue to make baseless allegations against India that it is providing sanctuary and support to Tamil militants. India is doing no such thing. I should like to reiterate that such false and unfounded allegations can only create un-neecssary and avoidable difficulties and misunderstanding in the relations between the two countries.

Our Prime Minister has categorically stated that India does not intervene in the internal affairs of Sri Lanka or indeed in the internal affairs of any other country. India does not support any separatist movement, nor does it support or condone resort to violence of any kind. It is our sincere hope that through consultations, a viable political solution will soon be found assuring the safety and legitimate rights of the Tamils as full and equal citizens, so that the people of Sri Lanka can live together in peace and harmony.

I cannot over-emphasize, Mr. President, the necessity of the utmost restraint on the part of all concerned and a determined pursuit of the political process to find a viable and acceptable solution in which the fundamental human and civic rights of the Tamil population of Sri Lanka would be safeguarded. <pp-278>

# AFGHANISTAN

The efforts for a political settlement in Afghanistan are

continuing though progress has been slow. While there is universal reaffirmation of the inadmissibility of interference in the internal affairs of the states as also of the induction of foreign troops in any country, there is no doubt that the situation in South-West Asia can only be resolved through an overall political settlement based on principles set out in the New Delhi Declaration. The efforts of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General in the past months have sought to impart momentum to this process and deserve support.

# SOUTH-EAST ASIA

Of equal concern to us are the continuing difficulties that have come in the way of peace in South-East Asia. The events of the past year have made us only more conscious of the opportunities as well as the pitfalls that lie in the search for a solution of the problems afflicting that region. India is convinced that there can be no military solution to this question. What is needed is a balanced approach that takes into account the security and other considerations of all the countries in the region and eliminates outside interference. We are hopeful that the new process of dialogue opening up between the countries of Indo-China and ASEAN will yield positive results in the coming months and make for a much needed sense of trust and reconciliation among the countries of the region.

# IRAN-IRAQ CONFLICT

The futility of war as a means of settling disputes has been highlighted in the tragic fratricidal conflict between Iran and Iraq. The continuing war has involved great sacrifices by both sides, sacrifices resulting in enormous losses not only of material wealth but of precious and irreplaceable human lives. The critical situation in the region threatens not only the security of the Gulf but also the safety and economic well-being of much of the world. As Chairman of the Movement of Non-aligned Countries, India has remained in touch with both sides to bring an end to this conflict which weakens the unity and solidarity of the Movement. We are heartened that the UN Secretary-General's call for a halt to the bombings in the civilian areas met with a positive response from both sides. We hope that the two sides will continue to show restraint and see the inevitability of getting down to negotiations for the settlement of their differences. We are convinced that there could be no victor or vanguished in a conflict of this nature. Its continuation will only weaken the ability of the two countries to meet the challenges that face them as developing countries.

# WEST ASIA

The events in West Asia continue to arouse our anguish and indignation. The continued denial to the Palestinian people of their basic and inherent right to self-determination and nationhood, Israel's arrogant defiance of the will of the international community, the critical situation in Lebanon, the consolidation by Israel of its stranglehold over the occupied territories, including its policy of settlements, all constitute sordid chapters in a seemingly endless tragedy.

The turmoil in West Asia remains a most serious threat to world peace today. Recent months have witnessed a deterioration in the situation resulting in further acts of aggression and intimidation by Israel against the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples. We remain firm in our support for the brave, homeless and harassed Palestinian people led by the Palestine Liberation Organisation, their sole and authentic representative. Occupation of the territory of neighbouring states will not guarantee Israel's security. It can, if anything, only have the opposite effect. A comprehensive solution comprising the total and unconditional withdrawal of Israel from all Arab territories occupied since 1967, the exercise by the Palestinian people of their inalienable national and human rights, including the right to establish an independent state in their homeland and mutual guarantees of security among states of the region must be achieved. <pg-279>

We support the convening of the International Peace Conference on the Middle East under UN auspices for finding a comprehensive, just and lasting solution in accordance with well-established principles laid out in UN resolutions... The situation in the region does not brook any delay and urgent preparatory measures should be undertaken so that the Conference can be convened at the earliest possible time. In this context India is appreciative of the efforts being made by the UN Secretary-General towards the convening of the conference and the process of consultations initiated by him with the parties concerned, for finding a comprehensive solution. We stand ready to extend our full support and cooperation in this connection.

# NAMIBIA

It is now a century since Namibia fell prey to colonialism at the Berlin Conference of 1884-85. For the larger part of that period, and upto the present day, this territory and its valiant people have suffered a particularly brutal and repressive colonial presence, an extension of the abhorrent system of apartheid. Eighteen years of direct United Nations jurisdiction over Namibia have brought the territory closer to independence only in theory as the United Nations Plan for Namibian independence remains unimplemented, in spite of its universal acceptance as the basis for a peaceful settlement. Sadly, the question of Namibia has become embroiled in the web of East-West tensions, with entirely irrelevant and extraneous considerations being introduced into what is, and must essentially remain, a question of decolonisation. SWAPO, the sole and authentic representative of the Namibian people, has shown admirable restraint, flexibility and statesmanship. South Africa's answer was always characterised by arrogance, defiance of world opinion and prevarication. The non-aligned believe that only sanctions can force Pretoria to pay heed.

We believe that Security Council Resolution 435 (1978) remains the only basis for a peaceful settlement of the Namibian question. India, along with other non-aligned countries, rejects any kind of linkage or parallelism in regard to the implementation of this resolution. The Security Council must consider more resolute action in the exercise of United Nations responsibility over Namibia, to ensure the implementation of its own resolutions. Meanwhile, we remain steadfast in our support for the Namibian people under the leadership of SWAPO - their sole and authentic representative - and in our resolve to assist them in all possible ways in their valiant struggle for liberation.

# SOUTH AFRICA

Mr. President, we are being increasingly confronted with the proposition that racist South Africa is moving towards reform of its policy of apartheid. Mr. Botha found platforms to proclaim this to the world during his visits to several Western European countries - visits that should never have been permitted to take place and that have had the effect of undermining the international campaign to isolate Pretoria. The charade of elections on the basis of a so-called "new dispensation" was organised in an attempt to confirm this impression. A country known for its indiscriminate and repeated acts of aggression against neighbouring independent states is projecting itself as a votary of peaceful coexistence. This propaganda, which emanates from Pretoria, and finds echo in the capitals of some of South Africa's powerful friends and allies, will deceive no one. South Africa's attempts to hoodwink the world will not succeed.

The root cause of all the problems in Southern Africa is the policy and practice of apartheid. The international community must not let flag its vigilance against apartheid, nor its efforts to counter it by every possible means. In this context, we are happy to note the clear-sightedness shown by the coloured and Asian communities in rejecting, despite pressures of various kinds, the so-called constitutional reforms mooted by the racist regime. As our Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, stated in a recent message, "Apartheid cannot be reformed; it must be ended."

The frontline states of Southern Africa have for long been a bastion of resistance against racist South Africa though it has meant great suffering and sacrifice <pp-280>

on the part of the peoples of these countries. The world must

take urgent and resolute action to fortify the frontline states and strengthen the Southern Africa Development Coordination Conference (SADCC) so that these states could better withstand Pretoria's repeated acts of aggression and destabilization and its threats and blandishments.

# CENTRAL AMERICA

The adoption of a resolution on Central America by consensus in this Assembly last year augured well for peace and reconciliation in that troubled region. So also have the untiring endeavours of the Contadora Group of Nations. The Non-aligned countries have pledged full support to the Contadora exercise. We commend the Contadora countries for their perseverance and dedication and for the progress so far achieved.

Nevertheless, the situation in Central America remains tense and delicate, capable of explosion at the next spark. Again this year, Nicaragua felt compelled to take recourse to the Security Council following continuing hostile acts directed against it, in particular the mining of its ports and harbours. We would like to see the endemic problems of the region resolved by its own peoples, without meddling from outside quarters. We hope that accord will be achieved before long on a comprehensive agreement along the lines contained in the draft "Contadora Act on Peace and Cooperation in Central America."

# CYPRUS

Efforts to resolve the vexed question of Cyprus have received a serious setback in the last year following the proclamation of a so-called "Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus" and other subsequent steps taken with a view to consolidating that unilateral declaration of independence. The Government and people of India have deplored the Unilateral Declaration of Independence and firmly support the unity, territorial integrity, sovereignty, independence and non-alignment of Cyprus - a country with which we have traditionally had friendly and cooperative relations. We believe that UDI must be rescinded and intercommunal talks resumed under the aegis of the UN Secretary-General with a view to arriving at a lasting settlement, taking due account of the rights and aspirations of both the Greek and Turkish Cypriot communities. In this context, we welcome the steps recently taken by the Secretary-General aimed at a resumption of the intercommunal dialogue as well as the positive response of both sides to the call by the Secretary-General.

# INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC SITUATION

Mr. President, the international economic situation continues to cause grave concern. When we met here in 1983, there were claims that respite from the severest recession in post-war history was in sight. The industrialised countries may be experiencing some recovery but it remains quite uneven in its spread, and there are doubts about its durability. The vast majority of the developing countries have not experienced any improvement. As a group, their GNP has remained stagnant and many of them have experienced declining growth rates. Falling commodity prices, adverse terms of trade, rising debt burdens, barriers to trade and declining financial flows continue to affect them adversely.

These conditions have resulted in sharp reductions in imports and postponement of investment in projects and human resources development programmes which may have set back their growth prospects for years to come. Austerity measures compelled by circumstances over which they have had little control have precipitated social disruption and political instability in a number of countries. The net effect of these measures has been to attract a transfer of resources from these countries to the financial institutions of the developed countries. The appalling costs in terms of human misery and destitution that these measures have implied are not brought out in the adjustment figures put out by international agencies. These adjustments, as the Committee for Development Planning has put it, have taken place "at the margin of life and death".

The gravity of the economic situation in Africa is a cause of particular concern to <pg-281>

the international community. The critical conditions there have been further aggravated by adverse climatic factors leading to widespread hunger and malnutrition. In the clearest sense, this represents a test of the will and ability of the international community to meet this challenge through international cooperative endeavour and to make it a part of the overall struggle of developing countries against hunger and poverty.

Mr. Chairman, it is common wisdom to say today that in an interdependent world the progress of the rich cannot be achieved at the cost of the poor. This interdependence was again acknowledged and emphasised at the London Summit of the industrialised countries in June this year. The test of the faith in interdependence lies in the willingness to take coopetive action. As a group, developing countries are larger markets of the EEC, the United States and Japan than each of these three is for the other two. When import volumes have had to be reduced by as much as 50% in many developing countries, its dampening effect on recovery in some industrialized countries should be evident. Sustained economic recovery of the developed countries is dependent on the reactivation of the economic development of the developing countries. But the actual policies pursued by many developed countries seem frequently to reflect a rejection of the concept of inter-dependnce and the policy measures that this would entail.

# DECLINE OF O.D.A.

At a time when financial resources for development are most needed by developing countries, net private flows of resources to them have in several cases become negative. Official Development Assistance has declined in real terms as is evident from the fact that in the case of the OECD countries, aid as a share of their gross national product has fallen from an average of 0.38% to 0.36% in 1983. Multilateral financial institutions are facing the worst crisis of resources since they were created. A case in point is the IDA which is of paramount importance to the poorest countries. The level at which it has been possible to agree on its VIIth replenishment is 20 per cent less in nominal terms and 40 per cent lower in real terms over that for IDA-VI.

Protection is steadily on the increase. The U.N.'s World Economic Survey estimates that fully one-half of world trade is now subject to some form of non-tariff barrier or the other. The practical effect of protectionist measures is particularly intense in sectors like textiles where developing countries are the most efficient producers. We are thus blamed for our alleged inefficiency, and penalised when we are efficient.

Mr. President, we cannot but express our disappointment at the attitude demonstrated by some developed countries during ECOSOC and UNIDO-IV, both in their approach to substantive issues and to the conduct of negotiations. It is difficult to avoid the impression that this was part of the systematic and persistent efforts by certain countries to make the United Nations system the scapegoat for their lack of political will. We would strongly urge the developed countries to reconsider their positions, and to work to restore the norms and consensus on the basis of which the UN system can continue to play its rightful role as a central forum for joint action for mutual benefit.

# STRUCTURAL PROBLEMS OF WORLD ECONOMY

Mr. President, it is legitimate to expect that, now that recovery in developed countries has started, even though in an uneven and limited way, Governments in developed countries would deal in a more comprehensive and cooperative manner with the deeper structural problems of the world economy. It is necessary to adopt and implement a comprehensive set of measures for reactivating growth in developing countries. We must recognise the realities of the situation and work towards the establishment of a real dialogue between the North and the South. Policies which are recognised to stand in the way of the resumption of the development momentum in the developing countries need be rectified. The ultimate objective of any good policy must be the contribution it can make towards the removal of existing in-<pg-282>

equalities and in achieving better growth rates for all.

Deliberate measures have to be taken now to attain more normal levels of growth. This cannot be achieved merely by the trickledown effect. The agenda for global economic recovery and development suggested in the Economic Declaration of the Seventh Summit of the Non-aligned Countries provides a balanced set of actions. Intensive consultantions have taken place on the twophase approach towards global negotiations put forward by the non-aligned and developing countries, but agreement on its launching has been impossible to obtain. While this matter is pursued, meanwhile we would propose that at this session of the General Assembly serious negotiations take place to provide action-oriented content to the Programme of Immediate Measures. Particular attention would have to be given to an improvement in the terms of trade of the developing countries, and to a rollback of protectionism. We have to tackle the crushing debt burden of developing countries in its global context and in a comprehensive manner dealing with both the financial and the developmental aspects. Agreement needs to be reached for a substantial increase in the net flow of financial resources, particularly "Official Development Assistance" to developing countries. The resource position of multilateral development institutions would need to be considerably strengthened to meet the growing needs of developing countries.

Mr. President, this General Assembly has several other important tasks ahead of it. In its most fundamental sense development has to be viewed in human terms. The prevailing imbalance where 47% of the world's population has only 5% of the world's share of resources has grave implications for the future of humanity. The close link between population policies and economic and social development has been long recognised. The International Population Conference in Mexico held in August 1984 has adopted useful recommendations for the further implementation of the World Population Plan of Action. My delegation attaches great importance to its quick and effective implementation and we urge the international community to give full support to the national efforts of the countries in attaining its objectives.

# SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Access and acquisition of modern scientific and technological knowledge is essential to carry out the economic and social transformation of developing countries. Because of our colonial past many of our countries missed out on the industrial revolution. We have no intention of being left out of the technological revolution. We think that the area of science and technology is particularly a fit one to devise new and imaginative mechanisms of international cooperation for mutual benefit. In this respect, we attach great importance to the establishment of the long-term financing system for science and technology for development. My own country is fully prepared to meet its responsibilities in this regard and we urge all other countries, particularly the developed countries, to urgently finalise the financial arrangements which would enable the launching of the financing system.

# INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON MONEY AND FINANCE FOR DEVELOPMENT

Mr. President, it is more than a year and a half since the Heads of the Government of the non-aligned countries gave a call for convening an International Conference on Money and Finance for Development. Since then, the idea has gathered further momentum and gained wider support. It has been pursued in a number of forums both within and outside the United Nations system, such as ECOSOC, UNCTAD VI, the UN General Assembly, the Conference of the Heads of Government of Commonwealth Countries and the Williamsburg and London Summit Conferences of the major industrial countries. Recently, a group of five eminent experts appointed by the Chairman of the Non-aligned Movement, the Prime Minister of India, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, has completed a detailed study of the substantive and procedural issues that would arise in the context of convening such a conference. This report has been made available to the member-Governments of the Non-aligned Movement as well as those of other coun-<pg-283>

tries. The need for improvement in the system, whether it be described as evolution or adaptation, reform or restructuring, is now widely recognised. It is now time to set in motion the preparatory process with the participation of all interested parties for moving towards serious negotiations on the subject. We sincerely hope that a consensus on setting in this direction would soon evolve. It would be in keeping with the urgency of the situation and the international community's commitment to the multilateral process, for these consultations to conclude in a preparatory process to coincide with the 40th anniversary of the U.N.

# 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED NATIONS

India's commitment to the purposes and principles of the UN is firmly grounded in the traditions of our foreign policy. As the Prime Minister of India said at the 38th session of the UN General Assembly on behalf of the non-aligned countries, "firm faith in the United Nations is central to the non-aligned". The observance of the 40th anniversary of the United Nations next year should provide us all with an opportunity for rededication to the ideals that have animated the founders of this organisation. The non-aligned will be at the forefront of preparations for the commemoration of this anniversary. It would be fitting that participation at the commemorative session by member States be at the highest level in order to enhance the significance of the occasion. The non-aligned have also suggested at the New Delhi Summit that the year 1985 be observed as the Year of the United Nations. Such an anniversary should not become an occasion for mere celebration. Member countries and their peoples need to consider carefully the contribution of the UN system over the past four decades, its continuing relevance in the current international situation and the ways and means by which the organisation can be strengthened in order to meet more effectively the challenges facing contemporary society. Its procedures and methods of work should be improved in order to enhance its overall performance.

Human institutions may and do face temporary setbacks. Rather than give way to despair and allow things to drift, we should make relentless efforts to reinvigorate the United Nations. In this endeavour the abiding faith in it of the peoples of the world remains its strongest support and we should do all we can to mobilise it.

The year 1985 shall also mark the silver jubilee of the historic Declaration on Decolonisation enshrined in GA resolution 1514(XV). That the membership of this organisation has grown so impressively in recent decades is due, in no small measures, to the endeavours of the United Nations in the field of decolonisation. We hope that the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Declaration shall be appropriately observed; as a country with a deep and abiding commitment to decolonisation, we look forward to participating in that exercise.

The year 1985 will also be observed as the International Youth Year. Youth, which constitutes a crucial segment of the population, can make a valuable contribution to the development process and to the promotion of international understanding, cooperation and peace. It is, therefore, imperative that the younger generation is provided with all the necessary conditions for participating in national development activities and in the study and resolution of major national, regional and international problems. The observance in 1985 of the International Youth Year is indeed timely as it will serve to draw attention to the specific needs and aspirations of the future generation.

Mr. President, in her address to the General Assembly last year, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi referred to a new order stuggling to be born amidst the upheavals of the present day world. In this context she stated and I quote: "For us, the nonaligned, and for all who are deeply concerned with the future of humanity, the question is whether we help the birth of this new creation or throttle it before it can draw breath. The matter is not simple because history has proved time and again that ideas and movements can be obstructed for some time but not stopped. How long can a few pockets of affluence continue to exert influence on the large populations, <pg-284>

the natural resources and the cultural strength of others? How

long can allies and supporters, who may not have a base in their own countries, and who are not in tune with the changing times, be perpetuated? You cannot kill an idea by killing its adherents. The new born will not die; the birth can be delayed but the cost will be much higher and the affluent will have to pay. When peaceful change is thwarted, violent upheaval occurs. Previously, the end of a civilization brought destruction and trauma in its trail. If we keep to past trends, we too shall be engulfed by circumstances. But today we have the opportunity which may well be the first in human history for humankind to bridge the transition from the old to the new in a conscious way, to build a new era, to move together to a new future".

Thank you, Mr. President.

# A INDIA PANAMA BRUNEI ARGENTINA GREECE MEXICO SWEDEN TANZANIA SRI LANKA MALDIVES AFGHANISTAN CHINA IRAN IRAQ ISRAEL LEBANON NAMIBIA GERMANY SOUTH AFRICA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC NICARAGUA CYPRUS PERU UNITED KINGDOM JAPAN

**Date** : Sep 27, 1984

# Volume No

1995

VIET NAM

# Dinner in Honour of Le Duan - Prime Minister's Speech

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Sep 21, 1984 of the speech by the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi at the dinner hosted by her in honour of Mr. Le Duan, Secretary General of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam:

It is a pleasure to welcome Your Excellency and the distinguished members of the delegation of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. The story of cultural relations between Vietnam and India spans the centuries. This old friendship was revived and strengthened by our common struggle aganst imperialism. When I was a small girl, long before our countries became independent, President Ho Chi-Minh and Jawaharlal Nehru met in Europe. They saw the link between our freedom struggles and talked of an Asia and Africa free of foreign rule and exploitation. The vision of the founding fathers of our two States continues to inspire us and many other nations as well.

HISTORIC MOVEMENT

I accompanied my father to Vietnam at a historic moment, when it was newly free in 1954. Later we had the honour of receiving President Ho Chi-Minh in India. Since then, there has been a steady exchange of visits at various levels during times of difficulty and success. Excellency, your visit today affords us an opportunity to take this cooperation to an even higher level.

# HEROIC RESISTANCE

The very name Vietnam became symbolic of heroic resistance. After the Geneva Agreements of 1954, in which India played some part, we had hoped that your country would have respite to devote itself wholly to the exacting tasks of national construction. Alas that was not to be. The agreements were never given a chance. More wars, more suffering, more deaths, more destruction were heaped on you. President Ho Chi-Minh said: "Nothing is more precious than freedom and independence." The spirit of Vietnam proved itself indomitable. The incalculable hardship you endured to successfully defend your freedom and your sovereignty has made the Vietnamese people a legendary byword for sacrifice, determination and discipline.

These are the qualities of unquenchable hope and relentless striving needed to <pp-285>

face the two great challenges which confront humankind: international economic disparities and the danger of nuclear war.

Eighteen months ago, at the New Delhi Summit of the Non-Aligned Movement, many decisions were taken and appeals made to link the urgent problems of disarmament and development. Since then several meetings have been held. A year ago at the United Nations, India took the initiative to have consultations, among world leaders belonging to various groups and persuasions, about these urgent problems. It was a worthwhile effort and all commented on its usefulness. Yet results are not in sight. The affluent have held two summits, but they fail to appreciate the link between their problems and ours. We must persist in our efforts.

# GLOBAL PEACE

In this context, the relevance of the Non-Aligned Movement becomes obvious. This Movement, of which India and Vietnam are members, came into being because of the realisation that involvement in military pacts by newly independent countries would serve only to prolong and intensify tensions and further divert scarce resources from construction to destruction. India has been consistent in pressing for disarmament, in particular nuclear disarmament. Only recently, five other Heads of Government and I issued an appeal to nuclear-weapon powers to stop all testing, production and development of nuclear weapons and their delivery systems, to be followed by substantial reductions in nuclear forces. We believe that this represents the feelings of the peoples of all continents. Sooner or later those who have the power must listen. The Non-Aligned Movement has not concerned itself merely with problems of global peace and economic cooperation. We have taken a clear and constructive position on major regional problems. South-East Asia has been the scene of wars and upheavals for the last four decades. Great care was taken at the Non-Alignment Summit to formulate resolutions relating to South-East Asia. These can provide the basis for a durable solution of the problems of the region. There should be total freedom from interference and intervention from outside in the internal affairs of countries. Only thus can the collective peace and prosperity of all the peoples of South-East Asia be secured. Vietnam has a creative role in achieving this objective.

# SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION

India and Vietnam favour greater bilateral and multilateral economic cooperation. We subscribe to closer South-South cooperation. Between our two countries, there has already been notable cooperation in financial, commercial and technological fields. Your visit will lead to a more purposeful and organised programme of collaboration.

In countries like India and Vietnam, the past and the present merge. We are engaged in building our future by using new knowledge without cutting adrift from the old wisdom bequeathed to us by our past voyages in the realms of the spirit. However, I hope that your time here will not be taken up only by conferences in Delhi and that you will see something more of India and its vast variety.

Ladies and gentlemen, I request you to join me in a toast to the health of His Excellency Mr. Le Duan, to the health of the other distinguished members of the Vietnamese delegation, and to longlasting Indo-Vietnam friendship.

# DIA VIETNAM USA SWITZERLAND CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC **Date :** Sep 21, 1984

# Volume No

1995

# VIET NAM

Text of Mr. Le Duan's Speech

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Sep 21, 1984 of the speech by His Excellency Mr. Le Duan, Secretary General of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam at a dinner held in his honour by the Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi:

I wish first of all to sincerely thank H.E. Prime Minister Indira Gandhi for offering me this fine opportunity to visit <pg-286>

the great Republic of India, to meet and exchange views with her, respected leader of the Indian nation and great friend of the Vietnamese people, to come in contact with the fraternal people of India and learn from their rich experience in the building of their country.

# WARM SYMPATHY

I am extremely touched by the fine cordial words of Your Excellency with regard to our country and our people's just cause. We understand that they also reflect the warm sympathy of the Indian people for our country and people.

Dear friends, this is my first visit to your beautiful homeland. For all Vietnamese however, India has long been a name. While several Asian and Western powers brought blood and tears to Vietnam, tens of centuries ago India came to us as friends and messengers of peace and friendship. The Indian spirit of self sacrifice and compassion has conquered the hearts of the Vietnamese people. Such is the far and deep source of the Indo-Vietnamese friendship fostered by late Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru and late President Ho Chi Minh themselves.

The past few decades have been marked by the fine continuous growth of these brotherly ties and since the beginning of the eighties our mutual cooperation has reached a stage of vigorous, multiform and fruitful development. In all modesty it may be said that India and Vietnam have established pure and exemplary relations of friendship and cooperation.

# NATIONAL LIBERATION

During their two former wars of national liberation as well as in their present edification and defence of the Fatherland, the Vietnamese people have enjoyed wholehearted support and assistance from their Indian brothers. While the forces of aggression have been trying by all means to encircle and isolate Vietnam in order to weaken our country and bring about its collapse, India has generously stood on the side of Vietnam and extended to us valuable economic aid. We would like to convey our deep gratitude to the Indian people and Government as well as to Your Excellency personally. The Vietnamese people feel deep admiration for the major achievements that India has recorded since independence in all fields, especially its rapid economic and scientific and technological progress in the face of innumerable hardships and trials. These accomplishments offer a living manifestation of the will to self-resilience and of the splendid talents of a nation that has given birth to one of mankind's most brilliant civilisations. Sharing your pride we are confident that under the leadership of Mrs. Indira Gandhi and in continuation of the cause of Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru, these great sons of the Indian people, the Republic of India will surely be built into a modern, prosperous and happy country, thus making an ever more worthy contribution to peace in Asia and the world.

# NUCLEAR ARMS RACE

Dear friends, we are now living at a critical juncture. Bent on pursuing their policy of confrontation, the war-like forces in Washington are rushing headlong in an unrestrained nuclear arms race on land, sea and even in space, thus placing humanity before the risk of an annihilating war. Given such a situation the struggle for the safeguard of peace represents an extremely important and imperative task. More than ever all revolutionary and progressive forces as well as all people with a conscience have to rally and stand up united to stay the hands of the war fanatics, in defence of life and human civilization. We strongly support the principled stand and the well-known peace initiatives of the Soviet Union with a view to easing the international situation, ending the nuclear arms race and achieving disarmament. We welcome and support India's consistent policy of peace and endorse the appeal recently issued by Your Excellency and five other Heads of State in the world, considering these as a significant contribution to the struggle for peace.

# ATTACK ON WORLD PEACE

The imperialists are not simply attacking world peace, they are resorting cpg-287>

to all ways and means, including force, to intervene in the internal affairs of nations, kindle extremely dangerous hotbeds of war in the aim of reimposing their domination, vying for areas of influence and forcing unequal economic relations upon developing nations. For both our countries as well as for nearly all Asian, African and Latin American nations the struggle for the safeguard of peace is closely linked to the fight for the preservation of national independence and for economic development. The Non-Aligned Movement is playing a very important role in that struggle. We appreciate highly Your Excellency's considerable efforts in your capacity as chair-person of the Movement with a view to uniting the Non-aligned countries in the struggle to consolidate national independence and establish a new international economic order. Our Movement extends its vigorous support to Cuba, Nicaragua and the peoples of Central America and the Caribbean that are coping with the US threat of war and intervention, to the Palestinian, the Lebanese and the Arab peoples in their struggle against Zionism and American intervention in the Middle and Near East. Our support goes to the Front-Line States and the peoples of Namibia and South Africa against the South African racists. We hope that the Iran-Iraq war will soon come to a close.

While frenziedly driving Europe to the brink of a nuclear conflagration, the US war hawks are setting up political and military alliances with the militarist and expansionist forces, arrogantly looking upon Asia and the Pacific, including the Indian Ocean itself, as a zone of "vital interest" to them and making no secret of their intention to establish a NATO-like military block in Asia. These designs are more than ever increasing the risk of a military and political confrontation in the region. This situation demands that we - socialist countries, Non-Aligned States as well as progressive forces in Asia coordinating all our efforts in order to foil those sinister schemes of imperialism and international reaction.

Ever since the Second World War the vigorous upsurge of the nations of Asia and the Pacific has utterly wrecked the interventionist and aggressive policies of imperialism and colonialism and brought about countless glorious victories for peace, national independence and social progress in this vast region of the globe. In this cause of historic and epoch-making significance, the Republic of India has and is bringing to bear a major role and has become an extremely important factor of peace and security in Asia and the world. We hold in high appreciation India's goodwill in seeking a negotiated solution to differences with neighbour countries.

We resolutely condemn the attempts at interference and sabotage from outside on the part of imperialist and international reactionary forces and fully support India's just position in defence of its independence, unity and territorial integrity. We support India's efforts aimed at making the Indian Ocean a zone of peace. We welcome Mongolia's initiative on the singing of a treaty of mutual non-aggression among Asian countries.

Madam Prime Minister, friends, having gone through half a century of struggle for the recovery of their independence and freedom and having to endure the heavy sequels of more than thirty years of fierce war the Vietnamese people harbour no greater desire than to be able and live in peace so as to rebuild their country. The consistent foreign policy pursued by the Socialist Republic of Vietnam is one of peace, friendship and cooperation with all countries, first of all with neighbouring States. In 1979, we have had to wage a patriotic war in defence of our Fatherland and at present we still have to constantly cope in self-defence with the threat of aggression by our northern neighbour.

# LONG-TERM INTERESTS

We wish to put an end to such a state of confrontation which is detrimental to the fundamental long-term interests of both the Vietnamese and the Chinese peoples and to those of Asian nations themselves that have at present to enhance their vigilance in the face of most dangers nurtured by war fanatics. That is why, while resolutely defending our Fatherland we spare no effort in striving to restore the long-<pg-288>

standing friendship between the two peoples of Vietnam and China and are prepared to normalize mutual relations.

Vietnam along with the other countries in South East Asia share a fundamental long-term common interest which is to ensure a durable peace in the region so as to focus their resources on economic edification and development. The time has come for South East Asian nations to settle differences by way of negotiations on a basis of equality and mutual respect, free from outside interference, and together, build South East Asia into a zone of peace, stability, friendship and cooperation. Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea will endeavour constantly to make a positive contribution to this most significant cause. The Kampuchea issue has to be solved on the basis of respect for the Kampuchean people's right to self-determination, i.e. first and foremost the right to live in independence and freedom, the scourge of the Pol Pot genocide once and for all eliminated. Vietnamese volunteer forces shall withdraw totally from Kampuchea as soon as the latter's security is guaranteed. The resolution on South East Asia of the seventh Non-aligned Summit provides a good basis to ensure peace in South East Asia. The Vietnamese people highly appreciate India's support to the just cause of the Indo-Chinese peoples and welcome any contribution past and to come on the part of India aimed at promoting mutual trust and understanding conducive to the establishment of lasting peace and stability among South East Asian nations.

## UNDERSTANDING AND TRUST

Dear friends, this afternoon were held the talks between Her Excellency the Prime Minister and ourselves. These exchanges undertaken in a spirit of mutual understanding and trust once again set in all the greater relief the deep similarities between our two countries. We both share similar objectives in our respective national edification and defence. We have similar concerns regarding international and regional issues. We are in full agreement as to the broad possibilities for the consolidation and strengthening of our mutual multifacted relations. We feel confident that this present visit to India and the results of the talks with the Prime Minister of India will confer a new dimension on the already extremely fine and pure Indo-Vietnamese relations for the sake of our two peoples and of peace and stability in South East Asia, Asia and the world.

In this belief, I propose a toast to the constant consolidation and growth of Indo-Vietnamese friendship and cooperation; new greater accomplishments of the great Indian people in their national edification; the health of H.E. President Zail Singh; the health of H.E. Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and the health of guests and friends attending this reception.

# DIA VIETNAM USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC CUBA NICARAGUA NAMIBIA SOUTH AFRICA IRAN IRAQ MONGOLIA CHINA MALI LAOS

**Date** : Sep 21, 1984

# Volume No

1995

# ZIMBABWE

India and Zimbabwe for Increased Trade

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Sep 24, 1984 on the first meeting of the Indo-Zimbabwe joint committee on trade:

In pursuance of the excellent relationship which exists between India and Zimbabwe, the two countries will make greater efforts to harness their natural resources, technologies and expertise for mutual benefits. The vast potential which exists for economic and commercial cooperation has been recognised and areas identified for

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joint cooperation. The first meeting of the Indo-Zimbabwe Joint
Committee on Trade which took place in Harare and was attended by
Shri S. M. Krishna, Minister of State for Commerce, as leader of
the Indian delegation succeeded in its objectives of reviewing
the trade for the last four years and identifying the
constraints. On the Zimbabwe side the Ministerial delegation was
led by Hon. R. C. Hove, Minister for Trade and Commerce, and the
two delegations agreed on recommendations and ways of removing
constraints on trade in the Minutes which was signed at the end
of the meeting.

# BARTER DEAL

An important development was the first barter deal arrangement concluded by Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation (MMTC) with the Minerals Marketing Corporation of Zimbabwe. The deal envisages the purchase of 9,000 tonnes of asbestos valued over US \$ 4 million on a firm basis and 6,000 tonnes on an optional basis. The deal for the supply of this critical nonferrous metal to India has been a significant achievement. Out of the firm quantity 40 per cent will be on barter. This will result in a significant boost to the present volume of trade with Zimbabwe.

Zimbabwe has also offered nickel and rough diamonds to India. Gold has been identified as an area for joint working. India has the capacity for refining gold and is likely to make a feasibility study for the setting up of a gold refinery. Engineering items were also identified for export to Zimbabwe.

# NATURAL RESOURCES

The vast untapped natural resources of Zimbabwe and Indian technologies which were specially applicable to developing countries were ideally suited for being harnessed together for greater collaboration. There were many opportunities for cooperation in the field of industrial development with special emphasis on small scale industries and the transfer of appropriate technology. India has considerable experience and expertise in assisting in the setting up of small scale industries for the development of Zimbabwe.

Shri S. M. Krishna met the Prime Minister of Zimbabwe, Mr. Mugabe, who said that he was greatly impressed by what he had seen in India's progress in the field of intermediate technology and advanced technology. This was the first Ministerial delegation to Zimbabwe after the Indian Prime Minister's visit in 1980 and Prime Minister Mugabe expressed his happiness on the visit. He welcomed the growing interaction between India and Zimbabwe and stated that his country was happy with the Indian technicians in their railways, posts and telecommunications cooperation and the energy sector.

Shri Krishna also had meetings with the Ministers of National Supply and Finance, Industry and Energy Resources, Labour, Manpower Planning and Social Welfare, who expressed great interest in fostering greater economic ties with India. <pp-290>

MBABWE INDIA USA **Date :** Sep 24, 1984

# October

# Volume No

1995

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Date : Oct 01, 1984

# Volume No

1995

ADEN

President's Arrival Speech

The following is the speech by the President of India, Giani Zail Singh, on arrival at Aden on Oct 27, 1984:

Your Excellency, Mr. President, Excellencies, it gives me great pleasure to be here in the Peoples' Democratic Republic of Yemen. I bring to the People of Yemen the greetings and best wishes of the people of India.

It was only last year that we had the privilege of receiving President Ali Nasser Mohammed in India at the time of the Seventh Non-aligned Summit. I had at that time readily agreed to visit aden and am happy that I have been able to fulfil my commitment. I eagerly look forward to the pleasure of meeting the President and other leaders of this great country.

Our relationship goes back into deep history. Today this has been infused with a new dynamism and is being pursued in a spirit of mutually strengthening cooperation. There are no major issues in which we have any differences in approach or perception. Our bilateral relations are very satisfactory and have been developing to the satisfaction of both our sides. My visit would however provide an opportunity to discuss various matters and to seek ways and means to further strengthen and diversify the relations between India and the Peoples' Democratic Republic of Yemen.

DIA YEMEN USA **Date** : Oct 27, 1984

# Volume No

1995

# BANGLADESH

Indo-Bangladesh Joint Economic Commission

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Oct 17, 1984 on the agreed minutes of the second meeting of the Indo-Bangladesh Joint Economic Commission:

The Standing Committee of the Indo-Bangladesh Joint Economic Commission held its second meeting in New Delhi on October 15-16, 1984 in an atmosphere of cordiality, goodwill and understanding. The Bangladesh delegation was led by H.E. Mr. Muniruzzaman, Secretary, External Resources Division. The Indian delegation was led by Shri M. Rasgotra, Foreign Secretary

During his visit to India, H.E. Mr. M. Muniruzzaman called on Shri R. N. Mirdha, Minister of State for External Affairs of the Government of India.

H.E. Mr. M. Muniruzzaman also called on Shri M. Rasgotra, Foreign Secretary, Shri P. K. Kaul, Finance Secretary, Shri Abid Hussain, Commerce Secretary and Shri B. C. Gangopadhaya, Secretary (Food), of the Government of India. <pp-291>

The Committee held two plenary meetings. The Committee on economic and financial matters held its second meeting concurrently with the meeting of the Standing. Committee. Discussions were also held in working groups on trade, industry, transport and science & technology, among representatives of the two sides.

Both sides expressed satisfaction at the progress of the South Asian regional cooperation and reaffirmed the view that the strengthening of regional cooperation would make a major contribution to the further development of economic cooperation among the countries of the region.

Both sides reiterated that the Standing Committee of the Joint Economic Commission should serve as an effective body for monitoring and reviewing the implementation of the decisions of the Commission, and so help to further strengthen the economic and technical cooperation between the two countries.

The two sides agreed on the need to promote the optimum functioning of the Commission and its Standing Committee, and decided, inter alia, to utilise the four Committees already constituted by the Commission to this end. It was agreed that the Standing Committee should, as envisaged by the Commission, meet at least twice a year.

TRADE: The Standing Committee reviewed the recent developments in bilateral trade and noted that Bangladesh's exports to India had increased from Taka 22 crore in 1981-82 to Taka 41 crore in 1983-84, as also that India's exports to Bangladesh increased from Taka 100 crore to Taka 117 crore with the imbalance still around Taka 77 crore. It was agreed that continued efforts would be made to expand and diversify bilateral trade with special emphasis on achieving a better balance of trade.

TRADE AGREEMENT: Both sides noted with satisfaction that during the course of the trade review talks which were held in Dhaka in July 1984, the trade agreement had been renewed for three years.

NEWSPRINT: Both sides expressed their satisfaction that arrangements were being made for the delivery of the balance of the 20,000 tons of newsprint to be supplied by the end of the current year. The Bangladesh side also requested the early finalisation of the contract for the supply of 20,000 tons of newsprint for 1985. The Indian side agreed to examine this.

BITUMEN: In reponse to a Bangladesh proposal for the supply of 20,000 tons of bitumen for 1985, the Indian side clarified that presently India had an exportable surplus. However, as a special case, the Indian side agreed to examine the lifting of limited quantities of bitumen, subject to suitable commercial terms.

NAPTHA: The Indian side conveyed its interest in purchasing naptha from Bangladesh. It was stated that India's imports are around 20,000 MT every 45 days. The concerned Indian agency had already intimated the specifications which they require to the appropriate Bangladesh authorities. The Indian side stated that they would welcome offers of naptha from Bangladesh provided these were of the specifications required by India, and subject to commercial considerations.

NATURAL GAS: The Indian side expressed its continued interest in importing natural gas from Bangladesh. The Bangladesh side reiterated its position, as stated during the trade review talks held in Dhaka in July 1984.

# JAMDANI SAREES AND JUTE CARPETS:

As regards Jamdani sarees and jute carpets, the Indian side stated that the Bangladesh proposal for the export of these items was being carefully considered by the Government of India. The Bangladesh side requested that a decision be expedited.

WET BLUE LEATHER: The Standing Committee noted with satisfaction that the export of wet blue leather from Bangladesh has been increasing and that the period of duty free import of this item into India has been extended upto March 31, 1985. The Bangladesh side requested a further extension of this facility. The Indian side agreed to consider this proposal.

PULP: The Bangladesh side reiterated its request for the supply of bamboo from India, either as outright import or <pg-292>

under a buy-back arrangement for pulp manufacturing. The Indian side agreed to refer it to the appropriate authorities, to reexamine the proposals.

BOOKS AND PERIODICALS: The two sides noted the potential for the exchange of books and periodicals. The Indian side explained that the trade in books in India was in the private sector. The Indian side suggested that the Bangla Academy and other concerned agencies could get in touch with various importing agencies in

India in this respect, and they could also utilise the opportunity of the forthcoming book fairs both in India and Bangladesh.

COAL: The Bangladesh side explained that this was the first time that private traders in Bangladesh were importing coal and requested that adequate facilities be provided to them. They also requested that a suitable mechanism be devised so that small importers could also be supplied coal. The Indian side took note of these requests.

TRADE FAIRS: The Standing Committee noted with satisfaction that Bangladesh would be participating in the India International Trade Fair in 1984 also, and that India would hold a single country Fair in Dhaka early next year.

STANDARDISATION: Both sides agreed that as proposed by the Indian side during the trade review talks held in July 1984, the concerned Indian agencies would send a team to discuss with the Ministry of Agriculture, Government of Bangladesh, the issue of standardisation of agricultural implements.

TARIFF CONCESSIONS: The Bangladesh side requested tariff concessions from India under the Bangkok agreement, especially on raw jute, paper, rayon, bitumen, crust and finished leather and jamdani sarees. The Indian side took note of this request for special tariff concessions and explained that this should be negotiated within the provisions of the Bangkok agreement during the next round of discussions.

COMMERCIAL VISITS: The Committee noted with satisfaction that there had been a growth in the exchange of visits of commercial representatives from both sides, particularly in the private sector. The Committee decided that more frequent contacts should be encouraged between the commercial representatives of the two sides and between the recognised Chambers of Commerce and Industry.

INDUSTRY: The Standing Committee reviewed the progress of implementation in respect of collaboration in the field of industrial projects, and agreed that, although some progress had been made, the pace of implementation should be picked up. Accordingly, the Committee took the following decisions:

# SPONGE IRON AND STEEL COMPLEX:

The Committee agreed that the Bangladesh Steel and Engineering Corporation (BSEC) would make available results of the site survey and soil investigation by November, 1984. MECON would submit the project proposal by March, 1985.

SURMA CEMENT PROJECT: The Committee noted that the feasibility report is in an advanced stage of preparation and the Cement Corporation of India (CCI) would present it in November, 1984. The results of chemical testing of clay in Dhaka will be sent by the Bangladesh Chemical Industries Corporation (BCIC) to the CCI as early as possible, at the latest by the first week of November, 1984.

BMR OF SUGAR MILLS: The Committee noted with satisfaction that a four member Indian team from the Agricultural Finance Commission (AFC) and the National Industrial Development Corporation (NIDC) would visit Bangladesh towards the end of November, 1984, during the crushing season, to carry out feasibility studies on the balancing, modernisation and rehabilitation of the Panchagarh, Zeal Bangla and Faridpur sugar mills.

The Indian side stated that the AFC/NIDC team, during its visit, could also undertake the BMR work on other mills. This offer was noted by the Bangladesh side, which would examine it further and convey its reactions.

CHEMICAL AND PHARMACEUTICAL PROJECTS: The Committee noted that the Government of Bangladesh had expressed an interest in feasibility studies on the <pg-293>

following four projects: (1) paper products diversification based on full utilisation of existing capacity. (2) chlorinated products based on expansion of caustic soda production with complementary utilisation of chlorne. (3) basic pharmaceutical chemical project based on local raw materials. (4) pesticide chemicals based on raw materials (tobacco waste) imported raw materials.

It was agreed that discussions would be held between the concerned agencies of the two sides, before the end of the year, to undertake the feasibility studies for these projects.

STEEL STRIP AND ALLOY SPECIAL PLANTS: The Bangladesh side requested the Indian side to carry out techno-economic feasibility studies for the following projects: 1. steel strip manufacturing plant. 2. alloy special steel plant. The Indian side agreed to take up these studies.

# SMALL AND COTTAGE INDUSTRIES:

Product Prototype and Technology Development Centre: It was agreed that a team from National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC) of India would visit Bangladesh as early as possible to hold discussions for the preparation of project document.

TRAINING INSTITUTE: The Bangladesh side proposed to the Indian side to send a team of experts in connection with the setting up of a training institute for cottage and small scale industries in Bangladesh. The Indian side agreed to send a team of experts to Bangladesh to study the requirements in Bangladesh and prepare a project document. MARKET SURVEY: The Bangladesh side requested the Indian side to send a team of experts to conduct a market survey for the projection of demand and supply of selected small and cottage industries products. The Indian side agreed to send a team for this purpose.

CREDIT DELIVERY SYSTEM: It was agreed that a four-five member team from Bangladesh to study the credit delivery system in India would be nominated expeditiously.

TRAINING: The Bangladesh Small and Cottage Industries Corporation (BSCIC) had proposed to send 66 crafts persons for training in India in 27 crafts. Out of these 66, the Government of India had approved the training of 28 persons. The Government of Bangladesh is in the process of giving clearance for these 28 persons. The approval for the training of the remaining 38 persons in 19 fields would be expedited by the Indian side.

FINANCE: The Committee discussed the two credits offered by India to Bangladesh, namely the Government to Government credit of Rs. 20 crores and the Exim Bank credit of Rs. 40 crores. The Bangladesh side expressed its satisfaction at the Government of India's acceptance of the Bangladesh requests for the extension of the terminal dates for the opening of LC's upto 30.6.85 and for the disbursement under the Government to Government credit up to 30.6.86 and for including the supplies of Indian machinery for power projects in Bangladesh under the credit. The revised allocation under the Government to Government was also discussed and agreement was reached on the future course of action.

With regard to the Exim Bank credit of Rs. 40 crores, the Committee noted with satisfaction that most of the designated banks had started opening LC's and it was noted that the utilisation of the credit would, as far as possible, be completed by December 1984.

The Committee recognised the importance of bilateral cooperation in the fields of banking and insurance. In this context, the two sides agreed to consider using each others' training facilities and experience in these fields.

Reiterating their request that payments for imports of goods from India, under the Wage Earner's Scheme, should be settled through the ACU, the Bangladesh side informed that, with effect from 15.10.84 such transactions with all member countries would be settled through the ACU. Appreciating this, the Indian side agreed to communicate this information to the Reserve Bank of India with a view to finding a mutually satisfactory solution. <pg-294>

In regard to the proposed agreement for the avoidance of double taxation between India and Bangladesh, the Committee noted the

invitation extended by the Government of Bangladesh to host discussions on this matter in November, 1984.

#### TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS:

Inland Water Transport: The Standing Committee noted with satisfaction that the protocol on inland water transit and trade had been renewed for a period of two years from October 4th, 1984. The Committee further took note of the Indian proposal made at the meeting of officials of the concerned Ministries in New Delhi in September, 1984 that at the time of subsequent renewals, the extension should be for a period of three years at a time, and the Bangladesh side had indicated that it would examine the proposal. It was agreed that the Bangladesh side would give expeditious consideration to the proposal.

FEASIBILITY STUDY ON KUSHIARA: In order to facilitate traffic on the river Kushiara and, thereby benefit the inland water transport of both countries, India offered to undertake a feasibility study, in cooperation with the Bangladesh authorities, on the deepening of the Kushiara. The Bangladesh side took note of the Indian offer. The Committee noted that this point had been discussed in detail during the talks on the protocol, and that further action was in progress.

CIVIL AVIATION: The Committee noted that discussions had been held on the possibility of establishing direct air-links between the capitals of the two countries as early as possible, and that discussions between the airlines were scheduled to be held under the aegis of SARC. It agreed that immediate steps should be taken to establish direct airlinks between Dhaka and New Delhi.

MOTOR VEHICLES AGREEMENT: The Standing Committee noted that the examination of the various issues pertaining to the draft agreement for the regulation of motor vehicles traffic, as had been directed by the Commission in its second meeting, had not been completed. The Committee agreed that the concerned officials of the two sides should meet at a very early date and hold further discussions.

RAIL TRANSIT FACILITIES: In pursuance of the decision of the Commission in its last meeting the Committee discussed cross traffic transit facilities. The Committee noted with satisfaction that the railways have completed surveys, cost estimates etc. for construction of sidings and other technical details for the movement of traffic. The Bangladesh side stated that poor track and signalling conditions and operating constraints were further aggravated by the recent floods. The restoration of services and rehabilitation of assets were urgent needs. The Indian side expressed its understanding of these developments. It was agreed that a decision would be taken soon in regard to the granting of cross traffic railway transit facilities.

MODERNISATION OF RAILWAY WORKSHOP: The Committee noted that RITES

had submitted an offer on a productivity study for the Pahartali and Saidpur workshops in November, 1983 and after further discussions in Dhaka in August, 1984 had submitted a revised offer on a study to improve productivity of the Pahatali carriage and wagon workshop, as requested by the Bangladesh Railways, in September 1984. The Bangladesh side stated that the revised offer is acceptable, and a formal communication to this effect would follow shortly.

INTER-MODEL SURVEY: Concerning the decision of the Commission that this project would be undertaken bilaterally, the Bangladesh side informed the Indian side that a comprehensive inter-model transport survey was now being undertaken by the Government of Bangladesh with the assistance of the ADB/UNDP.

RAILWAY TRAINING: The Bangladesh Railways had requested training for 30 officers in 1983-84. The Standing Committee noted with satisfaction that 19 officials had been, or are being trained, in India and that training is being organised for the rest. The Bangladesh Railways have requested training for 30 more officials, in 84-85. It was agreed that the bio-data and the training requirements of these 30 officials would be communicated to the Indian side immediately, so that pre-<pg-295>

parations for their training in India could be started.

CONSULTANCY SERVICES: The Indian side offered the consultancy services of RITES to the Bangladesh Railways, for rehabilitation projects, including the second rail project being financed by the ADB. The Indian side explained that it could offer appropriate technology, and hoped that RITES would be given the opportunity to participate in the development of the Bangladesh railways. The Bangladesh side took note of the offer.

CONCRETE SLEEPER FACTORY: The Standing Committee noted that, in pursuance of the decision of the Commission, IRCON had made an offer to the Government of Bangladesh for the construction of a concrete sleeper factory. The offer was now under scrutiny by an Experts Committee in Bangladesh, and a decision would be conveyed shortly.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS: The Standing Committee expressed satisfaction at the steady improvement in the telecommunication facilities in operation between the two countries. It was agreed that fully automatic telephone trunk dialling and fully automatic telex facilities should be established, and technical preparations on both sides having been completed, these facilities would be inaugurated as early as possible.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY: The Standing Committee noted with satisfaction that in pursuance of the decision of the Commission at its second session concerning cooperation in the fields of

science and technology, the representatives of the two countries met in New Delhi in August 1984 and drew up an agreed programme of cooperation in seven areas for the period 1984-86. The Committee agreed that speedy action should be taken to implement the proposals for cooperation in the identified areas.

The Committee agreed that necessary steps should be taken for the formulation of specific projects in the identified areas for joint collaboration. It was further agreed that exchange of information in areas of mutual interest and exchange of visit of scientists and experts between the two countries as envisaged in the programme of cooperation should be expedited.

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH: The Committee noted that a BARC team had visited India in October 1983 and that proposals for cooperation in agricultural research and development had been agreed upon by two sides. The Committee stressed that a time bound work plan should be prepared early to implement the proposals in the agreed areas of cooperation.

ORGANISATIONAL MATTERS: The Committee recalled that in order to effectively monitor, coordinate and provide impetus to, the implementation of decisions in key areas, the Commission had set up the following Committees at the level of Joint Secretary of the two Governments:

- 1. Committee on trade and commerce;
- 2. Committee on industries;
- 3. Committee on science and technology;
- 4. Committee on economic and financial
- matters.

The Committee noted with satisfaction that the Committee on economic and financial matters had held two meetings, the first in Dhaka in July, 1984, and the second, concurrently with this meeting of the Standing Committee. It also noted that detailed discussions on trade and commerce had been held in Dhaka in July, 1984 during the trade review talks, and that representatives of the concerned ministries had met in New Delhi to draw up an agreed programme of cooperation in science and technology for 1984-86.

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Standing Committee will be held in Dhaka in 1985 at a mutually convenient date.

Sd/- (M. Munir-uz-Zaman), Secretary, External Resources Division, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh.

Sd/- (M. Rasgotra), Foreign Secretary, Government of India. <pg-296>

NGLADESH INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC RUSSIA **Date :** Oct 17, 1984

# Volume No

#### 1995

#### BANGLADESH

#### Foreign Secretary's Address

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Oct 16, 1984 of the speech at the opening session of the Standing Committee of the Indo-Bangladesh Joint Economic Commission in New Delhi on October 16, 1984 by the Foreign Secretary, Shri M. Rasgotra:

It is my privilege and pleasure to extend to you and your colleague a most warm and friendly welcome to New Delhi. I hope that your stay with us will be comfortable. My colleagues and I are greatly looking forward to our talks with you and your delegation.

The relations between our two countries are close and friendly, as relations should be between neighbours. These are not altogether free from problems; and that too is not unnatural between the best of neighbours. It is our earnest desire and our endeavour to sort out the few outstanding problems amicably and through negotiations, in a spirit of mutual understanding and mutual accommodation. Meetings of the Standing Committee offer opportunities for our two countries to advance towards that objective. We consider this meeting timely and I hope it will enable us to carry forward the momentum generated in 1982 during the meeting between the Heads of Government, and in the two meetings of the Joint Economic Commission for mutually beneficial cooperation on a broad spectrum of economic issues. Our common problems demand our cooperative efforts for satisfactory solutions. Indo-Bangladesh Joint Economic Commission has the responsibility to devise and execute practical programmes for the benefit of the common man in both countries. It is our function in this Standing Committee to ensure that there is no slackening in the tempo of implementation.

In the industrial sector, there has been some significant progress. Feasibility studies on major projects are under preparation, and visits of experts have been exchanged. During the ensuing meetings we can exchange views as to how to press ahead faster on these projects.

Recently, we renewed agreements on trade and on inland water transit, which is indeed a welcome development. Rapid and fullspirited implementation of these important agreements, will strengthen cooperation and prove beneficial to both countries. Clearly, neither of us can take much satisfaction from the present level of trade, which is marginal to the international commerce of either country. We understand Bangladesh's concern over its trade deficit as something natural and the problem must be addressed. We are, therefore, prepared to consider sympathetically and in a constructive spirit any new ideas and items of trade that would help redress this imbalance. You might recall that at the last meeting of the JEC and during the trade review talks, we had indicated our interest in importing natural gas from Bangladesh and in railway cross-traffic facilities. These would eliminate the deficit and tilt the balance in Bangladesh's favour. I therefore wish to renew our offer and we hope that these items can be discussed further during these meetings.

In science and technology and in agriculture approved programmes of cooperation are in various stages of implementation. The Standing Committee may I hope, help speed up implementation.

Cooperation between financial institutions of our two countries is necessary. Further measures together with the utilisation of our credits which are now operational, will be discussed in the Committee on economic and financial matters.

Transport is a critical area for both our countries. The railways, in particular, already have a degree of cooperation and their representatives have recently met in Dacca. The Indian railways and their organisations have made offer to the Bangladesh railways in regard to a number of outstanding issues pertaining to cross traffic as well as on projects. We look forward to receiving from you the reactions of the Bangladesh railways, so that we can decide on further actions during these meetings.

While consolidating the initiatives taken earlier, we should also like to join you in exploring new areas of cooperation between our two countries. My colleagues and I will be happy to consider any suggestion and proposal from your side. On our part I would like to put forward three new programmes for implementation under the JEC. These are:

First, rehabilitation or construction of the bridge across the Kushiara river in Bangladesh. I understand that the Bangladesh railways had informally asked RITES for an estimate of a feasibility study. We would be glad to undertake such a study;

Second, the External Resources Division had recently asked our High Commission in Dhaka for assistance on four projects in the chemical and pharmaceutical sector, on which feasibility studies would be needed. If the Bangladesh Government have now decided to

<sup>&</sup>lt;pg-297>

accord priority to these projects we would be happy to undertake these feasibility studies;

Third, in the inland water protocol talks, both last year and this year we had expressed our interest in undertaking a feasibility study on the deepening of the Kushiara river. This would directly benefit the inland water traffic of the two countries. With the full participation of the Bangladesh authorities, we would be glad to undertake a feasibility study.

Excellency, I am sure you will have many new ideas as to how best we might proceed in the matter of implementing projects and strengthening cooperation through the Joint Economic Commission. These and your assessment of the work we have done so far will command our respectful and sympathetic consideration.

I thank you for your attention. And I welcome you once again to the meeting of the Standing Committee. If there is any way in which we can make our visit more comfortable, interesting and productive, my colleagues and I are at your disposal. You are no strangers to us and we want you to feel at home here.

# NGLADESH INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC **Date :** Oct 16, 1984

# Volume No

#### 1995

## BELGIUM

Protocol Amending Indo-Belgium Tax Treaty Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Oct 20, 1984 on the signing of the protocol amending Indo-Belgium tax treaty:

Supplementary protocol modifying the existing double taxation avoidance agreement between India and Belgium has been signed here today. Shri K. N. Singh, Secretary (Revenue), Ministry of Finance and Mr. J. Hollants Van Loocko, Ambassador of Belgium to India, signed the protocol on behalf of their respective Governments.

The existing double taxation avoidance agreement between India and Belgium is being amended to incorporate in it the changes brought in the Income-tax Act by the Finance Acts of 1975 and 1976. Such changes relate to taxation in India of income from fees from technical services, royalties and interest based on source rule and prescription of limits on the admissibility of head office expenses in the assessments of the branches of foreign companies in India.

After the supplementary protocol comes into force, allowance for head office expenses in the cases of Belgian enterprises operating in India through their permanent establishments would not exceed the limits prescribed in the Income-tax Act. It would also enable the Indian enterprises <pg-298>

to claim head office expenses, not exceeding 5 per cent of the net profits of their permanent establishments in Belgium, which in the absence of this treaty would not have been allowed. Further, all royalties and fees for technical services earned by the Belgian enterprises in India, would now be taxed in India on gross basis but at a rate not exceeding 30 per cent of such income (instead of the normal rate of 40 per cent).

LGIUM INDIA **Date** : Oct 20, 1984

# Volume No

1995

BHUTAN

Indo-Bhutan Telecommunication Agreement Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Oct 22, 1984 on the signing of the Indo-Bhutan telecommunication agreement:

An agreement was signed between Government of India and Royal Government of Bhutan for expanding and improving the scope of telecommunication services between the two countries.

The agreement was signed here today by Shri K. Thomas Kora, Secretary, Ministry of Communications, on behalf of Government of India and Dasho K. Letho, Secretary, Communications and Tourism, Royal Government of Bhutan, on behalf of his country.

The agreement covers provision of an Indo-Bhutan microwave link between Coach Behar and Thimpu. Through this microwave link, the telecommunication services comprising of telex, telegraph, telephone facilities will be provided between the two countries. By this link Bhutan will get access not only to the national network of India but also to the international network of the whole world through the electronic trunk automatic exchanges at Calcutta and Delhi.

Bhutan will also get the facilities of a micro-processor based store and forward telegraph system installed at Calcutta Central Telegraph Office. In course of time facilities like International subscriber dialling, International telex etc. between the two countries will also be provided.

The project of Indo-Bhutan microwave link has been founded by the Ministry of External Affairs. Orders for the equipment was placed by Border Road Organisation, equipment was manufactured by the Indian Telephone Industries Ltd., and the scheme was engineered, installed and tested by the P & T.

Earlier, Dasho K. Letho called on the Minister of Communications Shri V. N. Gadgil, and discussed matters of mutual interest.

UTAN INDIA RUSSIA USA

Date : Oct 22, 1984

# Volume No

1995

BULGARIA

Protocol on Mutual Cooperation in Economic, Scientific and Technical Fields Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Oct 15, 1984 on the signing of a protocol on mutual cooperation in Economic, Scientific and Technical fields by India and Bulgaria:

The seventh session of the Indo-Bulgarian Joint Commission for Economic, <pp-299>

Scientific and Technical cooperation concluded here today with the signing of a protocol by the Indian Agriculture Minister, Rao Birendra Singh, and the Bulgarian Minister of Machine-building, Mr. Ognyan Doynor, the two Co-Chairmen of the Commission.

The Commission noted with satisfaction the development of economic, scientific and technical cooperation between the two countries on a mutually advantageous basis since the last session of the Commission and attached special significance to the talks between the Prime Minister of India, Smt. Indira Gandhi, and the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party and Chairman of the State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, Todor Zhivkov, in December, 1983 that further deepened and enriched the bilateral relations between the two countries.

### AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING

In the field of agriculture and food processing industry, both India and Bulgaria were satisfied with the successful development of supply of Indian soyabean deoiled cake to Bulgaria. The two countries also showed interest in establishing a joint venture in India for setting up a solvent extraction plant. While the oil extracted would be used in India, the deoiled cake would be exported. Bulgaria agreed to supply purelines of both egg-laying and broiler chicken to India and expressed its gratitude for India's decision to provide a certain number of buffaloes to Bulgaria. Bulgaria requested for increase in the supply in the subsequent years. India agreed to expedite supply of the number already agreed to and indicated that any request for further supply would be considered in the light of the situation then obtaining.

Both India and Bulgaria decided to explore the possibility of acquiring deep sea fishing vessels from Bulgaria with specifications suitable for Indian conditions.

# HEAVY INDUSTRY AND ELECTRONICS

In the field of heavy industry and electronics, the two countries gave a positive estimate of the cooperation between Bulgarian organisations and the General Electric Company of India for the production of on-load tap changers for power transformers and agreed to encourage further cooperation in other related fields. India noted the interest shown by Bulgaria in collaboration with Indian companies for the manufacture and setting up of mini and micro power plants.

India and Bulgaria agreed to speed up their studies on establishing industrial cooperation in the development of computer software and micro-processor-based control systems. In the field of manufacture of mini peripherals, India would study further the possibility of inclusion of mini-discs.

Bulgaria confined its readiness for cooperation in the production of electronics components in India including artificial quarter oxide magnets, syntonizing registers etc. India agreed to study the proposal. Both the countries agreed to have the trade in electronics on a balanced basis as far as possible. India's export potential of certain electronic components like tantalum capacitors, oscilloscopes, power transistors, spectrophotometers, silver mica capacitors, X-Y recorders and plotters, timers and counter etc. was noted.

The two countries evaluated positively the project for production and trade cooperation between Bulgarian and Indian organizations in the field of textile machines and agreed to assist in promoting its expansion on the basis of mutual supplies. They also agreed to explore the possibilities for expansion of cooperation in the field of metal powder and products based on metal power technology. Further, it was agreed to work for the establishment of joint ventures for castings under the method of gas counter pressure.

Bulgaria expressed interest in acquiring experience and technical assistance from India in the field of industrial equipment like special dyes, machine tools and process control instrumentation. The Commission recommended to the engineering organizations and companies of the two countries to take practical steps for cooperation in setting up of projects in third countries. Bulgaria also expressed interest to participate in various Indian projects of laying gas and oil pipelines.

# CHEMICAL AND PHARMACEUTICALS

Both the countries confirmed their interest in developing further the mutual trade exchanges in various branches of heavy chemical industry, petro-chemical industry, pharmaceutical products and preparations, perfumes and cosmetics and small tonnage of chemical products like detergents etc. and agreed to promote the expansion of bilateral trade in finished and semi-finished chemical and pharmaceutical products on long term basis. Bulgaria also showed interest in supplying veterinary products for use in stock breeding and poultry on a long term cooperation basis. Both countries agreed to explore the possibilities of joint marketing in third countries of pharmaceutical and other chemical products. While showing interest in the Indian herbal plants for the purpose of joint collaboration for extract production, Bulgaria offered to provide know-how for the production of morphine out of poppies in the form of a joint venture. Bulgaria also declared its readiness to provide know-how and technology for the production of penicillin.

The two countries confirmed their interest in the exploration and setting up of joint projects with mutual technical and financial collaboration in the field of heavy chemical industry like fertilisers, petroleum products, detergents, etc. in Bulgaria, India and third countries. The possibility of setting up projects in India for the production of soda ash with Bulgarian cooperation will also be examined.

Both the countries expressed satisfaction with the cooperation established in the production of cotton knit-wear. For production of leather gloves, they agreed to draw up a programme for speeding up the erection of production capacities and successful operation of the joint venture registered in 1983. The two countries also confirmed their readiness to exchange designs, technical and engineering services for setting up joint ventures in third countries.

## TRADE EXCHANGE

India and Bulgaria noted the reactivation in trade exchange after the decline in bilateral trade during 1983 and agreed to make serious and sustained efforts to increase it on a stable, balanced and diversified basis. They also agreed to convene regular meetings of the permanent working group on trade which would review the possibilities for trade increase and expansion of the nomenclature of the items, paying special attention to non-traditional items, such as machinery, electronic equipment and electrical engineering goods. It was agreed to explore the possibilities of concluding long term contracts for the supply of individual commodities on mutually agreed basis. It was also agreed that Bulgaria could supply urea under a long term contract to be finalised between the concerned trading organizations.

While evaluating possitively the cooperation existing between the public sector organizations and Chambers of Commerce and Industry, the two countries hoped that continued contact between them would contribute to further promotion and development of economic and trade relations between India and Bulgaria. It was also agreed that mutual participation in fairs and exhibitions should be further encouraged to get better acquaintance with the possibilities for expansion of trade in either country. They decided to nominate two nodal agencies to identify third country projects amenable to joint Indo-Bulgarian participation.

### PLANNING

The two countries evaluated positively the exchange of experience and information between their planning authorities and agreed to continue cooperation between the State Planning Committee of Bulgaria and the Planning Commission of India.

### SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION

India and Bulgaria noted the progress made in the implementation of the joint programmes for ionospheric and cosmic psysics, anticorrosive metal production and growing and genetic selection of aromatic and medical plants and expressed satisfaction with the execution of the agreements reached at the seventh and <pg-301>

eighth sessions of the Joint Sub-Commission for Scientific and Technical Cooperation. It was agreed to hold the next session of the Joint Commission in Sofia in 1986.

# Volume No

1995

## CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Five-Year Trade Agreement Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Oct 11, 1984 on the signing of the five-year trade agreement between India and Czechoslovakia:

India and Czechoslovakia have signed a new trade and payments agreement for the period 1985-89.

The agreement, which was signed recently in Prague by Shri S. M. Krishna, Minister of State for Commerce and Supply on behalf of India and by Mr. Bohumil Urban, Minister of Foreign Trade, Socialist Republic of Czechoslovakia, emphasises the need to encourage bilateral trade by tapping new forms of trade promotion through industrial cooperation and cooperation in third country markets. Both sides have also agreed to identify new fields of economic cooperation, development and better utilisation of resources and production facilities in both the countries on a mutually beneficial basis.

Goods available for export from India to Czechoslovakia have been enumerated. These include agricultural products, minerals and ores, chemicals and allied products, leather and leather manufactures, textiles and engineering goods. Similarly goods available for export from Czechoslovakia to India have also been identified.

The agreement is substantially on the pattern of the existing agreement which was concluded in 1979 and will expire on December 31, this year. Under the new agreement too, both the Governments have agreed that the existing bilateral clearing arrangements under which payments for all commercial and non-commercial transactions would be made in non-convertible Indian rupee should continue.

Both Governments have also agreed to grant to each other the Most Favoured Nation (MFN) treatment in respect of all internal taxes, laws, regulations and requirements in connection with imports and exports between the two countries.

Since the signing of the first trade and payments agreement in 1959 between India and Czechoslovakia, there has been a spectacular growth in bilateral trade. The volume of two-way trade has gone up from Rs. 6 crores in 1953 to Rs. 134 crores in 1983.

Czechoslovakia supplies to India steel and steel products, seamless pipes, tubes and casings, textile and printing machinery and other capital goods. In turn, India exports de-oiled cakes, iron ore, cotton yarn and other traditional goods, nontraditional items like finished leather, woollen and synthetic fabrics, ready-made garments, machine tools, etc, to Czechoslovakia.

Czechoslovakia has also assisted India in setting up many industrial projects both in the public and private sectors. These projects have helped to meet the increasing indigenous demand and also to create additional capacity for exports.

# INDO-CZECHOSLOVAK TRADE

The commodities being exported by India to Czechoslovakia are predominantly <pp-302>

traditional like de-oiled cakes, coffee, pepper, cotton yarn, iron ore, jute manufactures, tanning and semi-tanned hides and skins, mica, manganese ore, castor oil and shellac. Traditional items constitute about 60 per cent of the total exports from India to Czechoslovakia.

More than three quarters of India's imports from Czechoslovakia consist of engineering products, the remaining consist of chemical products and other goods. Main items of imports thus are steel and steel products; seamless pipes, tubes and casings, machine tools, ball bearings, diesel generating sets, organic and inorganic chemicals, textile machinery, shoe-making, tanning and leather making machinery, components and spares for tractors, capital goods and components for Czechoslovak assisted projects.

#### **TRADE PLAN FOR 1984**

The trade plan for 1984 envisages a total turn-over of Rs. 411 crores (imports from Czechoslovakia being Rs. 196 crores and exports to that country being Rs. 215 crores).

The trade plan aims at increasing the trade turn-over by 6.5 per cent over that of the previous year. Exports are expected to go up by 8 per cent. Export basket is mostly comprised of agricultural products (Rs. 82 crores), textiles (Rs. 51 crores), engineering goods (Rs. 26 crores), minerals and ores (Rs. 29

crores), chemicals (Rs. 13 crores) and leather and leather goods (Rs. 11 crores).

Increased provisions have been made for exports in 1984 for cotton yarn, molasses for industrial use, auto-ancillaries, cashew kernels, tobacco and manganese ore from India to Czechoslovakia.

Some new non-traditional items have been added to the Indian export basket for 1984 for the first time, They are flour mill equipment, turbo blowers, xerographic equipment, drug manufacturing machinery, graphite electrodes and power cables.

A review of the implementation of the trade protocol for the current year has revealed that against the trade turn-over of Rs. 1,335 million in 1983, a turn-over of Rs. 1,704 million is anticipated in 1984. Exports from India are likely to exceed imports from Czechoslovakia by about Rs. 550 million.

During the period January-July, 1984, Czechoslovak imports from India amounted to Rs. 600 million, which is a 50 per cent increase over the level of the same period last year. Czechoslovak imports consisted of some agriculture products like de-oiled cakes, black pepper, cashewnuts and increase in nontraditional items like iron ore concentrates, finished leather, woollen carpets, etc. A new item, viz. Xerox photocopy machine, was also contracted. Czechoslovak exports to India till the end of July, 1984, amounted to Rs. 250 million.

## INDUSTRIAL COOPERATION

Some of the projects set up with Czechoslovakian collaboration in the public sector are Heavy Electrical Corporation, Ranchi; Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited, Hyderabad; Bharat Heavy Plates and Vessels, Visakhapatnam; Machine Tools Institute, Bangalore; and ZETOR tractors, Pinjore. Some of the private sectors projects are M/s Hindustan Tractors, Baroda; M/s. K. S. Diesels, Bombay and Ideal Jawa, Mysore.

Export of coke oven batteries, heavy duty transformers, electric motors and steel structurals manufactured at HEC and BHEL to Czechoslovakia is under consideration. <pp-303>

RWAY SLOVAKIA INDIA CZECH REPUBLIC USA RUSSIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC **Date :** Oct 11, 1984

# Volume No

# JAPAN

Japanese Grant Aid for Delhi University

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Oct 12, 1984 on the Japanese grant aid for Delhi University:

An agreement for extension of grant aid of Yen 500 million (equivalent to Rs. 2.40 crores approximately) by the Government of Japan to Delhi University for the year 1984-85 has been signed here today.

The agreement has been signed by Shri P. K. Kaul, Finance Secretary, Ministry of Finance, Government of India and H.E. Mr. Takumi Hosaki, Ambassador of Japan to India on behalf of their respective Governments.

The grant will be utilized for import of equipment services from Japan for modernization of the centralized Instruments facility at the University services and instrumentation centre, university of Delhi.

Speaking on the occasion, the Japanese Ambassador recalled that the Japanese Prime Minister had announced the willingness of Japanese Government to aid this project during his visit to India in May, 1984.

PAN INDIA **Date** : Oct 12, 1984

# Volume No

1995

KOREA

Three-fold Trade Increase Aimed at Between India and DemocraticPeoples' Republic of Korea in 1985

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Oct 27, 1984 on the trade talks held between India and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in Pyongyang:

There will be freer flow of trade information on requirements for

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consumption and development between India and the Democratic Peoples' Republic of Korea with a view to giving an impetus to bilateral trade. This will include specific information regarding setting up of plants, requirements of materials and machinery and consultancy for projects. This was decided at the trade talks held recently between the two countries at Pyongyang.

Both countries agreed that with improvement in the flow of trade information, it would be possible to achieve a three-fold increase in the level of trade between the two countries by 1985. Bilateral trade between India and D.P.R. Korea is presently of the order of \$ 38 million.

In a move to ensure the realization of their trade targets, both India and D.P.R Korea have agreed to streamline procedures in order to eliminate delays in nomination of ships and opening of Letters of Credit.

New items which have a potential for export to D.P.R. Korea have been identified in the agreed record of discussion which was signed by the leaders of the two dele-<pg-304>

gations on the conclusion of their talks. These are jute bags, cotton textiles, tyres, nylon conveyor belts, seamless steel tubes, wirerods, nylon cord for tyres, graphite electrodes, coffee, tea, mining equipment including earth moving equipment etc.

Tentative quantities for export from India during 1985 of certain new as well as traditional items have been indicated in the agreed record of discussion. These include sugar, copper reverts, cotton fabrics, iron ore, chrome ore, high and low carbon ferro manganese, cotton and cotton linter etc.

Similarly, tentative quantities for export of several items by D.P.R. Korea to India during 1985 too have been included in the agreed record of discussion. Some of the items are: cement, steel plates and sheets, structural alloy steel, rail axles and wheels, kyanite and mangnesia clinker etc.

The four-member Indian delegation was headed by Mr. Anand Sarup, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Commerce.

REA INDIA NORTH KOREA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC ITALY **Date :** Oct 27, 1984

# Volume No

# MAURITIUS

#### Arrival Speech by President in Port Louis

The following is the speech by the President of India, Giani Zail Singh, on arrival at Port Louis, Mauritius on Oct 22, 1984:

Your Excellency the Governor-General, Honourable Prime Minister, Excellencies, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen, I thank you very much, Your Excellency, for your kind invitation which brings me here, and for your warm and friendly welcome. I bring to you the greetings and feelings of affection and high esteem in which the Government and people of India hold you, your Government and the people of Mauritius.

Relations between our two countries are so close that I already feel at home in your beautiful Island. We are not only joined by the shores of Indian Ocean and our faith in democracy, secularism and socialism. We are also linked by ties of common history and blood from the day your forefathers from India set their feet on the shores of this Island. Both our nations are members of the Commonwealth and the Non-aligned Movement and have a common outlook and commitment to peace and development. Our Prime Minister Shrimati Gandhi's three visits to Mauritius and yours and Honourable Prime Minister's several visits to India are a measure of the closeness of our relations.

I am also happy that my visit coincides with the 150th Anniversary Celebrations of the arrival of Indian Immigration and Abolition of Slavery. These celebrations are a befitting tribute to those brave men and women who, with their sweat, toil and blood, transformed this barren island into the garden that Mauritus is today. We in India fully share your emotions while recalling the sacrifices made and the hardship suffered by the slaves and early immigrants in building this nation.

I once again thank you for this warm reception. I am reminded of a Kural written by great sage Tiruvalluvar "True friendship is not that which dimples the face with smiles, but that which make the heart rejoice". Such has been my feelings since I stepped on your soil. I do hope that this visit of mine would further enhance our friendship and add a new dimension to our already close relationship. Thank you. <pg-305>

URITIUS USA INDIA **Date :** Oct 22, 1984

# Volume No

#### 1995

### MAURITIUS

#### Speech at International Seminar

The following is the speech by the President of India Giani Zail Singh, at the inauguration of the international seminar organised at Mahatma Gandhi Sansthan connected with Indian Immigrants at Koolie Ghat, Mauritius on Oct 23, 1984:

Your Excellency the Governor-General, Hon'ble Prime Minister, Distinguished Guests coming from foreign countries, Ladies and Gentlemen, I bring to your magnificient country the heartiest greetings of the people of India. The water of Indian Ocean links us in a unique relationship of mutual affection. Both our countries take inspiration from the same tradition and culture. Both the countries have adopted the principles of parliamentary system, socialism and secularism for social advancement. In the international forum, our two countries strongly support nonalignment and world peace. We are both raising our voices against the tension created by the increasing presence of big powers in the Indian Ocean. While there is a vast scope for friendship between India and Mauritius, there is no possibility for any antagonism or differences between us. I am very happy to visit such an extremely friendly country.

#### HISTORICAL OCCASION

I have come here on an historical occasion. Today the 150th anniversary of the arrival of Indians in this country is being celebrated. Those conversant with the history of Mauritius know that this land was barren. There were no aborigines here. Arabs, Portuguese and Dutch etc. wanted to colonise it, but they did not succeed. The French farmers soccessfully populated this place with the help of African slaves and Indian artisans. After its occupation by the British in 1810, a new era of reconstruction started here. The Indian labour coming here on contract basis carried this reconstruction work to its ultimate goal. They began arriving in 1834 when slavery was legally abolished. Every inch of this land bears testimony to the struggle and sufferings undergone by Indian labourers during this period of construction. Your countenances glowing with dignity and recognition are living witnesses of their courage and self-confidence. Today's function on the one hand expresses your awareness of and gratitude to history, it also on the other hand reflects the effect of the

aspirations of your forefathers on your life today. On this occasion I visualise my presence here denoting a special meaning and purpose.

The forefathers to whom you are paying tributes today are my forefathers also. It is on their sweat and blood that our present unbreakable relationship rests. They did not come here with evil motives, but to import happiness to others even by bearing suffering themselves. India has always preached the message of universal happiness. The discovered monuments of ancient civilizations of the world demonstrate that the echo of Indian philosophy was heard by all. The inspiring life of Agastye is visible in the history of South East Asia. The message of compassion of Lord Buddha touches the hearts of the people even today.

To set forth abroad is not a new phenomenon for the Indians; but they have never gone as invaders. To spread the spirit of tolerance, respect for all religions and welfare of everyone has always been their ideal.

In course of time when India's period of glory waned, Indians during the British rule went as labourers to the British colonies. To some places they went as traders too. Even though theirs was a life of struggle, nevertheless, their souls were replete with the great ideals and values of India. Therefore, they worked with devotion and dedication for the development of whichever country they went to.

Mauritius has a special place in the history of Indian emigration. Here they had not interacted with any aboriginal society. They were in majority amongst all other immigrants. Therefore, the responsibility of raising this country to the status of a nation and establishing love, harmony and goodwill amongst the various <pg-306>

social and ethnic groups here rested on their shoulders. I am proud that the people of Indian origin have proved themselves equal to this historic task.

#### CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

India has a deep interest in the cultural development of Indian immigrants. India has been extending cultural cooperation to Indian immigrants through the Indian Council for Cultural Relations and other such organisations. Just as the well-being of India affects you, your welfare is also dear to our hearts.

India-Mauritius relations are extremely special. In the beginning of this century, Mahatma Gandhi stayed here for some time, on his way back from South Africa. He inspired your forefathers, who were struggling for their rights. On reaching India, he sent Barrister Manilal Doctor to carry on this work. You are all aware of this chapter of history. In the present times, our Prime Minister, Mrs. Gandhi, has come here thrice. The same special consideration has brought me here too. It was difficult for me to decline the invitation of your dear leader and Governor-General, Sir Seewoosagar Ramgoolam. He is an old and deeply trusted friend of India. It is he who has given a strong base to Indo-Mauritius friendship. Your Prime Minister, Shri Anrudh Jugnauth, had also during his visit to India, cordially and repeatedly invited me to visit Mauritius. The affection of your Prime Minister overpowered me. But the most important factor was that I had a deep-seated desire to personally experience your deep feeling for India. I am so glad to be amidst you here today. I shall ever cherish the memories of this visit.

On this occasion I wish to refer to something else. It is only appropriate that you should also be celebrating the 150th anniversary of the abolition of slavery. The atrocities perpetrated on our African brothers under the despised slavery laws were not only cruel, but also inhuman. It is ironical that these were committed by people calling themselves civilised. The destiny of the slaves did not change even after the abolition of slavery.

The colonial rule was no less brutal. Under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi, India was able to free itself in 1947. Thereafter India under Jawaharlal Nehru inspired all the third world countries to seek liberation.

Today India is extending all possible assistance to these countries to progress with dignity. The countries of the third world are accepting with confidence the cooperation extended by India in the technical and scientific spheres. India is providing all cooperation to the African countries in their struggle for removing racism and apartheid from South Africa and Namibia. The doors of the universities and educational institutions of India are fully open to the countries of the third world.

Today India is rapidly advancing in all spheres. It is amongst the top ten industrialised countries. Our people with expertise in science and other fields are spread all over the world. We wish that their capabilities should be exploited to their maximum for the development and progress of the third world. This desire of ours is not because we wish to make these countries our client states. We wish so because we have ourselves suffered the nightmare of slavery and poverty for centuries. We fully know the pain of this cancer and that is why we feel that none else in this world should have to undergo such agony.

Today on the historic occasion of the 150th anniversary celebration of the arrival of immigrant Indians and abolition of slavery, I have brought for you this message from India that in your endeavours to restore honour and respect to the individual we are with you.

Today we are remembering history. Apart from India, representatives of other countries are also assembled here. I offer them all my cordial greetings. I feel that a society which does not remember its past can never give proper direction to its future. In moments of trial a living society seeks inspiration from its history and then in settled times shapes it in accordance with noble principles. It is my fervent desire that you be successful in doing this. Thank you. <pg-307>

# URITIUS USA INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC SOUTH AFRICA PHILIPPINES NAMIBIA **Date :** Oct 23, 1984

# Volume No

1995

### MAURITIUS

Jawaharlal Nehru Memorial Hospital

The following is the speech by the President of India, Giani Zail Singh, at the foundation stone laying ceremony of the Jawaharlal Nehru Hospital, Mauritius, on Oct 24, 1984:

Your Excellency the Governor-General, Honourable Prime Minister, Excellencies, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen, it is indeed a great pleasure for me to lay the foundation stone of the Rose Belle Hospital named after one of the greatest sons of mother India and one of the greatest statesmen of our times. It was Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru who laid the foundation of modern and industrially emerging new India.

Pandit Nehru was one of the most complete human beings I have known in my life. He was an Indian and deeply committed to India but his interest and commitment went far beyond the boundaries of India. He was deeply concerned about the problems of the world and was involved with the whole of humanity. Eradication of India's poverty and backwardness was to him only a part of the whole problem of the human race. He dedicated himself and worked relentlessly for a world free from threats of war and want. Pandit Nehru said that poverty anywhere was a danger to prosperity everywhere and peace in the world was all important as without peace no development was possible. The policy of Nonalignment was enunciated by him to promote peace and reduce tension in a world divided into two power blocs. His policy has stood the test of time and is more than relevant today when the arms race has further intensified and the spectre of nuclear holocaust is staring us in our faces. The Indian Ocean which is of concern to both our countries is bristling with increased military activity, and the peace of the region is threatened by the presence of foreign military bases and ships navigating in these waters in increasing numbers.

It is a befitting tribute to that messenger of peace that today, on this auspicious day of Deepawali, we are dedicating this hospital to his memory. Alleviating of the sufferings of the poor, the weak and the sick was always uppermost in his mind and it was for their well-being that he set India on the course of planned economic development. He used to call developmental projects in India the modern temples of India. I am happy that this modern temple, The Jawaharlal Nehru Hospital, is a humble gift from the people of India to the people of Mauritius and will ever stand here as a constant reminder of the undying friendship between our two peoples.

Given our close historical and cultural ties, India is keen to further co-operate with Mauritius in all possible ways. I am confident that at the next meeting of the Indian-Mauritius Joint Commission we would be able to enlarge our co-operation in years to come and take it to greater heights. On this auspicious day of Deepawali I wish and pray that our friendship may grow from strength to strength. May I wish you all a very happy Deepawali. Thank you.

URITIUS USA INDIA **Date :** Oct 24, 1984

# Volume No

1995

# MAURITIUS

Diwali Message

The following is the message of the President of India on the occasion of Diwali at Mauritius on Oct 24, 1984:

It gives me immense pleasure to be here today on the occasion of Diwali which is celebrated as a national festival in India I understand that the people of Mauritius also celebrate this as their national festival. The festivals are meant for spreading the message of love and understanding among people by removing animosities and differences. Diwali, Id and Christmas add flavour to the life in this world.

Diwali is a festival of lights, illuminating every place which symbolises courage and strength. There is a complete dark-<pg-308>

ness in the sky without moon which is overcome by lightening of a number of small lights. Man attains greatness by his effort to remove all evils in his life. "Tamso Ma Jyotirgamay" - the great Rishis of India prayed - praying the Almighty to take them from darkness into light. This symbolic prayer is meant to remove darkness from society caused by ignorance and to illuminate the society with knowledge.

This scene of illumination by thousands of lights reminds me of one event. Your forefathers settled here 150 years ago and illuminated the place as lights of Indian culture and tradition. Everyone shares the illumination of the Indian culture through you. One thing should be remembered by all of you. The light rightly used gives happiness and pleasure to the whole world but causes fire accident when used in a wrong way. This means that any deviation from right path will result in misery and distress to mankind.

The essence of Indian culture consists in the fact that all should live in happiness. That is why all our festivals are full of joy and happiness; the path of our lives are illuminated with right ideals. We have to share happiness of life among us. We become great when we share our happiness with others. Just as we spread illumination through lights, we must spread virtues and goodness in the world, through right action. This is the essence of Diwali.

I convey Diwali greetings to all of you on my behalf and on behalf of the people and Government of India. May your life be full of joy and happiness. Thank you.

URITIUS USA INDIA **Date :** Oct 24, 1984

# Volume No

1995

MAURITIUS

Statement Through Mauritius Broadcasting Corporation

The following is the statement by the President of India on the Mauritius Broadcasting Corporation on Oct 26, 1984:

My dear brothers and sisters of Mauritius, as I leave tomorrow, on my way back home, I carry with me the affection of all the people of Mauritius for the people of India. In the last five days that I have been here in your beautiful Island, wherever I went, I have been received with spontaneous warmth and love. This symbolises the special and privileged relations that exist between our two countries and our two peoples.

I am thankful to H.E. the Governor-General, Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam for having invited me to be with you during the historic celebrations marking the 150th Anniversary of the first arrival of your forefathers. Their sacrifices will not go unrecorded in history and not only the present generation but the future one - not only here but everywhere - will draw inspiration and valuable lessons from their lives. I join you in saluting those pioneers - those great souls - because of whose toil your country today is a heaven of peace and prosperity.

India and Mauritius share common ideals - common values - common beliefs and hence have a common destiny. Politically, both nations have chosen the path of non-alignment as the cardinal principle of foreign policy. We are both wedded to strong democratic traditions wherein the people's voice is always supreme. We have an identity of views on most world issues. We both have pluralistic societies demonstrating harmonious cooperation between diverse religions, ethnic and linguistic groups. In a geographical sense, we are a part of the Indian Ocean community. This Ocean, which was always peaceful, has, of late, become the theatre of great power rivalry, which is threatening to destabilise the region. In this connection we firmly continue to suport your legitimate efforts to regain the Chagos Archipelago and wish that Indian Ocean be a Zone of Peace.

India and Mauritius are both developing countries, seriously engaged in nation building and in raising the standard of liv-<pg-309>

ing of their peoples. While we both continue to fight for a New International Economic Order and in this connection vigorously pursue the North-South dialogue, we have both to realise the importance of South-South cooperation. India is happy to have been called upon to cooperate with Mauritius in a variety of economic projects. During my visit, it was my privilege to lay the foundation stone of the Jawaharlal Nehru Hospital, that shall stand as a glowing testimony to the excellent relations between us. In addition, the Mahatma Gandhi Institute, the Prof. Upadhyay Training Centre, and the Subrahmania Bharati Eye Centre are also symbols of the ever growing relations between our two countries. India since her independence 37 years ago, has achieved tremendous progress in a variety of fields. We have achieved self-sufficiency in food. Industrially, we have graduated to being one amongst the 15 most industrialised countries of the world, with an immense reservoir of trained scientific and technical manpower. We have made tremendous progress in the fields of Nuclear Energy, Space, Ocean Development, Electronics and connected fields. We have launched our own satellite; an Indian has been in space; we have designed, constructed and operated nuclear power stations and have established a permanent station at Dakshin Gangotri in Antarctica. Here I would like to make a special mention of Indo-Muritian cooperation in Oceanography, that is fast expanding. One of your scientists, Dr. Bhoojodhur will join our next expedition to the Antarctica later this year. We stand committed to assist you in whatever way we can in various scientific and technological spheres.

Your nation has also made tremendous progress since attaining independence in 1968, a large part of which is attributable to the untiring efforts of your present Governor-General, H.E. Sir Seewoosagur Romgoolam. I am happy to note that the present Government led by the Hon'ble Aneeroodh Jugnauth continues to lead your nation on to greater heights.

Most of the nations in Asia, Africa and Latin America, who were in bondage, have been liberated. We are today living in a free world - but it is sad to note that a few pockets of colonial vestiges still exist where apartheid is officially sanctioned. We ardently hope that these people will join the free band of nations in the near future.

As I mentioned earlier, we both enjoy special and privileged relations. Frequent contacts at the highest levels have helped to cement these links. It is my hope that my visit will result in further strengthening the bonds of friendship and cooperation between us.

# URITIUS USA INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC **Date :** Oct 26, 1984

# Volume No

1995

## PAKISTAN

Bilateral Talks on Locust Control

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Oct 12, 1984 on the fifth Indo-Pakistan bilateral meeting on desert locust control:

The fifth Indo-Pakistan bilateral meeting on desert locust control concluded here today with the signing of the joint proceedings by the leaders of the two delegations, Shri R. K. Srivastava of India and Mr. Anwar-ul-Haque Raazi of Pakistan.

On the basis of review of the situation by the experts, it was noted that due to dry conditions prevailing in the scheduled deserts of both the countries, there was little possibility of any major locust flare-up during 1984 and early 1985. The two delegations appreciated the close cooperation between the two countries that helped in organising control strategies and campaign against the locust menace. It was <pg-310>

acknowledged that direct radio link between the two countries had provided easy access to knowledge of the happenings on the other side. The simultaneous surveillance had significantly added to the precision in control programmes. Both sides hoped that with continued efforts even greater success would be achieved in future.

The two delegations noted with satisfaction the usefulness of the special border surveys undertaken specially during the year of recession and agreed to continue the same in future as well for which assistance from the FAO should be sought. The communication facilities in the two countries were considered adequate and the existing quantities of material resources were found to be satisfactory. Both the countries felt that in view of the strategic importance of the region, the FAO should continue to maintain buffer stocks of pesticides. It was also agreed that the FAO might be approached to allow some amount of flexibility in the matter of replenishment of stocks before the same outlive their effective shelf-life. In view of the new techniques adopted, the two countries wanted the FAO to arrange supply of imageries to improve locust surveillance. It was also decided to further strengthen field investigations on locust in both countries.

The meeting also took note of the difficult conditions in which the locust personnel were required to function depriving them of even the basic amenities of life and felt that they should be given monetary as well as other incentives to boost their morale. The delegations agreed to take up their case with the respective Governments vigorously.

The next meeting will be held at Islamabad.

KISTAN USA INDIA

# **Date** : Oct 12, 1984

# Volume No

1995

# SOUTHERN AFRICA

Prime Minister's Message to Bishop Desmond Tutu

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Oct 18, 1984 of the message by the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, sent on October 18, 1984 to Bishop Desmond Tutu, winner of Nobel Peace Prize:

On behalf of the Government and people of India and on my own, it gives me great pleasure to send you our sincere felicitations and good wishes on your selection for the Nobel Peace Prize for 1984.

India was the first country to raise its voice against South Africa's abhorrent policy of apartheid. Mahatma Gandhi did so more than 80 years ago and the Government of India took the lead in the United Nations in 1946. In recent years my Government and I have been exerting maximum effort together with enlightened public opinion elsewhere in the world to influence the South African Government to change its behaviour towards its African and Asian population. We have yet to achieve success and the struggle must go on.

The Nobel Peace Prize committee's recognition of your courageous contribution to this formidable fight will strengthen the hopes, aspirations and determination of anti-apartheid forces not only in the rest of the world but also and more importantly within South Africa. Needless to say we shall persist in our support for the achievement of our common objective. <pp-311>

DIA USA SOUTH AFRICA **Date :** Oct 18, 1984

# Volume No

### UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

#### New Vistas Economic Co-operation Between the Gulf Countries and India

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Oct 27, 1984 on new vistas/Economic Co-operation between the Gulf Countries and India:

The following are the conclusions and recommendations of the Round Table organised by the Indian Council for Research in International Economic Relations, New Delhi on 25-26 October, 1984. The participants were from the six-member countries of the G.C.C.

The Round Table was attended by the Governors of the Central Banks, leaders of financial and trade organisations and diplomatic representatives of U.A.E., Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Oman and Qatar. On the Indian side the Governor of the Reserve Bank of India, Chairmen and senior representatives of development financial institutions and chambers of commerce and India and other trade and industrial organisation as well as leading experts in financial, monetary and trade fields and senior officers of the Government of India participted. Shri Pranab Mukerjee, Minister of Finance, Industry and Commerce addressed the Round Table and conveyed to the participants the interest of the Government of India to strengthen and improve the existing ties with Gulf Co-operation Council countries and India in vital sectors of investment and trade.

The discussions at Round Table were conducted in the frame work of traditional co-operation and understanding and were comprehensive, detailed, and frank. They covered present-policy approaches in trade, investment and development, areas of complementarities in development programmes, trade patterns and imbalances, importance of oil, commodity composition of trade, trade creation in petro-chemicals, fertilisers, engineering goods and agriculture; migration, unskilled and skilled labour, consultancy services and construction contracts were also reviewed.

The Round Table also exchanged ideas and viewpoints in financial and investment relations, scope of their expansion, role of existing commercial and investment banks, setting up of new investment institutions to expand flow of loan and equity capital, and India's policy of accent during discussions was on how to translate potential for cooperative efforts into practical, real steps and programmes of action of incentives for equity investment in Indian industry, irrigation and power and tourist and hospital complexes.

The following broad conclusions and recommendations emerged from the Round table:

1. The economies of Gulf Cooperation Council countries and India have undergone basic and qualitative changes such as diversification of economic activities, industrialisation and urbanisation. These changes must be fully taken advantage of in expansion of trade and investment relations.

2. There was urgent need to augment cooperation in research and development activities especially in scientific and technological fields to study and identify new areas of cooperation and improve on the existing ones.

3. It was felt that seminars of this kind should be more frequently held in order to improve mutually beneficial trade and investment. This should be backed up by the establishment of initial linkages between organisations in India in commercial, financial and industrial sectors.

4. Long-term perspectives in trade and investment cooperation of say five years and longer needed to be kept in mind. It was felt that difficulties in the way of trade promotion were not great: more framework needed to be done in the area of investment. Cooperation among India and Gulf countries was necessary so as benefit from the successes already achiev-<pp-312>

ed would be useful in promoting future growth.

5. The entrepreneurs in India as well as in Gulf Cooperation Council Countries should be continuously more innovative and enterprising in developing their bilateral and multilateral ties.

6. Possibilities and prospects for joint investment mechanisms to tap investible funds as between India and Gulf Cooperation Council should be explored.

7. Greater publicity and recognition of progress already recorded in India-Gulf Cooperation Council.

8. Special committee and forums to tackle and overcome practical difficulties particularly when major joint projects were involved would also be helpful.

# ITED ARAB EMIRATES INDIA USA KUWAIT SAUDI ARABIA BAHRAIN OMAN QATAR UNITED KINGDOM LATVIA

Date : Oct 27, 1984

# Volume No

### UNITED NATIONS

### 39th Anniversary of United Nations Observed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Oct 23, 1984 of the keynote address at the United Nations Day Celebrations organised by the Indian Council for Cultural Relations here today (October 23, 1984 - New Delhi) by the Minister of State for External Affairs Shri Ram Niwas Mirdha:

We meet today to celebrate the thirty-ninth anniversary of the birth of the United Nations. This organisation has been with us now for well over a generation. When the Charter of the United Nations was adopted on 24th October, 1945 as a multilateral covenant by the peace-loving nations of the world, mankind was still haunted by the devastations of the Second World War and hoped that the founding of the United Nations would herald a new era of peace. The signatories of the Charter affirmed the collective desire of the humankind for universal peace, tolerance and co-existence.

Has the United Nations lived up to expectations? What has been its achievements? We hear cynical remarks by responsible world leaders questioning the dignity and utility of this unique world organisation. The UN is a product of human ingenuity. In its working we perceive the height of our aspirations as well as our frailties. Almost inexorably this institution has expanded in membership and the scope of its activities has today attained a magnitude that is stupendous by any standard. The continued existence of the UN is itself a testimony of mankind's inextinguishable urge for peace and of the depth of its cooperative instincts.

### CATALYST FOR DE-COLONISATION

During its early years the United Nations served as a catalyst for the process of de-colonisation. It drew up the very basis for the peaceful liquidation of colonialism and for transition to independent Statehood of the erstwhile colonies of Asia, Africa as well as parts of the new world. That process has by and large been completed with the notable exception of Namibia.

It is a matter of regret that United Nations has not been able to secure independence for Namibia despite continued and all-round opposition to South Africa's illegal control over the territory. Every effort must be made by all the member countries of the United Nations to take appropriate steps so that Namibia soon joins the comity of nations as a free and independent country. The role of the UN in the preservation and consolidation of international peace and security is well recognised today. We <pg-313>

are alarmed at the continued escalation of tension, the stockpiling of nuclear weapons and growing mistrust and suspicion among the powerful States of the world. The United Nations is an important forum for resolving differences between States, for articulating their concerns and for attempting the peaceful resolutions of disputes. It can be argued with some justification that the ideals enshrined in the UN Charter are not being implemented. But we must remember that if all of us - members of the United Nations - slacken in our pursuit of these ideals, the result would be global anarchy, deprivation and chaos.

### NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT

The problems facing the international community today are awesome. In a period of growing great power confrontation, the very question of the survival of human race is at stake. The United Nations must attach the highest priority to the prevention of the nuclear war and nuclear disarmament. Tension around the world need to be eliminated through the settlement of outstanding questions. Apartheid in South Africa must give way to a majority rule. In West Asia, the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people must be restored to them and Israel made to withdraw from Arab territories occupied since 1967. All countries should work together for political solutions to the problems in South West and South East Asia. These issues can only be resolved through negotiations between the countries directly concerned on the basis of principles of non-interference and non-intervention and the withdrawal of the foreign troops. The 1971 UN Declaration on the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace must be implemented through the elimination of great power military presence from the region.

## PEACE AND PROSPERITY

It is widely recognised that peace and prosperity are indivisible. Having dwelt on the issues of peace and security and UN's role in resolution of conflicts, let me briefly touch upon another vital area of UN activities which concerns economic issues and the developmental needs of States. International cooperation for development has been the topic of our age and the UN system has hitherto played a central and pivotal role in this area. The range, extent and degree of UN involvement in developmental activities - be it technical assistance, health and sanitation, food and agriculture, child or women's welfare and many more - is well-known. The great importance and utility of such activities in a troubled world such as ours can never be over-emphasised. It is, therefore, all the more distressing that during the previous few years, the set backs to UN activities in the areas of settlement of conflicts and disarmament, have been matched by reversals in its activities concerning international

economic cooperation.

The recognition of the need to find such solutions to fundamental structural problems affecting world economy took the form of an attempt to initiate global negotiations under the UN. It is deeply regrettable that in spite of persistent and patient efforts particularly by the developing countries over the last three years, it has not been possible to launch the global negotiations. However, there have been encouraging signals and the differences between developed and developing countries have narrowed down considerably. Concerted and cooperative efforts are required if the world economy is to emerge out of the slump in which it finds itself today. It is for us, the member Governments of UN to translate the idea of a world recovery programme into action through specific schemes under different bodies of the UN system.

# MULTILATERAL U.N. AGENCIES

It would follow from what I have said earlier that at a time when concerted action is required, multilateral agencies have a crucial and central role to play. We see instead today an erosion of faith in the work of multilateral developmental agencies. The validity and utility of agencies such as UNESCO, UNCTAD etc. are being increasingly questioned. Even agencies such as UNDP, UNICEF which have done commendable work face serious resource constraints. Arguments are often advanced pitting bilateral assistance against multilateral assistance and private sector ini-

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tiatives against public sector activities. The tendency to denigrate the utility of multilateral agencies needs to be deplored. Multilateral activities and assistance are essential since they are objective, free from political considerations, are non-discriminatory and are subject to international discipline. They are in fact an embodiment of international commitment to common problems of mankind.

India's commitment to the purposes and principles of the United Nations is firmly grounded in the traditions of our foreign policy. The observance of the fortieth anniversary of the United Nations next year should provide us all with an opportunity for re-dedication to the ideals that have animated the founders of this organisation. Such an anniversary should not become an occasion for mere celebration. Member countries and their peoples need to consider carefully the contribution of the United Nations system over the past four decades, its continuing relevance in the current international situation and the ways and means by which the organisation can be strengthened in order to meet more effectively the challenges facing contemporary society.

Friends, on this day, let us re-dedicate ourselves to the

principles and performance contained in the UN Charter to make the world a safer and a better place to live in. I thank the Indian Federation of the United Nations Association and the Indian Council for Cultural Relations for organising this function, where I have been given this opportunity to share my thoughts with this distinguished gathering.

# DIA USA NAMIBIA SOUTH AFRICA ISRAEL CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

# **Date** : Oct 23, 1984

# Volume No

1995

### UNITED NATIONS

Meeting of Foreign Ministers of Non-Aligned Countries at UN

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Oct 02, 1984 of the opening statement of Shri G. Parthasarathy, Chairman, Policy Planning Committee of the Ministry of External Affairs at the meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Heads of delegations of Non-Aligned countries to the 39th session of UN General Assembly in New York on October 1, 1984:

I should like to extend a cordial welcome to the Hon'ble Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Heads of delegations who have assembled here this morning. It is customary for the Non-Aligned countries to meet at the beginning of each U.N. General Assembly session to take stock of the international situation and to consider common approaches at the U.N. This is more than a ritualistic exercise. The U.N. has always served as an effective forum for the international community. Such annual meetings also provide us with an opportunity to make an assessment of the activities and directives laid down in the New Delhi declaration.

We meet in troubled times. The relations between the major powers of the world are characterised by mistrust and suspicion. A spirit of confrontation marks the exchanges between those States whose particular responsibility it is to preserve international peace and security. The arms race has undergone a qualitative change, new generations of weapons systems are being devised and strategic theories developed to rationalise their use. New technologies are being harnessed in the development of military weapons. The threat of a nuclear war has become more menacing than ever before. The imperative in such a situation would be to strengthen the forces of multilateralism and to reaffirm the purposes and principles of the United Nations. The Non-Aligned cannot afford to stand by, on the sidelines. On the contrary we must take effective steps to promote these objectives.

#### 40TH ANNIVERSARY

We are now approaching the fortieth anniversary of the U.N.'s existence. Yet the status and credibility of this great institution is itself being called into question. The process of democratisation of international relations has suffered a setback in

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recent years. There is an unfortunate tendency on the part of some to retreat from multilateralism. The earlier idealisation of the United Nations has now turned into a cynical disregard for its role in some quarters. The Non-Aligned Movement must, therefore, oppose the trend to devalue the organisation or to question its role. It is necessary for us, both individually and collectively, to reaffirm our undiminished faith in the United Nations. The Non-Aligned countries consider the United Nations indispensable in today's world. The New Delhi summit reaffirmed the movement's firm commitment to the Charter of the United Nations. It also called on the international community to observe 1985 as the year of the United Nations. The Non-Aligned countries have taken the lead to intimate proposals for appropriate commemoration of the fortieth anniversary of the U.N. next year. The occasion should be utilised to undertake an evaluation of the performance of the United Nations with a view to enhancing its effectiveness in the future. Summit level participation in this commemoration would not only invest it with significance but provide an opportunity for dialogue among world leaders to promote mutual understanding and constructive cooperation.

#### NEW DELHI SUMMIT MESSAGE

The issues that concern the Non-Aligned Movement at this session of the General Assembly are numerous. The New Delhi message adopted at the summit last year had appealed to the Great Powers to overcome mistrust and engage in sincere negotiations in a spirit of shared good faith in order to reach in sincere agreement on various disarmament measures and to find a way out of the deepenning global economic crises. It had called upon Non-Aligned countries unitedly to do everything in their power to assist this process. The informal consultations of Heads of State or Government held in New York last year had provided a unique opportunity for a collective appraisal with a view to finding speedy and just solutions to some of the major problems of the world.

Both in the United Nations and elsewhere the Non-Aligned nations have

strongly advocated negotiations on nuclear disarmament in progressive stages -- from an immediate freeze on the production, development and deployment of such weapons to reduction in the existing stockpiles, and finally for a time-bound programme for the total elimination of nuclear weapons. They have also expressed themselves firmly in favour of an immediate and comprehensive ban on the testing of nuclear weapons. and for the prohibition of the use of these weapons. Such an appeal is contained in joint declaration issued by the leaders of Argentina, Greece, Mexico, Sweden, Tanzania and India in May this year. As the Prime Minister of India said in her address to the New Delhi Non-Aligned meeting in 1981. "The nuclear race carries with it the nuclear war just as rain-cloud brings rain. Saving the world from nuclear war -- and other wars -- must be one of our foremost concerns".

The Non-Aligned community has consistently urged resumption of dialogue between the Great Powers. We welcome the recent meeting between the leaders of the USA and USSR. The deterioration in their bilateral relations in recent years had led to a worsening of the international climate and to growing insecurity in various parts of the world. Equally, a matter of conern for the Non-Aligned movement, and indeed the world community as a whole, has been the escalating arms rare. We hope that the resumption of dialogue would be sustained, and would lead to a relaxation of tensions and begin the process of resolving outstanding problems of peace and security, especially nuclear disarmament.

#### DETENTE

To be enduring and effective, the process of detente must be universal and extend to all parts of the world and cover all areas of tension. It should take into account the concern and interests of all countries, big or small. Members of the Non-Aligned Movement are ready to make a positive contribution in this regard. Several other political issues need to be urgently addressed. The crisis in West Asia continues to pose a serious threat to world peace. The tribulations of the Palestinian people, uprooted from their homeland, continue unabated. Israel persists in its acts

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of aggression and intimidation. The situation in Lebanon is also
a matter of serious concern. Israel still occupies large parts of
Arab territory. The Non-Aligned Movement has striven hard to
bring peace to West Asia, committed to the belief that the
Palestinian issue is at the core of the West Asia conflict. We
reaffirm our support to the PLO as the sole and legitimate
representative of the Palestinian people. We are also committed
to support its struggle for the establishment of an independent
Palestinian State. The Committee of Eight on Palestine set up at
the Seventh Summit has been actively pursuing its mandate. Our
efforts for the early convening of an international peace

conference on the Middle East need to be stepped up and strengthened.

#### NAMIBIA

The continuing impasse on the Namibian question is a matter for grave concern. The racist regime in Pretoria has resorted to every possible device to delay Namibian independence. The recent diplomatic efforts by that regime to project itself as a votary of peaceful change and existence cannot deceive the world. The immediate and unconditional implementation of Security Council Resolution 435 (1978) remains the only acceptable basis for a peaceful settlement.

The United Nations has primary responsibility with regard to Namibia and the Security Council must act firmly in the discharge of that responsibility. The Front-Line States are facing considerable political and economic difficulties as a result of the intimidatory policies of the Pretoria regime. They have our sympathy and full support. The National Liberation Movements in that region have been continuing their determined struggle to achieve their legitimate aspirations. We, the Non-Aligned nations, have a particular obligation to ensure that their efforts meet with success. Towards this end, we assure them of our continued solidarity and all possible material support.

Within South Africa, there has been a marked deterioration in the situation. The racist minority regime is engaged in the further consolidation of Apartheid under the guise of so called "Constitutional Reforms", designed to divide the majority non-White population of South Africa. The Chairperson of the Non-Aligned Movement, in a recent message, denounced this fraud and urged the coloured and Asian electorate to boycott the so-called "Elections". It is a matter of satisfaction that an overwhelming majority of these two communities has rejected these so called reforms by staying away from the recent elections. The latest development involving six leaders of the UDF and the Natal Indian Congress who are in the British consulate in Durban has dramatized the situation created by the Draconian measures of repression and detention which the South Africa regime has unleashed in utter violation of fundamental human and political rights.

#### IRAN-IRAQ WAR

The tragic war between Iran and Iraq has gone on for more than four long years. The two countries are both members of our fraternity and it is not in the interests of either party or the Non-Aligned Movement itself that the conflict should continue any further. India has been in touch with both countries over the past months. We have suggested that they refrain from attacking civilian targets or using prohibited types of deadly weapons. We do hope that they will exercise such restraints and recognise the inevitability of settling their differences through negotiations. We sincerely wish an end to this fratricidal conflict.

### INDIAN OCEAN

The negotiations with regard to the convening of the conference on the Indian Ocean remain deadlocked. The increasing militarisation of this area in the pursuit of global strategic objectives by the Great Powers has far-reaching and dangerous implications. We call for the early convening of the Indian Ocean conference to implement the 1971 Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace.

The situation in Central America continues to be a matter of grave concern. The interference and hostile acts directed against the countries in that region, particularly Nicaragua, have continued. We would <ppe-317>

like to see the problems of the region resolved by its own people, free from outside pressures. The CONTADORA group has made commendable efforts and has the Movement's full support. The CONTADORA initiative needs to be taken to its logical end. Meanwhile the Non-Aligned Coordination Bureau will continue to monitor developments in the region in accordance with the mandate conferred upon it by the Seventh Summit.

### CYPRUS

Efforts to promote a solution of the question of Cyprus have suffered a severe setback since the last Ministerial meeting. Our Movement has consistently stood for a united, independent and Non-Aligned Cyprus. The U.N. Secretary-General's efforts in promoting a settlement deserve appreciation and encouragement.

The world economy has been in a state of serious crisis for some time now. This was also a major pre-occupation of the New Delhi Summit. The immediate launching of global negotiations, in two phases, the implementation of a programme of immediate measures including the convening of an international conference on money and finance for development, and the promotion of increased cooperation amongst developing countries for collective selfreliance, were part of the strategy suggested by the Summit.

Since the Summit, the global ecoonmic situation has shown little cause for optimism. The slow recovery in some of the Western economies has yet to benefit developing nations. Many countries continue to be grievously affected by the crippling debt burden and high interest rates, which have, in fact, led to a reverse transfer of resources. Commodity prices have continued to fall and terms of trade have further deteriorated. The flow of concessional resources to developing countries has registered a further decline in real terms. The consequence has been a reversal in the development process of many Non-Aligned and developing countries. The situation in Africa is particularly alarming.

### INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER

A just and equitable international economic order is the very foundation of world peace and tranquillity. But regrettably, the efforts of the developing countries to impress the logic of inter-dependence upon the industrialized countries have met with little response. The recent meeting of ECOSOC and UNIDO have clearly demonstrated how unwilling developed nations are to meet even the very modest demands of the developing countries.

#### GROUP OF 77

Notwithstanding this attitude, the Non-Aligned Movement has been vigorously pursuing the comprehensive approach evolved at the New Delhi Summit. In consultation with the Group of 77 the Chairperson of the Movement set up an expert Study Group to examine various aspects of our proposal for an international conference on money and finance for development. The Group's report has been circulated. The Non-Aligned Movement should now seriously consider urging the current session of the United Nations General Assembly to initiate a preparatory process towards convening the conference.

Economic cooperation among the developing countries is just as important. Both our Movement and the Group of 77 have been undertaking efforts to harmonise each other's activities in promoting collective self-reliance. The Non-Aligned Movement has held a number of meetings in different spheres of economic cooperation identified in the action programme. These efforts will have to be intensified.

On these issues, economic and political our Movement has adopted positions in accordance with the principles that have guided us since its inception. Since the New Delhi Summit, as the Movement's chairperson, India has tried to strengthen the role of the Non-Aligned Movement and to achieve the objectives which we had agreed to at the Summit. This 39th U.N. General Assembly Session meets against the backdrop of a difficult international situation. We need to work more closely and unitedly to ensure that issues of im-

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portance receive the attention they deserve.

We are here as representatives of sovereign nations. But as the Prime Minister of India and chairperson of Non-Aligned Movement said at the New Delhi summit, "Nationalism does not detach us from our common humanity. What a marvellous opportunity is ours, with immense knowledge and increasing capability. Let us grasp it though it be in the midst of dangers. Faith in the future has brought so many of you across the continents and the oceans to meet here. We are here because we do believe that minds and attitudes can and must be changed and that injustice and suffering can and must be diminished". <pp-319>

# DIA USA ARGENTINA GREECE MEXICO SWEDEN TANZANIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC PERU ISRAEL LEBANON NAMIBIA SOUTH AFRICA IRAN IRAQ NICARAGUA CYPRUS

**Date** : Oct 02, 1984

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RMA INDIA NORWAY SLOVAKIA FINLAND GERMANY IRAN ITALY KOREA MAURITIUS USA POLAND VIETNAM

### **Date** : Nov 01, 1984

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### BURMA

India Offers Soft Loans to Burma

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Nov 26, 1984 on India's offer of credit to Burma:

India has offered credits on easy terms to Burma. The extent and modalities of soft lendings from India to Burma were discussed in a meeting between the Commerce Minister, Shri Pranab Mukherjee, and U Khin Maung Gyi, Minister of Trade of Burma, when the latter called on Shri Mukherjee, here today.

Shri Mukherjee told the visiting Minister that India had developed appropriate technology which were more relevant to the developing countries, specially the neighbouring countries. He offered to share India's expertise and experiences to Burma in the field of technology and capital goods. He suggested that areas for further bilateral trade and cooperation should be identified.

Mr. Gyi told that the Burmese delegation was highly impressed by

India's achievements in the field of small-scale industry and hoped that India could offer more capital goods and appropriate technology to Burma.

Both sides agreed that more trade delegations should be exchanged between the two countries.

### INDO-BURMESE TRADE

Trade between India and Burma is covered by a bilateral trade agreement signed on May 28, 1970. The agreement provides for accord of Most Favoured Nation (MFN) treatment to mutual trade and to merchant vessels by the two Governments.

From 1980-82 onwards the balance of trade has been in favour of Burma. During the year 1983-84 the bilateral trade increased significantly to Rs. 40.46 crores from Rs. 21.08 crores in 1982-83 and Rs. 9.25 crores in 1981-82.

An eight member Indian delegation led by the Commerce Secretary, Shri Abid Hussain, visited Burma from April 22-25, 1984. The delegation offered to extend a commercial credit of Rs. 10 crores to finance the exports of capital goods of Indian manufactures and Indian consultancy services, etc. As a follow-up to the proposal a team from the EXIM Bank visited Burma from September 22-26, 1984.

Major items of exports from India to Burma are glassware, coal, lignite, fat, chemical and allied products, articles of rubber, paper and paper board, lead, metal manufactures, machinery and transport equipment, iron and steel. India imports from Burma rice, vegetable and fruits, teak wood, tungsten ores and concentrates.

India has also potential for exports to Burma of jute and jute bags, iron and steel items, synthetic fabrics and also in the field of oil, metals, small and medium size machinery, coffee, tea, construction materials, farm machinery, rice milling equipment and railway rolling stock.

### TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

India has offered technical assistance to Burma in the development of its small scale, chemical and other industries. The offer was made by Shri N. R. Laskar, Union Minister of State for Industry, to the Burmese Deputy Minister of Industry, U. Maung Ohu, here today, according to a press release issued in New Delhi on November 28, 1984.

The Burmese delegation evinced keen interest in the setting-up of soda ash and <pg-321>

caustic soda plant with India's assistance. Shri Laskar offered to set-up these projects on turn-key basis either in large scale or medium scale sectors, as desired.

It was pointed out that India has acquired a lot of expertise in the conveyer system for mining which could be gainfully employed by Burma. The Burmese delegation was informed that India has developed most modern foundry technology and could provide the same to them. The National Small Industries Corporation, a Government of India undertaking, can carry out feasibility studies for small industrial projects, preparation of detailed project reports, selection and supply of machines and training of personnel. It could also set up specialised proto-type development in training centres in such areas as wood work, agro based products and general engineering.

U. Maung Ohu said that Burma will be interested in the training of their personnel in different fields in India.

### BURMESE TRADE DELEGATION'S VISIT TO CRI

The Burmese delegation led by U. Maung Ohu, Deputy Minister of Industry of Burma visited the Cement Research Institute of India (CRI) in New Delhi on November 29. The delegation included U. Thaung Sein, Director of the Burmese Minning Corporation and other senior officials.

The members who spent about three hours visiting the laboratories evinced keen interest in the R & D accomplishments of CRI and the modern sophisticated infrastructural facilities available at the Institute. They showed particular interest in the areas of process engineering, raw materials technology and quality control. The possibilities of collaborative arrangements between the two countries in various aspects of cement manufacture were also discussed.

The eight member Burmese trade delegation is at present on a visit to India for bilateral talks for further cooperation in the field of industry, trade and commerce.

### RMA INDIA USA UNITED KINGDOM RUSSIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC **Date :** Nov 26, 1984

## Volume No

1995

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

### Indo-Czech 1985 Trade Target at Rs. 441 Crores

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Nov 30, 1984 on the Indo-Czech trade protocol:

The Indo-Czech trade protocol for 1985 envisages a trade turnover of about Rs. 441 crores between the two countries. In the 1985 trade protocol which was signed recently in Prague, the targetted trade turn-over of exports from India have been projected at Rs. 223 crores and imports from Czechoslovakia at Rs. 218 crores during 1985.

In 1985 the actual trade turn-over is expected to reach a level of Rs. 150 crores as against Rs. 134 crores in 1983, thus registering a growth rate of 12 per cent.

chrome ore, finished leather, shellac and shellac based products, deoiled cakes, cashew kernels and black pepper, etc.

Indian imports from Czechoslovakia would mostly comprise of items like - rolled steel products, diesel generating sets, seamless pipes, tubes and casing machine tools; ball, roller and taper bearings; fertilizers and components for Czech assisted projects.

Both sides agreed that areas of commercial interaction between the two countries should be widened with a view to further strengthening the bilateral economic and commercial relations. In that direction the Czech side proposed having an exhibition of Indian electronics items in Prague with a view to acquaintng the Czechoslovak buying organisations about the Indian capabilities and technological advancement in this area. A delegation from BHEL is also expected to visit Prague soon for discussions on collaboration with HMT in the field of machine tool (particularly, horizontal boring machines).

The trade and payment agreement covering the period 1985-89 has been concluded between the two Governments recently. It has been agreed that the perspective plans for the exchange of commodities and goods covering the above period may be concluded at an early date. For that purpose, the first round of discussions would be held in New Delhi in February, 1985.

# RWAY SLOVAKIA INDIA CZECH REPUBLIC USA RUSSIA ITALY **Date :** Nov 30, 1984

# Volume No

1995

FINLAND

Double Taxation Avoidance Convention Between India and Finland

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Nov 20, 1984 on the avoidance of double taxation between India and Finland:

The Government of India have entered into a convention with the Government of Finland for the avoidance of double taxation with respect to taxes on income and on capital. The convention has been notified in the Gazette of India Extraordinary, dated November 20, 1984. This convention would revise the existing double taxation avoidance agreement between India and Finland and enter into force on November 18, 1984. Its provisions shall have effect in India in respect of taxes for assessment years beginning on or after April 1, 1985.

The existing double taxation avoidance agreement between India and Finland is being amended to incorporate in it the changes effected in the Income-tax Act by the Finance Acts of 1975 and 1976. Such changes relate to taxation in India of income from fees for technical services, royalties and interest based on source rule and prescription of limits on the admissibility of head office expenses in the assessments of the branches of foreign companies in India.

Under the new convention for avoidance of double taxation between India and Finland, allowance for head office expenses in the case of Finnish enterprises operating in India through their permanent establishment would not exceed the limits prescribed in the Income-Tax Act. Further, all royalties and fees for technical services earned by the Finnish enterprises in India would be taxed in India on gross basis but at a rate of 30 per cent of such income (instead of the normal rate of 40 per cent).

The new convention would extend to wealth tax also.  $<\!\!pg-323\!\!>$ 

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### 1995

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

Indo-FRG Financial Cooperation Agreement Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Nov 30, 1984:

A West German Development Loan Corporation will provide a loan of 19.6 million DM (about Rs. 7.75 crores) to meet foreign exchange costs of the purchase of goods and services for Indian civilian requirements. An agreement to this financial co-operation was signed here today by Shri M. S. Mukherjee, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Finance and His Excellency G. Schodel, FRG Ambassador in India, on behalf of their respective Government.

The FRG will provide DM 360 million (about Rs. 142 crores) as aid to India in 1985. Of this, project aid will be of the tune of DM 210 million, the remaining DM 150 million being non-project aid (i.e. commodity aid, capital goods credit and loans to Indian financial institutions).

RMANY INDIA UNITED KINGDOM

**Date** : Nov 30, 1984

## Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Government of India's Tribute to Shrimati Indira Gandhi

The following is the text of a press release of the notification issued by the Government of India:

The brutal assassination of India's great leader and beloved

Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, on Oct 31, 1984 has plunged the entire nation into deep anguish and profound sorrow. Indira Gandhi, like her illustrious father, Jawaharlal Nehru belonged not only to the people of India but to all humankind. The world has lost an outstanding statesman.

Born at Allahabad on November 19, 1917, Indira Gandhi was influenced in her childhood by Mahatma Gandhi, Motilal Nehru, Jawaharlal Nehru and other great leaders of the Indian freedom movement. From her early years she was active in the national liberation struggle. During the 1930 movement, she formed the 'Vanar Sena', a children's brigade to help freedom fighters.

### SCHOOLING IN EUROPE

In the late twenties, she had her schooling in Europe, where her mother Kamala Nehru spent some time for medical treatment and later in Pune and Bombay. In 1934, she enrolled in Rabindranath Tagore's Visva Bharati, but had to leave after a few months to accompany her ailing mother to Europe. Kamala Nehru passed away at Lausanne, Switzerland, in 1936. The following year Indira Gandhi went up to Somerville College, Oxford University.

Jawaharlal Nehru's correspondence with her from jail was the formative intellectual influence in her life. His letters, later published as "Letters from a Father to a Daughter" and "Glimpses of World History", stimulated her curiosity and helped mould a questioning and questing spirit, heir to the riches of world civilisation, but firmly rooted in Indian culture. 9g-324>

She became a member of the Indian National Congress in 1938. Soon after her return to India in March 1941, she plunged into political activity. On March 26, 1942, she married Feroze Gandhi, who was himself a valiant freedom fighter and known to the family for many years. She attended the session of the All-India Congress Committee in August 1942 which adopted the famous 'Quit India' resolution. Soon thereafter she was arrested and imprisoned until her release in May 1943. In August 1944, her first son Rajiv was born. Her second son Sanjay was born in December 1946.

#### NEW PHASE

Her public activity entered a new phase with India's independence in 1947. She took over the responsibility of running the Prime Minister's House. Besides, she was deeply involved in social and child welfare work. The Congress, which had been her political home ever since her childhood, soon drew her into leading political roles, first as member of the Congress Working Committee in 1955 and later as member of the Central Parliamentary Board in 1958. In 1959, she was elected President of the Indian National Congress, She oriented Congress thinking and action towards basic issues confronting Indian society and enthused the younger generation in the task of nation-building.

In September, 1960, Feroze Gandhi passed away.

When Jawaharlal Nehru died in May 1964, Indira Gandhi was persuaded by Lal Bahadur Shastri to join his Cabinet as Minister of Information and Broadcasting. On the outbreak of widespread language riots in Tamil Nadu in 1965, Indira Gandhi rushed to the State and by her tact, understanding and statesmanship assuaged the feelings of the people and brought the situation under control.

#### GENERAL ELECTIONS

On January 19, 1966, after the death of Lal Bahadur Shastri, she was elected leader of the Congress Parliamentary Party and sworn in as Prime Minister on January 24, 1966. She led the nation in that capacity until March 1977. Having steered her party to success in the General Election of 1967, she undertook a series of moves in the Congress in the direction of radical social and economic policies. Her fight against the status-quo and vested interests produced sharp ideological conflicts leading to the Congress split of 1969. The overwhelming majority of Congressmen and women rallied round her. In the General Election of 1971 she returned to power with a decisive majority - a clear vindication of people's approval of her decisions.

In June, 1975 she was compelled to declare an internal emergency to meet the threat of subversion of constituted authority. Early in 1977 she called for elections to the Lok Sabha in which the Congress Party was defeated. During 1977-1980 when she was out of power, people witnessed her indomitable courage in the face of a systematic campaign of persecution and vilification. No effort was spared to defame her and her family. Numerous cases were launched against her on the flimsiest of grounds. She was arrested and kept in jail on charges that did not stand upto judicial scrutiny. Although elected to the Lok Sabha in a byelection she was deprived of her seat in utter disregard of the popular verdict. She faced all this with stoic heroism and continued to champion the cause of the downtrodden and the oppressed. Wherever she went during this period, hundreds of thousands of people gathered to demonstrate their respect and affection for her and their confidence in her leadership. In the General Election held in January, 1980, the people recalled her to power with a landslide majority.

Earlier in 1978 she had to face another split in her party because of her steadfast adherence to the basic principles and pro-people ideology of the Congress.

EVENTFUL YEARS

In the eventful years of Indira Gandhi's leadership, Indian society underwent profound changes. While maintaining continuity of the basic strategies and policies of the Nehru period, she transformed the structure of politics by placing the issue of poverty in the forefront of national de-<pg-325>

bate. Her commitment to a just social order was manifested in a series of historic measures beginning with the nationalisation of banks and the abolition of privy purses. This process culminated in the formulation and implementation of the 20-Point Programme with focus on ameliorating the condition of the poor masses.

She was unremitting in her endeavour for the unity and solidarity of the nation. A staunch defender of the secular ideals of the Constitution, she worked tirelessly for the social and economic advancement of the minorities. Her abiding concern for their welfare was reflected in the special measures taken by Government for guarding their religious, cultural and educational rights and for expanding their employment opportunities. She worked indefatigably for eradicating communal violence which she called 'a slur on the fair name of India'.

Her vision of a modern, self-reliant and dynamic economy found concrete expression in the rapid strides made by Indian agriculture, industry and science. The technological transformation of our agriculture has made the country selfsufficient in foodgrains, an achievement few thought was in the realm of possibility. The wide base of our industrial structure and the strength and resilience of the infrastructure, especially of the energy section, are in no small measure due to the strong impulse of modernisation she transmitted to the planning process.

#### WELFARE OF KISANS

In her scheme of things the welfare of kisans and workers had high priority. Far-reaching reforms were adopted to give land to the tiller and to improve the lot of agricultural labour. Programmes for small and marginal farmers have yielded substantial benefits in terms of higher productivity and incomes. Under her leadership, the farming community received credit and the inputs of modern agriculture and assured remunerative prices, which have provided real incentives for higher production.

The working class has developed as a major social force, thanks to her strategy of vigorous industrialisation. Under her inspiration the public sector has come to occupy the commanding heights of the economy, and the workers have been a major beneficiary of her socially progressive approach to their problems. India is among the few developing countries with a corpus of labour legislation that protects the rights of workers and enables them to improve their skills and incomes. In a crisis-ridden international economic environment, the Indian economy has exhibited stability and strength to develop on the basis of its own resources. That India has come through the severest global crisis since the Great Depression with an impressive record of growth and without the disruption imposed by the world-wide process of adjustment is the measure of her leadership. She gave substance to our striving for self-reliance and created a strong base for rapid advance.

### SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Her unflinching commitment to the cause of India's science and technology has been responsible for the remarkable spurt of creativity shown by our scientists and technologists. In every sphere of modern science, and specially in the sophisticated areas of peaceful uses of nuclear energy and space, India has emerged as a force capable of closing the technological gap, Her constant encouragement to scientists to reach new frontiers made possible a number of advances. The growth of ocean development within a short time and the expedition to Antarctica mark the distance we have travelled since Indira Gandhi assumed leadership of the nation. For her, science and technology were the means for the betterment of the masses.

#### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Sensitive to the harm that thoughtless and unimaginative economic development can do, she was among the few international figures to have emphasised the supreme importance of environment in our thinking for the future of humanity. Like a seer she drew on the wisdom and insight of our ancient culture to point out, in her moving address at the U.N. Conference on the Human Environment at Stockholm in 1972, the danger posed by the plunder of nature <pp-326>

to the future of humanity and pleaded for a pattern of development in which man will live in harmony with nature. We owe to her the consciousness of the need to protect our forests, rivers, lakes, air and wild life for a truly human existence.

### CREATIVE ACTIVITY

Indeed it can be said that there was no creative activity, political, economic, scientific or cultural, in which she did not take interest and which she did not enrich. Her commitment to the heritage of this country and its cultural values was profound. With it came support to all aspects of art, craft, theatre, dance and music. During 1965-74 she was Chairman of the Sangeet Natak Akademi. She took special interest in the work of the Dakshina Bharat Hindi Prachar Sabha as its President. For her enduring contribution in the intellectual sphere she received doctoral degrees and awards from a large number of universities and scientific academies in this country and abroad. For her outstanding work in the field of family planning she was given the U.N. Population Award in 1983.

Among her many sided pursuits, the one to which she gave touching personal care was the welfare of the handicapped. She instituted several programmes for the blind and the physically disabled. A nation-wide campaign for treatment of leprosy was launched. Her personal concern for the handicapped has brought a new ray of hope for them.

She was a tireless crusader for the uplift of the underprivileged. She initiated concrete and lasting programmes for the economic and social betterment of the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes, the backward classes and other weaker sections. These are now an integral part of the national antipoverty programmes. She aroused the conscience of the community for upholding the rights of women and their social and economic advancement.

A lover of mountains, Indira Gandhi's sympathy with the hill people and their distinctive pattern of life lay behind the special programmes devised for hill development. She travelled to the remotest parts of India, including our outlying islands, to integrate these isolated communities into national life. The people of these areas claimed her as their own, out of their boundless affection and gratitude for her sincere devotion to their cause.

### YOUTH WELFARE

Herself a product of the national freedom movement, Indira Gandhi accorded concrete recognition to the sterling services rendered to the country by the freedom fighters.

She devoted a great deal of time and energy to youth welfare. She was keen that India's youth should excel in sports. Honouring her commitment to hold the Asian Games in India, she gave to Delhi the most modern stadia and other facilities which are the envy of many a capital city. The constant encouragement and guidance given by her to the development of sports was fittingly recognised by the conferment on her of the Gold Order of the International Olympic Council in 1983.

Never making any compromise where national security was concerned, she was acutely conscious of the need for modernisation of our defence forces to deal with the new challenges posed by the deterioration in our security environment. She provided a vigorous thrust to the indigenous effort to make India self-reliant in this sensitive and vital sphere. Thanks to her unstinted support to policies for technological upgradation of our defence, the Indian armed forces today are fully capable of safeguarding the nation's integrity. She went beyond the machines to the men who use them. For the defence forces she initiated wide-ranging policies to improve their service conditions and morale. Her personal concern for the problems of exservicemen is reflected in a series of measures taken by Government to improve their employment terms.

In a stewardship of many achievements, particularly memorable was the courage and outstanding statesmanship which she showed in dealing with the Bangladesh crisis in 1971.

### DEDICATION TO U.N. IDEALS

Indira Gandhi epitomised the aspirations of the entire human race. She was <ppg-327>

dedicated to the ideals to the United Nations and principles of its Charter. She was one of the world's foremost champions of peace and total disarmament. She stood for an international order in which power was tempered by compassion, and knowledge and capability were at the service of humanity. She was unstinting in her support for the liberation of dependent countries. Like her illustrious father, she was against all forms of exploitation and considered political and military blocs as impediments to world peace. She was also the foremost voice advocating a lessening of economic disparities among nations. She was in the front rank of the Non-Aligned Movement, to which she provided content, dynamism and cohesion. She was elected the Chairperson of that Movement at the Seventh Non-Aligned Summit which met in New Delhi in March 1983.

Indira Gandhi never flinched in the face of dangers and challenges. In times of extreme crises, personal or national, she showed indomitable courage and fortitude. She moved among the millions giving them courage and drawing sustenance from them.

#### BHARAT RATNA

As a mark of esteem in which she was held by hundreds of millions of her countrymen and woman the nation conferred its highest award 'Bharat Ratna' on her in 1972.

In spite of her total involvement in the cause of the nation at home and peace and progress for the entire human family, Indira Priyadarshini was always full of vibrant vitality and joy, taking interest in all that was beautiful in nature. But this magnificent life of radiance and charm was brutally and heinously cut short on October 31, 1984 by a dastardly and treacherous act perpetrated in her own residence by two of those who were charged with her security.

To Indira Gandhi the preservation of the unity and integrity of the country was a sacred mission to which everything else had to be subordinated. For defending the unity of the country she fought boldly and vigorously against communalism, obscurantism, revivalism and religious fundamentalism of all types. She repeatedly warned the nation that communalism and obscurantism were the tools employed by the forces of destabilisation. She laid down her life in defence of the ideals on which the unity and integrity of the Republic were founded. The martyrdom of Mahatma Gandhi and Indira Gandhi for upholding the unity of India will reverberate across the centuries.

Rarely in history has one single individual come to be identified so totally with the fortunes of a country. She became the indomitable symbol of India's self-respect and self-confidence. Death came to her when she was at her peak, when her stature and influence were acclaimed the world over.

In the tragic death of Indira Gandhi, India has lost a leader of unwavering dedication and consistent brilliance at a crucial moment of political and economic development. The nation owes a great debt of gratitude to this decisive, radiant and compassionate personality. Her father had described himself as a person who loved India with all his mind and heart and whom the Indian people in turn deeply loved and revered. This was equally true of Indira Gandhi. The people of India will have abiding affection and respect for this great leader, who served them till her last breath.

Only a day before her death she said:

"Even if I die for the service of the Nation, I shall be proud of it. Every drop of my blood, I am sure, will contribute to the growth of this nation and make it strong and dynamic."

The nation grieves the untimely passing of this great daughter of India and places on record its admiration and gratitude for her work for the country's integrity, strength and advance. <pp-328>

DIA USA LATVIA SWITZERLAND SWEDEN CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC BANGLADESH OMAN **Date :** Oct 31, 1984

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1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Visit of Dignitaries

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi of the list of dignitaries, countrywise, who came to Delhi between November 1-3 for the funeral of Smt. Indira Gandhi:

Country Name and Status

- 1. Afghanistan H.E. Mr. Sultan Ali Keshtamand, Chairman of Council of Ministers
- 2. Algeria H.E. Mr. Abdel Hamid Brahimi, Alternate member of FLN Party Polit Bureau
- 3. Angola H.E. Mr. Jose Ceasor Augusto, Ambassador of Angola in Moscow
- 4. Arab Republic of Egypt H.E. Dr. Refaat El-Mahgoub, Speaker of People's Assembly
- 5. Argentina H.E. Dr. Victor Martinez, Vice-President
- 6. Australia H.E. Sir Ninian Stephen, Governor General
- 7. Austria H.E. Dr. Norbert Stegor, Vice-Chancellor
- 8. Bangladesh H.E. Lt. Gen. H. M. Ershad, President
- 9. Belgium H.E. Mr. Daron Charles Nothamb, Deputy Prime Minister
- 10. Bhutan His Majesty Jigme Singye Wangchuck, King
- Bahrain H.E. Shaikh Khalifa Bin Suleman Bin Mohammad Al Khalifa, Minister of Labour and Social Affairs
- 12. British Colombia Hon'ble Mr. Gardo Gordom, Minister of Inter-Governmental Affairs
- 13. Brunei H.E. Mr. Haji Jaya Bin Abdul Latif High Commissioner of Brunei in Lilongue
- 14. Botswana H.E. Mr. G. K. T. Chieto, Foreign Minister
- 15. Brazil H.E. Mr. Joroe D'Escragnolie Taunay, Ambassador of Brazil in India <pg-329>
- 16. Benin (West Africa) Foreign Minister
- 17. Bulgaria H.E. Mr. Todor Zhivkov, President
- 18. Burma Ambassador
- 19. The Bahamas H.E. Mr. D. Hopburn, Permanent Representative to the U.N.
- 20. Barbados H.E. Mr. Louis Tull, Foreign Minister
- 21. Belize H.E. Mr. Senator Rogers, Government Leader in Senate
- 22. Chile H.E. Mr. Carlos Bustos, Ambassador of Chile
- 23. China H.E. Mr. Yao Yilin,

Vice-Premier of the State Council

- 24. Cyprus H.E. Mr. Spyros Kyprianou, President
- 25. Colombia H.E. Mrs. Nelly Turbay De Munoz, Ambassador of Colombia in India
- 26. Cuba H.E. Mr. John Almoda Bosque, President of the Council of State
- 27. Canada H.E. Mr. Charles Joseph Clark, Foreign Minister
- 28. Czechoslovakia H.E. Mr. Lubomir Strougal, Prime Minister
- 29. Denmark H.E. Mr. Ufte Ellemann, Foreign Minister
- Dominica H.E. Mr. Edward Alexander, 3rd Secretary, Eastern Caribbean Commission, Ottawa
- 31. Ethiopia H.E. Comrade Fikra Sellarie Wolgeves, Member of the Polit Bureau of the Workers Party
- 32. Finland H.E. Mr. Kalon Sorsa, Prime Minister
- 33. Fiji H.E. Sir Kamisese Mara, Prime Minister
- <pg-330>
- 34. France H.E. Mr. Laurent Fabius, Prime Minister
- 35. Gabon H.E. Dangue Rawaka, Ambassador of Gabon in Morocco
- 36. G.D.R. H.E. Mr. Horst Sindermann, Member Political Bureau of the Socialit Unity Party of Germany
- 37. Gambia H.E. Mr. Bakry Darbo, Vice-President of Gambia
- 38. Germany F.R.G. H.E. Mr. Hans-Districh Genscher, Minister of Foreign Affairs
- 39. Ghana H.E. Dr. Obod Asamoush, Foreign Minister
- 40. Greece H.E. Mr. Andreas Papandreau, Prime Minister
- 41. Guyana H.E. Mr. H. D. Hoyte, S.C.M.P. Prime Minister and First Vice-President
- 42. Holy see H.E. Archbishop Agostino Cacciavillan Apostolic Pro Nuncio in India
- 43. Hungary H.E. Sandor Gaspar Vice-President
- 44. Indonesia H.E. Mr. Umar Wirahadi Kusumali Vice-President
- 45. Iran H.E. Mr. Ali Akbar Velayati Mir Salim, Minister for Foreign Affairs
- 46. Iraq H.E. Mr. Arshad Al-Ziberi Minister of State
- 47. Ireland H.E. Dr. Garrot Fitzgerald,

Prime Minister 48. Italy H.E. Mr. Giulia Androettei, Minister for Foreign Affairs 49. Japan H.E. Mr. Yasuhiro Nakasone, Prime Minister 50. Jordan H.R.H. Crown Prince Hassan 51. Jamaica H.E. Mr. Keith Johnson, Ambassador to U.S.A. <pg-331> 52. Kenya H.E. Mr. Mwai Kibaki, Vice-President 53. Korea - DPR H.E. Mr. Park Song Chul, Vice-President 54. Korea - Republic H.E. Mr. Mun Saick Chao, Speaker 55. Kuwait H.E. Dr. Abdul Rahman A. Al-Awadi, Minister of Health 56. Kampuchea H.E. Mr. Heng Samrin, President 57. Lao - PDR H.E. Mr. Souphanonvong, President 58. Libya H.E. Dr. Miftah-al-Usta Omar, President of the Socialist Peoples Libyan Arab Jamahiriya 59. Liberia H.E. Dr. Harry F. Moniba, Vice-President of the Interim National Assembly 60. Lesotho H.E. Mr. Borensokhonyana,

High Commissioner of Lesotho to Kenya

- 61. Malaysia H.E. Mr. Dato Musa Bin Hatani, Deputy Prime Minister
- 62. Madagascar H.E. Mr. Ratsuata President
- 63. Male H.E. Mr. Sidi Mohamed Djire, Ambassador to Saudi Arabia
- 64. Malta H.E. Miss Agatha Barbara President
- 65. Mauritius H.E. Mr. Anorood Jugnauth Prime Minister
- 66. Mexico Senor Munoz Led Permanent Delegate to UN
- 67. Mozambique H.E. Mr. Samora Machel, President
- 68. Mongolia H.E. Mr. T. Ragchaa, 1st Deputy Chairman of Council of Ministers
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69. Malawi H.E. Mr. K. Banda, Minister of Local Government & Chairman of Central Region of Malawi Congress Party

70. Maldives H.E. Mr. F. Jameel,

Minister of Foreign Affairs 71. Nauru H.E. Mr. Hammor DeRoburt, President 72. Niger H.E. Mr. Sory Mamdu Giallo, Member of the Military Council 73. Nigeria Brig. Tunde Ideag ben, Prime Minister 74. Norway H.E. Mr. Svenn Stray, Foreign Minister 75. Nepal H.E. Mr. Ganesh Mansingh, Prime Minister 76. Netherlands H.R.H. Prince Claus 77. New Zealand H.E. Hon'ble David Russel Lange, Prime Minister 78. Nicaragua H.E. Mr. Ernesto Cardenal, Minister for Culture H.E. Mr. Qais Bin Abdul Munin, 79. Oman Deputy Prime Minister 80. Pakistan H.E. Gen. M. Zia-Ul-Haq, President 81. Papua New Guinea H.E. Mr. Namaliu Rabbie, Minister for External Affairs and Trade 82. Peru H.E. Mr. Alfonso Rivero, Ambassador 83. Philippines H.E. Madame Emelde Romualdez Marcos, Wife of the President 84. Poland H.E. Prof. Henryk Jahlonski H.E. Dr. Mario Suares, 85. Portugal Prime Minister 86. P.L.O. H.E. Mr. Yassar Arafat, Chairman <pg-333> 87. Oatar H.E. Mr. Khalid Bin Abdulla Al-Ataiyah, Minister of Public Works 88. Romania H.E. Mr. Chooroha Raduloscu, Vice-President 89. San Marino H.E. Mr. Bruna Rossai, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs 90. Sao Tome & Principe H.E. Madam D. Aldo Esperito Santos, President of National Assembly 91. Saudi Arabia H.E. Dr. Mohamad El Mulhum, Minister of State and Member of Council of Minister 92. Senegal H.E. Mr. K.S. Cisso, Ambassador in Tokyo 93. Seychelles H.E. Mr. Joseph Belmout,

Minister of Labour and Social Secretary 94. Singapore H.E. Dr. Tony Tan Kangyam, Minister for Finance, Trade and Industry

95. Sierra Leone H.E. Mr. Victor E. Sumnar, High Commissioner in London

96. Spain H.E. Mr. Felice Gonzalez Marquez,

Prime Minister

- 97. Sri Lanka H.E. Mr. J. R. Jayawardene, President
- 98. Sudan H.E. Mr. Abdal Moreim M. Mustafa, Ambassador
- 99. Surinam H.E. Mr. Ramdat Misier, Acting President
- 100. Sweden H.E. Mr. Lonnart Bodstrom, Foreign Minister
- 101. Swaziland H.E. Mr. S. M. Mamba, Minister of Agriculture and Cooperation
- 102. Switzerland H.E. Mr. Pierro Aubert, Foreign Minister
- 103. Syria H.E. Mr. Abdul Halim Khaddam, Vice-President
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- 104. Tanzania H.E. Mr. Julius Nyerere, President
- 105. Togo H.E. Mr. Boumbera Alassounouma, Ambassador of Togo in Beijing
- 106. Thailand H.E. Mr. Farapass Limpabandhu, Deputy Foreign Minister
- 107. Trinidad & Tobago H.E. Mr. Kamaluddin Mohd. Minister of Agriculture, Lands and Food Production
- 108. Tunisia H.E. Mr. Mongi Kooli, Minister Delegated to Presidency
- 109. Turkey H.E. Mr. Kaya Erdam, Deputy Prime Minister
- 110. Uganda H.E. Dr. A. Milton Obote, President
- 111. U.S.S.R. H.E. Mr. Tikhonov Nikolai Alexeovich Prime Minister
- 112. U.A.E. H.E. Mr. Shaikh Hamden Bin Mohammed AINahayyan, Deputy Prime Minister
- 113. U.S.A. H.E. Mr. George P. Shultz, Secretary of State
- 114. Uruguay H.E. Mr. A. Aguirre, Ambassador in Japan
- 115. Vanuatu H.E. Father Walter Lini, Prime Minister
- 116. Venezuela H.E. Mr. Manuel Perez Guerrero, Minister of International Economic Affairs
- 117. Vietnam H.E. Mr. Troueng Chinh, President of State Council
- 118. Yemen-PDR H.E. Mr. Ali Nasser Mohammed, President
- 119. Yemen-AR H.E. Mr. Abdul Aziz Abdul Chani, Prime Minister
- 120. Yugoslavia H.E. Veselin Djuvanovic, President

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- 121. Zambia H.E. Dr. K. Kaunda, President
- 122. Zimbabwe H.E. Mr. R. G. Mugabe, Prime Minister
- 123. U.K. H.E. Mrs. M. Thatcher, Prime Minister

LIST OF ORGANISATIONS

Name of the Organisation Head of the Delegation

Arab League H.E. Mr. Chedli Clibi

Commonwealth H.E. Mr. S. S. Ramphal, Secretary General

- E.E.C. Hon'ble Mr. R. Burke, Commissioner for European Communities
- European Parliament H.E. Mr. Siegbert Alber, 2nd Vice-President
- U.N.E.S.C.O. H.E. Mr. Raja Roy Singh, Assistant Director General
- U.N.O. H.E. Dr. Xavier Perez De Cuellar, Secretary General
- World Red Cross H.E. Mr. Hans Hooch, Secretary General of World Federation of Red Cross Societies, Geneva

### LIST OF INDIVIDUALS

Name of the Person

Mr. H. H. Aga Khan Mr. Abdul Wali Khan & Wife H.R. H. Princess Anne of U.K. Mr. A. Bandranaike, leader of Opposition in Sri Lanka

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Mrs. Sirimavo Bandranike, leader of Sri Lankan Freedom Party Mr. Udaya Nanayakkara, Son-in-Law Mrs. Sunothra Nanayakkara, Daughter H.H. Prince Gyanendra of Nepal, Mr. James Callaghan, Former Prime Minister of U.K. Mrs. S. Hasino Wazed, Leader Awami League, Bangladesh Mr. S. M. Goya, Opposition Leader in Fiji Mr. Zubin Mehta & Wife, of New York.

DIA USA AFGHANISTAN ALGERIA ANGOLA RUSSIA EGYPT ARGENTINA AUSTRALIA AUSTRIA BANGLADESH BELGIUM BHUTAN BAHRAIN COLOMBIA BRUNEI BOTSWANA BRAZIL BULGARIA BURMA BAHAMAS BELIZE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC CHILE CHINA CYPRUS CUBA CANADA NORWAY SLOVAKIA DENMARK DOMINICA ETHIOPIA FINLAND FIJI FRANCE GABON MOROCCO GERMANY GHANA GREECE GUYANA HUNGARY INDONESIA MALI IRAN IRAQ IRELAND ITALY JAPAN JORDAN JAMAICA KENYA KOREA KUWAIT LIBYA LIBERIA LESOTHO MALAYSIA MADAGASCAR MALDIVES SAUDI ARABIA MALTA MAURITIUS MEXICO MOZAMBIQUE MONGOLIA MALAWI NAURU NIGER NIGERIA NEPAL NEW ZEALAND NICARAGUA OMAN PAKISTAN GUINEA PAPUA NEW GUINEA PERU PHILIPPINES POLAND PORTUGAL QATAR ROMANIA SAN MARINO SAO TOME E PRINCIPE SENEGAL SEYCHELLES REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE SIERRA LEONE UNITED KINGDOM SPAIN SRI LANKA SUDAN SWEDEN SWAZILAND SWITZERLAND SYRIA TANZANIA THAILAND TUNISIA TURKEY UGANDA UNITED ARAB EMIRATES URUGUAY VANUATU VENEZUELA VIETNAM YEMEN YUGOSLAVIA ZAMBIA ZIMBABWE

**Date** : Oct 31, 1984

### Volume No

1995

### HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

1984 Nehru Award for International Understanding to Smt. Gandhi

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Nov 14, 1984 on the 1984 Nehru Award for International Understanding to Smt. Indira Gandhi:

The 1984 Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding has been posthumously given to Smt. Indira Gandhi. Making an announcement here today at a Press Conference, the Vice-President Shri R. Venkatraman, who is also the Chairman of the Jury said:

"I am honoured to announce that the Jury for the Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding having carefully considered the numerous nominations received from all over the world has unanimously decided that the Award for 1984 be given, posthumously, to Smt. Indira Priyadarshini Gandhi, the late Prime Minister of India.

For close to sixteen years, Indira Gandhi was Prime Minister of India. During these years she provided outstanding leadership, stable and democratic Government and vital stimulus for impressive economic, scientific, social and cultural progress within the country, and internationally, vigorous support to all liberal causes and anti-Apartheid struggles, peace and disarmament efforts, and to promotion of international understanding through mutual consultation, economic cooperation and cultural exchange.

In her key note address at the Non-Aligned Summit at New Delhi Indira Gandhi had stated "Nationalism does not detach us from our common humanity. What a marvellous opportunity is ours, with immense knowledge and increasing capability. Let us grasp it though it be in the midst of dangers.... Our world is small but it has room for all of us to live <pg-337>

together in peace and beauty and to improve the quality of the lives of men and women of all races and creeds".

This was the fundamental ideal, which motivated her. For her, freedom, peace and prosperity are indivisible in a humanity which is one family. Therefore, wherever freedom was suppressed where religious fanaticism, racial arrogance or economic exploitation prevailed, where social injustice subsisted, cultural or nature's resources being despoiled, or the spectre of nuclear annihilation raised, Indira Gandhi was an intrepid warrior, from the tender age of 12. Where there was need for sympathy, understanding, a protective hand, counsel, conciliation and cooperative endeavour, whether at the level of the common man or the level of Heads of State and Government, Indira Gandhi was as gentle as a mother, and as wise as a sage for with her many years in public life, she was very much an elder statesman. Her personal friendship with many world leaders, of the developing and developed countries, as also of national liberation movements, contributed much, in moments of crisis, to the diffusion of these crisis. Her friendship and rapport with leading intellectuals and cultural personalities of the world was also a potent asset in promoting the ideals of peace and universal brother hood.

For Indira Gandhi the threat of nuclear annihilation was the greatest and most immediate threat that mankind faced and the Non-Aligned Movement was the greatest peace movement of all time. As chairperson of the Non-Aligned Movement, she was not only the inspiration and spokesman of the NAM countries, but also the link between these and the developed countries. In these role she constantly strove for political and economic justice for developing countries and disarmament and peace in the world. Her most recent initiative was the six-nation appeal which she alongwith Heads of State and Government of Argentina, Mexico, Tanzania, Greece and Sweden made to the Superpowers in May 1984, for nuclear disarmament.

By her exceptional personal and leadership qualities, and her outstanding contributions to National independence, unity and progress, and to promotion of international peace, friendship, co-operation, disarmament and universal brotherhood, Indira Gandhi has most eminently merited the Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International understanding. The Jury has therefore unanimously decided to bestow the 1984 Award on her.

### BACKGROUNDER

The Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding was instituted by the Government of India in 1964 to honour and perpetuate the memory of Jawaharlal Nehru, shortly after his demise in May, 1964. The Award is given annually for outstanding contribution to international understanding, goodwill and friendship among the people of the world. The Award is administered by the Indian Council for Cultural Relations of the Ministry of External Affairs.

The Award carries an amount of Rs. 2,50,000/- in cash and a special citation.

The previous recipients of this award were: U Thant (1965), Late Martin Luther King Jr (1966), Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan (1967), Yehudi Menuhin (1968), Mother Teresa (1969), President Kenneth D. Kaunda (1970), President Josip Broz Tito (1971), Andre Malraux (1972), President Julius K. Nyerere (1973), Raul Prebisch (1974), Jonas Salk (1975), Giuseppe Tucci (1976), Tulsi Meherji Shrestha (1977), The Most Ven Nichidatsu Fujii (1978), Nelson Mandela (1979), Barbara Ward (1980), Gunnar Myrdal and Alva Myrdal (Jointly Awarded) (1981), Dr. Leopold Sedar Senghor (1982) and Dr. Bruno Kreisky (1983).

An independent Jury meets to make the selection each year. The Jury consists of seven eminent Indians including the Vice-President and Chief Justice of India, who are permanent exofficio members. Other members of the Jury are: (i) One Chief Justice of a State High Court; (ii) One Vice-Chancellor of a University; (iii) One person representing the Press in India; and (iv) Two eminent persons from public life. The Secretary of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations is Secretary to the Jury. <pp-338>

The members of the present Jury are: Shri R. Venkatraman (Chairman), S/Shri Justice Y. V. Chandrachud, Justice S. S. Sandhawalia, G. Parthasarathi, Pupul Jayakar, Syed Hamid, Ganesh Shukla, P. A. Nazareth (Secretary).

DIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC ARGENTINA MEXICO GREECE SWEDEN TANZANIA UNITED KINGDOM

**Date** : Nov 14, 1984

### Volume No

1995

### HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

#### We Will Build for an India of 21st Century: Prime Minister'sBroadcast to Nation

The following is the text of a press release of the text of the broadcast to the nation on Nov 12, 1984, by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi:

Fellow Citizens, yesterday the mortal remains of Indira Gandhi were consigned, as she had wished, to the mighty Himalayas. Her immortal spirit beckons to us to build the India of her dreams.

Mahatma Gandhi breathed new life into our ancient land. He brought us freedom and taught us that the highest virtues are truth, love and non-violence. Jawaharlal Nehru laid the foundations of a politically and technologically modern India democratic, secular, socialist, non-aligned.

Indira Gandhi built firmly on these foundations. She made the sovereignty of the people a reality and strove to ensure that policies and laws secured their rights. She fought against fanaticism and narrowness in all their forms. She made the nation self-reliant in agriculture, industry and several branches of technology. She battled relentlessly against poverty. Hers was the foremost voice for international peace in our tense and troubled world.

Most important of all, she infused us with self-confidence and a sense of purpose. She gave us back our pride. This splendid heritage has been left to us by Indiraji. I pledge to preserve this precious legacy and to work for a united, strong and prosperous India devoted to the cause of peace.

Nothing is more important than the unity and integrity of our nation. India is indivisible.

Secularism is the bedrock of our nationhood. It implies more than tolerance. It involves an active effort for harmony. No religion preaches hatred and intolerance. Vested interests, both external and internal, are inciting and exploiting communal passions and violence to divide India. Answering communalism with communalism will only help these subversive and secessionist forces. The combined might of the people and the Government will thwart their designs. There is only one India. It belongs to all of us.

#### BASIC OBJECTIVES

Speedy removal of poverty is our basic objective. The Government is judged by the degree and quality of change it can bring about. Five years ago, when the people recalled Indiraji to office, she promised an effective Government and she kept her promise. Food production and energy output have touched record levels. Science has surged forward. Industry has resumed its dynamic movement. Employment opportunities are expanding. The economy has withstood the most severe natural calamities and international crises. The political and economic standing of India in the world is higher than ever.

I reaffirm our adherence to socialism and planning. Without planning we could not have reached where we are. Our aim is continuous modernisation, higher productivity and rapid advance of social justice.

In our Plans, rural development will have priority; greater production of cereals, pulses and oilseeds; spread of irrigation; support for small industries and handicrafts and all-round induction of new technology. Large expansion of employment, specially for rural and urban youth, is essential to reduce economic disparities and to ensure social peace. For this, high rates of growth in agriculture and industry will have to be achieved, <pg-339>

### PUBLIC SECTOR

The public sector has played a historic role in laying the foundation of a modern economy. It has to shoulder greater responsibilities; and to become more efficient to generate surpluses for investment.

Within the framework of national policies, the private sector has adequate scope to enhance the productive potential of the economy. But it should acquire the strength competition provides by reducing costs and absorbing new technology. Both public and private sectors must venture out into new fields, improve quality and develop indigenous technology.

Kisans and workers are the pillars of our economy. The focus of our policies on their welfare will be sharpened.

Government will remain unwavering in its resolve to improve the living and working conditions of the scheduled castes, the scheduled tribes, backward classes, artisans, agricultural labour, women and the urban poor. The 20-Point Programme of Indira Gandhi, which aims to fulfil the immediate needs of the people, will be faithfully and effectively implemented.

#### GREATEST WEALTH

Our greatest wealth is our people. We must enable individuals and families to realise their potential to the full. For this we shall stress programmes of family planning, nutrition, welfare of women and children, control of disease, elementary and adult education, sport and better communication. I am committed to improving the quality of service to the people. I want to tell all those involved in this task that if they work with integrity and dedication, they will have full protection from outside pressures and interference. But I also want to tell them that no quarter will be given to the corrupt, the lazy, the inefficient.

Our administrative system must become more goal-oriented. A new work-ethic, a new work-culture must be evolved in which Government is result-bound and not procedure-bound. Reward and punishment must be related to performance. A strong concern for efficiency must permeate all institutions.

The last few years have witnessed notable advances in science and technology. Indira Gandhi had a fine partnership with scientists, which helped the nation. I shall keep up this interaction.

The creative arts give to life the vision of inner truth and beauty. We owe much to our craftsmen who have carried on centuries-old aesthetic traditions and to our artists and writers. We have to conserve our priceless heritage and to create an environment in which art will flourish.

### EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM

Our educational system needs to be reconstructed as a dynamic force for national growth and integration. I intend to initiate a comprehensive review of the system and to build a national consensus for reform.

For nation-building, the first requisite is peace - peace with our neighbours and peace in the world. Our security environment has been vitiated. Sophisticated arms have been inducted on a large scale into our neighbourhood and into the Indian Ocean. We can depend on our armed forces to ensure the country's inviolability. The Government will continue to do all it can for the modernisation of defence and the welfare of our service personnel and their families. I take this occasion to greet our jawans and officers, in whose hands the nation's honour and integrity are safe.

Eminent leaders and representatives of the world's nations came here last week bringing to us their people's sympathy. I made it clear to them that India will continue its work for international peace, friendship and cooperation.

### FOREIGN POLICY

Jawaharlal Nehru bequeathed to us a foreign policy which Indira Gandhi so creatively enriched. I shall carry it forward. I reaffirm our adherence to the United Nations, to the Non-Aligned Movement and to our opposition to colonialism, <pg-340> old or new. We are determined to work for narrowing international economic disparities.

We want to develop closer relations with each one of our immediate neighbours in a spirit of peace, friendship and cooperation. This is what we have offered to Pakistan. We have always believed that non-interference, peaceful coexistence and non-alignment should be the guiding principles of our relationship. We shall further pursue the concept of common regional development of South Asia. Our relations with China are improving and we shall continue to seek a satisfactory solution to the difficulties.

We highly value the wide-ranging and time-tested relationship with the Soviet Union, based upon mutual cooperation, friendship and vital support when most needed.

We have always been friends with both the East and the West, as they are called, and we want better relations between them.

With the United States of America, we have a multifaceted relationship. We attach importance to our economic, technological and cultural cooperation with them.

I wish also to assure the peoples of other regions - the Arab world, South-West and South East Asia, the Far East and the Pacific, Africa, Latin America, the Carribbeans, and Western and Eastern Europe that we are keen on strengthening political and economic relations with them.

Indira Gandhi reminded us that the most important single challenge before the world today is the threat of nuclear war. We shall continue her relentless crusade against the arms race. She was equally concerned about the global economic crisis.

We shall persevere in the efforts to promote a dialogue between the North and the South and to build a just world economic order.

The assassination of Indira Gandhi is a grave and critical moment. There has been a churning of the sub-conscious of our people. It is in moments of crisis that India awakens and responds with clarity and new creative endeavour. Out of turmoil must arise an intelligence that builds a vital sense of togetherness, creates order and establishes a deeply human relationship between man and man.

### ANCIENT HERITAGE

Our heritage, the most ancient, and that left to us by the torchbearers of freedom, rests on secularism and tolerance. Indira Gandhi gave her life in building an India which was rooted in these basic tenets. We have to fuse the wisdom of our seers with the insights and artifacts of science and technology. We have to conserve and cherish our heritage - political, cultural and philosophic. We have to establish a right relationship with our natural resources, strengthen our newly won self-reliance. With this we must have the courage to boldly innovate, for change is demanded in our methods of work, in the absorption of new knowledge, in the values we generate for ensuring a meaningful and creative life for our people.

As we build today so will be the tomorrow. Together we will build for an India of the 21st Century. Together we will transform what needs transformation. Together we will face challenges and obstacles to progress. Together we will create an India that is strong, wise and great - a flame of peace and tolerance. <pg-341>

### DIA USA LATVIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC PAKISTAN CHINA **Date :** Nov 12, 1984

	Volume No	
1995		
IRAN		
Indo-Iran Joint Commissio	n	

The following is the, text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Nov 27, 1984 on the second session of Indo-Iranian Joint Commission:

Welcoming the 23-member Iranian officials delegation led by His Excellency Syed Md. Hussain Adili, Acting Deputy Minister, for the second session of the Indo-Iranian Joint Commission meeting here today, Shri I. S. Chadha, Additional Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs said:

"It is a privilege for me and my colleagues here to welcome your Excellency and members of your delegation for the second session of the Indo-Iranian Joint Commission. We have had the pleasure of welcoming you here, Dr. Adili earlier in May 1984 and I am sure that you will be at home with us.

### BOND OF FRIENDSHIP

Excellency, as we have had the occasion to mention to visiting Iranian dignitaries and your Ambassador and representatives here, Iranians are and will always be treated as brothers and dear friends in this country. We deal with each other with a bond of friendship and fellow-feeling. Geography, history, culture, religion and arts have bound us together since times immemorial and we have been constantly endeavouring to further strengthen these bonds especially in today's context when both our Governments and people face the gigantic task of national reconstruction and development. We have in India today a flourishing economy, a viable agricultural and industrial base encompassing all facets of modern agricultural and industry, trained manpower which is one of our greatest assets and also we have made significant strides in science, technology, education etc. As both our countries are members of the developing world it is but natural that we consult together to find ways and means of mutual cooperation. The revolutionary regime in Iran has adopted a policy of neither East nor West and has joined the vast majority of nations as a member of the Non-Aligned Movement. I am happy to say that we are in a position today, with our capabilities and capacities, to enter into cooperation with your Government and people in the task of national reconstruction over a very wide range of activities.

Peace and stability are essential for progress and both our countries have been endeavouring to achieve peace in the region and elsewhere. In this respect the Government of India and our people have been making all efforts in consultation with other leaders in the Non-Aligned Movement and elsewhere for a just and speedy end to the unfortunate conflict which has been raging between Iran and Iraq for more than four years. Tremendous loss of life and property has taken place and the beneficiaries have been the outside powers. It is our earnest desire that both Iran and Iraq be enabled to divert their vital energies and resources towards reconstruction, progress and stability within their borders as also in the region and elsewhere. The continuation of conflict will lead to the intervention of outside powers and gain at our expense in the region.

#### FIRST SESSION

Last year our former Foreign Minister, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao led our delegation for the first session of the Joint Commission in Tehran and held discussions on various aspects of mutual interest and benefit. Certain recommendations were made and decisions taken concerning the strengthening of bilateral cooperation in diverse fields. It would be the task of this session to review the progress made since July, 1983 in diverse fields. We on our part have been extending all possible help in the context of the Joint Commission and <pp-342>

although some progress has been achieved concerning our cooperation in industry, pharmaceuticals, transportation, agriculture, instrumentations, development of water resources etc., there is much greater scope in all fields.

The Iranian authorities have responded in a positive manner and we do hope that the progress achieved so far will be further consolidated so as to more accurately reflect the goal of greatly strengthened relations agreed upon by the two Governments. Our former Foreign Minister had extended an invitation to the Iranian Commerce Minister to visit India and we were happy to receive H.E. Mr. Jafri and his delegation in New Delhi in May, 1984. Detailed discussions were held during the Commerce Minister's visit and certain decisions arrived at. It was then mentioned that Iran would step up its imports from India to the level of \$ 225 million from \$ 75 million per annum against our imports of more than \$ 600 million and would enter into negotiations for purchases specially those which are required in bulk quantities such as rice, sugar etc. We have also offered a total range of exports of manufactured goods, engineering items, industrial plants, machinery, equipment consultancy services etc. As six months have passed since then we would wish to review the progress made in achieving this target.

We would be also reviewing the progress of bilateral cooperation concerning consular affairs, culture, information technical cooperation etc. Here one of the matters of due anxiety to our Government is the procedures being followed by the Iranian authorities concerning the visas, residence and work permits of Indian nationals who either reside in Iran or go there for business etc.

#### MUTUAL COOPERATION

Excellency, we have enough time to have detailed discussions on various aspects of mutual cooperation and for this purpose I would suggest that we follow the general pattern set in Tehran with detailed discussions taking place in three sub-committees, namely sub-committee on economic and industrial cooperation; trade; and cultural, scientific and technical cooperation. We have drawn up a provisional agenda for discussions and other matters proposed by our delegations can be discussed in the various sub-committees as mutually agreed to and if not we will leave it to the third sub-committee on cultural, scientific and technical cooperation, to discuss such matters. We would be happy to arrange discussions between your colleagues and various departments in the Government of India and arrange visits to places of any particular interest which you or your members may like to visit during the next few days before the plenary session.

AN INDIA USA CHAD IRAQ RUSSIA **Date :** Nov 27, 1984

## Volume No

1995

#### IRAN

Joint Statement of Second Session of Indo-Iran Joint Session

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on the joint statement of the second session of the Indo-Iran Joint Commission:

At the invitation of the Government of the Republic of India, H.E. Ali Akbar Velayati, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran, paid an official visit to India to attend the second session of the Indo-Iran Joint Commission held in New Delhi from 26th November to 30th November 1984. The Foreign Minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran was accompanied by a high-level delegation consisting of officials from the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Commerce, Agriculture, Industry, Higher Education, Islamic Guidance, Shipping, IRNA, Voice and Vision of Iran and Fisheries Organisation.

During his visit H.E. Dr. Velayati was received by H.E. Giani Zail Singh, President of India, and by H.E. Shri R. Venkataraman, Vice-President of India.

MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER

H.E. Dr. Velayati was also received by H.E. Shri Rajiv Gandhi, Prime Minister of India. <pg-343>

In the course of this visit, H.E. Dr. Ali Akbar Velayati and H.E. Shri G. Parthasarathi, Chairman, PPC, exchanged views about bilateral relations and international issues of mutual interest. H.E. Dr. Velayati also called on H.E. Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, Minister of Home Affairs of India and H.E. Shri A. A. Rahim, Minister of State for External Affairs of India.

The Government of India warmly welcomed the Foreign Minister of Iran and his delegation. This was indicative of the close relations existing between the two Non-Aligned countries. Talks were held in an atmosphere of friendship, warmth and understanding.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran once again reiterated the deep regret of the Government and people of the Islamic Republic of Iran and of his own at the assassination of Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi, the great and beloved leader of India and expressed the confidence that the new Government of India would continue to follow her in pursuing her policies of independence and modernisation. He also declcared the desire of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to continue and further consolidate her friendly and close relations with India.

The Government of India appreciated and thanked the Government and people of the Islamic Republic of Iran for their sympathy on the assassination of India's former Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi. They called for further strengthening of the friendly ties existing between the two countries.

### CLOSE TIES

The visit of the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran to India is a symbol of the close ties existing between the two countries and has contributed to the further consolidation of these ties. All discussions between the two delegations were held in an atmosphere of cordiality in keeping with the long historical and cultural ties that exist between the two countries and the common values they share as two Non-Aligned and developing countries.

Both sides reviewed the progress made in achieving the objectives outlined at the first session of the Indo-Iran Joint Commission held in Tehran in July 1983. Both sides agreed that the Joint Commission meetings had laid a solid foundation for further bilateral cooperation.

### AGREED MINUTES

At the conclusion of the meeting of the Joint Commissions, the two sides signed agreed minutes which provide for the further strengthening of their bilateral cooperation in various fields including industry, trade, culture, information and education.

Reviewing the international situation, both sides expressed their deep concern over the growing international tension created by the escalation of the arms race. They called upon all nations to make a determined effort for the relaxation of tension so that international peace and stability would be consolidated.

### NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT

Both sides reiterated their firm belief in the important role of the Non-Aligned Movement in the establishment and consolidation of international peace and security. They also underlined the need for unity in the movement. They recalled that the Non-Aligned Movement, which has its origins in the desire of the newly independent States to steer clear of military alliances and Great Power rivalry, has an important role to play in safeguarding Non-Aligned countries from foreign interference and enables them to concert their efforts for their economic and social development. They called for the further strengthening of the role of the Non-Aligned Movement in bringing about changes in the structure of contemporary international relations.

Both sides expressed their confidence that no efforts would be spared to consolidate the Non-Aligned status of the two countries and were against all forms of outside interference. Both sides expressed their grave concern at the presence of outside forces in their respective regions and international waterways.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran called for the im-<pg-344>

mediate and unconditional withdrawal of all foreign forces from Afghanistan, the safe and honourable return of all Afghan refugees to their homeland and for the right of selfdetermination of the Afghan people.

The Indian side reiterated the urgent call made at the Seventh Conference of the Heads of State or Government of the Non-Aligned countries held in New Delhi in March, 1983, for a political settlement in Afghanistan on the basis of the cessation of all kinds of intervention and interference. The Indian side expressed its appreciation for the sincere efforts made in search of a political settlement and extended its support to the constructive steps taken in this regard by the UN Secretary General.

Both sides reiterated their full respect for the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, and the Non-Aligned status of Afghanistan.

Having condemned the continued acts of aggression of Israel, both sides expressed their firm support for the constant and legitimate struggles of the Palestinian People up to the complete liberation of the occupied lands.

Both sides declared their support for liberation and popular movements in the struggle against oppression, colonialism and racial discrimination.

Both countries condemned the racist and aggressive acts of the apartheid regime of South Africa and called for the independence of Namibia. Both sides extended their support to the liberation struggle of the South West African Peoples Organisation (SWAPO).

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran expressed his satisfaction and gratitude for the warm welcome accorded to him and his delegation by the Indian Government and people.

### AN INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC AFGHANISTAN ISRAEL SOUTH AFRICA NAMIBIA **Date :** Nov 27, 1984

### Volume No

### 1995

ITALY

Financial Co-operation Protocol Between India and Italy Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Nov 27, 1984 on the financial co-operation protocol between India and Italy:

A financial co-operation protocol between India and Italy was signed here today by Shri P. K. Kaul, Finance Secretary and Dr. G. Giacomelli, Director General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Rome on behalf of their respective Governments.

Shri Kaul affirmed that recent increases in economic and techical co-operation had brought the countries closer together. The information gap had narrowed and there was much greater awareness among Italian trade and industry of India's economic achievements and its potential as a major industrial partner.

The Italian authorities have agreed to extend their technical assistance in key sector of the economy including agriculture, fisheries and energy. The projects likely to be approved include photo-voltaic systems for rural electrification and power generation, testing instruments for solar thermal devices, centres for leather design and training and tuna fishing in Indian waters.

During the visit of the Italian team, financial conventions relating to the following two projects were signed. (i) US \$ 16 million for the Thal Vaishat fertilizer pro-<pg-345>

ject and (ii) US \$ 17 million for telephone instrument project of Indian telephone Industry. These were signed by Shri Lalit Mansingh, Joint Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs and Mr. G. P. Elia, Managing Director, Mediocredito Cenerale of Italy.

A framework agreement on export credits of \$400 million was also finalised. This will be available to Indian importers for procurement of machinery, equipment, components and spares from Italy. The loan carries the consensus rate of interest and a repayment spread over approximately five and half to twelve

### ALY INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date** : Nov 27, 1984

### Volume No

1995

ITALY

India and Italy for Expansion, Diversification of BilateralTrade

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Nov 27, 1984 on the expansion of Indo-Italian trade.

India and Italy have underlined the need for identification of new areas and items for bilateral trade between the two countries. The scope for such expansion and diversification of economic and commercial relations between the two countries were discussed at a meeting between the Commerce Secretary, Shri Abid Hussain, and Dr. G. Mazza, Director General in the Ministry of Foreign Trade, Italy, when the latter called on Shri Abid Hussain, here today. Dr. G. Mazza was accompanied by Mr. Elio Pacarelli, Italian Ambassador in New Delhi.

Presenting a perspective of India's efforts in effecting growth in trade the Commerce Secretary, Shri Abid Hussain, highlighted India's emphasis on the areas of export promotion. He pointed out that Europe was a very important and dynamic market from the Indian point of view. However, the present level of India's trade with Italy did not reflect the potentialities that existed in that market. India accounts for only 0.25 per cent of Italy's total imports. In this backdrop the Commerce Secretary stressed that fresh avenues needed to be explored for future trade expansion in terms of a diversified import product mix. In this context, he particularly highlighted the prospect of jacking up exports of engineering items like hand-tools, light engineering equipment, etc., to Italy.

Both sides agreed to explore the possibilities of further cooperation in the fields of medium and small scale industries as also in the field of tourism.

### INDO-ITALIAN TRADE

The total trade turn-over between India and Italy went up to Rs. 422 crores in 1983-84 as against Rs. 383.08 crores in the

years.

previous year.

The Indo-Italian joint committee for economic cooperation, set up in 1976, is the institutional mechanism devised to govern the trade relations between the two countries.

The Committee has held six meetings so far. The last meeting was held in New Delhi in February, 1984.

The major items of exports from India to Italy are tea, coffee, cocoa, raw tobacco, fruits, vegetables and flowers, marine products, fresh and frozen meat, iron ore, articles of apparels, agricultural machinery, electric generators and motors, hand, small and cutting tools, and, dyeing and tanning extracts.

India imports from Italy telecommunication equipment and parts, machine tools, iron and steel laminates, chemical fertilizers, petrochemicals and textile machinery. cpg-346>

### ALY INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

### **Date** : Nov 27, 1984

### Volume No

1995

### KOREA

Concrete Measures to Increase Indo-DPR Korea Trade

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Nov 19, 1984 on measures to increase volume of trade between India and the Democratic Peoples Republic of Korea:

Concrete measures to increase the volume of trade between India and Democratic Peoples Republic of Korea are being identified so that the volume of trade between the two countries could increase to US \$ 100 million from the present level of US \$ 38 million in the near future.

Shri Pranab Mukherjee, Minister for Commerce, told Mr. Choi Jong Gun, Minister of Foreign Trade of the Democratic Peoples Republic of Korea when he called on the former, here today, that it was not only India's endeavour to have a more equitable balance of trade with DPR Korea but also to increase the total volume of trade between the two countries. Shri Mukherjee said that India was in a position to supply manufactured items such as mining equipment to DPR Korea. The Minister said that these issues would be taken up in greater detail during the annual trade talks to be held shortly between the two countries.

Mr. Choi Jong Gun agreed that there was greater scope for development of trade between the two countries. He said that India's potentiality and progress were amply displayed at the International Trade Fair-1984 which he had visited.

### INDO-KOREAN TRADE

Since March, 1978, all trade and payment transactions between India and DPR Korea are concluded and settled in any freely convertible currency mutually agreed upon between the individual contracting parties in accordance with the rules and regulations of the two countries. Prior to that trade between the two countries was through rupee payment arrangement.

The two-way trade between India and DPR Korea has risen from Rs. 18.63 million in 1977-78 to Rs. 38.65 million in 1983-84. The balance of trade which was initially in favour of India is now in favour of DPR Korea.

The major items in India's export basket to DPR Korea are iron ore and concentrates, crude vegetable materials, cashew shell oil, leather and, chemicals and related products.

In turn, India has been importing textile yarn, non-metallic mineral manufactures, iron and steel, metal manufactures n.e.s., textile fabrics and, machinery and transport equipments.

In May, 1984, a four member delegation led by General Director, Korea Technical Corporation visited India, for exploring the possibilities of economic and technical cooperation between India and DPR Korea. The delegation signed a Memoranda of Understanding with Engineering Export Promotion Council and National Research Development Corporation to provide joint ventures in third countries.

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### REA INDIA USA UNITED KINGDOM RUSSIA

**Date** : Nov 19, 1984

# Volume No

### KOREA

#### India Offers Technical Cooperation to North Korea

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Nov 17, 1984 on India's offer of technical cooperation to North Korea:

India could assist North Korea in its industrial development, particularly in the field of heavy industry, machine building and mining and earth moving equipment.

The offer was made by Shri N. R. Laskar, Union Minister of State for Industry to H.E. Mr. Choi Jong Gun, Minister of Foreign Trade of Democratic Peoples' Republic of Korea, here today.

Mr. Gun expressing his condolence at the assassination of Smt. Indira Gandhi said that the people and the Government of North Korea have full sympathy with the people and the Government of India and assured of their full cooperation.

Shri Laskar expressed the view that there was great scope for cooperation between the two countries. The areas could be explored after a comprehensive discussions between them.

The Minister requested the Korean delegation to visit the Indian Industrial Engineering Products Fair in February 1985 and plants and factories which would give them a glimpse of the progress India has made during the last four years.

Mr. Gun expressed that North Korea has large deposits of nonferrous metal. Their quality of zinc is well recognised world over and India could invest in the production of zinc and other non-ferrous metals. The two countries could also set up joint venture for oil exploration and its production in Korea.

Mr. Pai Gyong Rak, General-Director and Mr. Kim Mun Song, Director in the Ministry of Foreign Trade, Mr. Cho Chen II, Ambasador and Mr. Lyu In Gyman, Commercial Counsellor also accompanied the Minister.

REA INDIA NORTH KOREA USA **Date :** Nov 17, 1984

# Volume No

1995

### MAURITIUS

#### Indo-Mauritius Talks For Joint Shipping Venture

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Nov 15, 1984 on the Indo-Mauritius talks for joint shipping venture:

The official level Indo-Mauritius talks for the launching of a joint shipping venture, concluded here this afternoon. The talks resumed yesterday were originally scheduled to be held on October 31 and November 1, 1984 but deferred due to tragic and sudden passing away of our Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi.

The two sides have agreed upon a time frame for exchange of vital information for the finalisation of Memorandum of Agreement and working arrangements for adoption in the next session of the talks proposed to be held in Mauritius sometime during February, 1985.

After detailed deliberations the two sides have agreed in principle on the number and type of ships proposed to be acquired by the joint venture and tie up of the financing arrangements for the same. The State-owned Shipping Corporation of India cpg-348>

will be required to play a major role in the proposed joint venture.

The four member Mauritius delegation was led by Shri R. Bheenick while the Indian team was headed by Shri V. S. Venkataraman, Joint Secretary, (Shipping) in the Shipping and Transport Ministry.

URITIUS USA INDIA

**Date** : Nov 15, 1984

# Volume No

1995

NON-ALIGNMENT

NAM Bureau Meeting - Prime Minister's Message

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Nov 19, 1984 of the message sent by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, to the NAM Bureau Meeting beginning today (November 19) in New York:

I am deeply appreciative of the sentiments of sympathy and condolence expressed by the leaders of Non-Aligned countries on the tragic death of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. Many had taken the trouble to come to New Delhi at this moment of national grief for India. I am moved also by the warm tributes paid at the extraordinary plenary meeting of the Non-Aligned countries in New York on the 5th November, 1984 which were a testimony to the respect and admiration the late Prime Minister of India and Chairperson of Non-Aligned Movement enjoyed in the international community.

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi was an ardent champion and tireless fighter for freedom, justice and equality among the peoples and nations of the world. She worked for the eradication of poverty, injustice, oppression, racism and all forms of discrimination colonialism, old and new, and for an equitable re-ordering of international economic relations. The imprint of her actions will endure and the ideals she cherished will continue to guide us.

In assuming the responsibilities of Chairperson of the Movement, I reiterate India's continuing commitment and dedication to the principles and objectives of our Movement to the lowering of tensions and the consolidation of peace, justice and progress in all parts of the world as well as the establishment of cooperative and friendly relations among nations. I have full faith in the unity of our Movement and in its ability to function as a positive, dynamic and significant force in international relations.

DIA USA **Date :** Nov 19, 1984

## Volume No

1995

NORWAY

Norwegian Grant Assistance for various Projects in India -Agreement Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Nov 17, 1984 of Norwegian grant assistance for Indian projects:

Norway will give grant assistance of Kroner 175 million (about

Rs. 25.4 crores) to India for the year 1985 for implementing projects and programmes in the fields of fisheries development, health and family welfare, development schemes for women and children and in the sphere of science and technology and also for commodity im-

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ports, such as fertilizers, paper, fisheries equipment and rural telephone exchanges. Norway will also provide 175 million Kroners every year for the year 1986, 1987 and 1988.

An agreement to this effect was signed here today between India and Norway. Mr. Rolv Hultin, Assistant Director General, NORAD, Ministry of Development Corporation, Government of Norway and Shri M. S. Mukherjee, Joint Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, signed the agreement as leaders of the delegations of their respective countries.

A delegation from Norway held discussions with Government of India on economic cooperation between the two countries from 15-17 November, 1984. The delegation headed by Mr. Rolv Hultin, included H.E. Mr. Tancred Ibsen, Ambassador of Norway in India and Mr. Skjeveland, Director General, Department of Planning, Ministry of Development Co-operation, Olso and the Indian delegation led by Shri M. S. Mukherjee included representatives of the Ministries of Agriculture, Health and Family Welfare Education, Social Welfare and Petroleum.

During the discussions, the Norwegian delegation informed the Indian delegation that a new Ministry of Development Cooperation was established as from 1st January, 1984. It was further stated that the Norwegian Government had recently presented to Parliament a White Paper on policies, principles and priorities for development assistance. The White Paper confirms that Norwegian assistance will continue to be given as grant and untied. The Norwegian Government will further continues its support for the basic needs approach in development, and it at the same time holds the view that a stronger emphasis should be put on special target groups among the poorer section of the society aiming at increasing the long term effect of the assistance.

RWAY INDIA USA UNITED KINGDOM

**Date** : Nov 17, 1984

# Volume No

### NORWAY

### Norwegian Aid for Telecom Development in Rural Areas

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Nov 30, 1984 on the Norwegian aid for telecom development:

Norwegian Agency for International Development (NORAD) has agreed to provide aid for the purchase of sophisticated equipment for the development of telecommunication networks in selected rural areas of the cocuntry to the tune of about Rs. 8 crores.

A contract has been signed by the Standard Telephoneog Kabelfabrik (STK) and Posts and Telegraphs Department which envisages replacement of old equipment with the latest electronic exchange and radio equipment in the areas of Kohima, Mathura, Barmer and Nainital. It will further provide equipment for introduction of Trunk Automatic dialling facilities within the rural areas of Kolaba district in Maharashtra and Alleppey district in Kerala by using digital rural transit exchanges.

The project is expected to be completed within three years. This will also enable the P & T to cover remote and inaccessible areas by providing public telephones. This is in accordance with the policy of the P & T Department to provide one telephone which is accessible within 5 KMs of most of the inhabited villages.

STK have also agreed to assist in the installation and testing of the equipment and provide training to the P & T staff. The above project is part of the agreement between the Royal Government of Norway and Government of India for providing assistance for various developmental schemes being undertaken by the Government of India. <pg-350>

RWAY INDIA USA **Date :** Nov 30, 1984

# Volume No

1995

POLAND

Indo-Polish Trade Protocol Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Nov 30, 1984 on the signing of the Indo-Polish trade protocol:

India and Poland have agreed to a two way trade turn over of Rs. 428 crores during 1985. The Indo-Polish trade protocol for 1985 which was signed recently in Warsaw sets an export target of Rs. 209 crores from India to Poland and an import target of Rs. 219 crores from Poland.

In 1984 the actual trade turnover is expected to reach a level of Rs. 200 crores as against Rs. 165 crores in 1983, thus showing a growth rate of about 21 per cent.

New items like Xerographic equipment, diesel engines, earth moving equipment, rice and animal feed compound have been added to India's export basket for 1985 for the first time. Indian imports from Poland would mostly consist of machinery items including machinery equipment for power stations, metal working machine tools for railways, ship engines and equipment and also non-ferrous metal, urea, sulphur, coking coal, rapeseed oil and cement.

The main items of exports from India to Poland in 1985 would consist of agricultural products like tea and deoiled cakes constituting nearly 70% of the total export plan allocation of Rs. 209 crores for 1985. Other items are textiles, engineering goods, leather and leather manufactures, mineral and ores and chemical and allied products etc. Poland will also import more cotton seeds, extractions and deoiled rice bran from India.

LAND INDIA USA RUSSIA

Date : Nov 30, 1984

# Volume No

1995

SARC

Technical Committee on Meteorology

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Nov 27, 1984 on the technical committee on meteorology of SARC:

The second meeting of the technical committee on meteorology representing Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan

and Sri Lanka began here this morning, to consider cooperative programme in the field of weather services. The deliberations on cooperative endeavour among the weather services of the seven South Asian countries is expected to firm up foundations for lasting cooperation in the field of meteorology whose scientific and economic importance is well known. The meeting is expected to continue till November 29, 1984.

Inaugurating the meeting, Shri M. M. Kohli, Secretary, Department of Civil Aviation, Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation said that coming together of the seven nations of South Asia in a joint endeavour to tackle over-all development in different facets, including meteorology, was in itself a very significant indicator of the political will of the people and governments <pg-351>

of our countries to make a great cooperative effort to upgrade our economies and standards of living. He said that besides a common heritage of history and geography, we were all developing nations belonging to the Non-Aligned Movement, having similar goals and aspirations for the betterment of our people. 'Above all, our people have the aptitude to acquire and assimilate sophisticated scientific and technical skills', he added.

### CLOSE NEIGHBOURS

Shri Kohli said that being close neighbours, our countries were also bound by the ties of meteorology. The western disturbance of winters travel from Pakistan giving weather over India, Nepal and Bhutan. The cyclones in the Indian seas affect Bangladesh and Sri Lanka besides India. Maldives, Sri Lanka and India's Lakshadweeps share the common maritime climate and weather of that part of the Indian Ocean. The summer monsoon affects all the seven countries and influences our economies. He said that the Government of India attach a very high priority to the science and profession of meteorology and the Council for Meteorology and Atmospheric Sciences, and one of the significant aspects of the meteorological service in our country was the open door policy especially for our neighbours in the South Asian region. Real time meteorological data is freely exchanged. Training facilities are available and special advisories based on INSAT pictures and the cyclone radar network are sent out in case of cyclonic storms. The Secretary hoped that the existing relationships would be further augmented under the aegis of the South Asian Regional Cooperation in meteorology.

India is the Chairman of this technical committee and has been coordinating all along the cooperative programme in meteorology. So far, four coordination meetings have been held and the present meeting which will be the fifth in the series is being presided over by Shri S. K. Das, Director General, Department of Meteorology.

### DIA BANGLADESH BHUTAN MALDIVES NEPAL PAKISTAN SRI LANKA PERU **Date :** Nov 27, 1984

# Volume No

1995

SOVIET UNION

### Indo-Soviet Cooperation in New Coal Projects

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Indo-Soviet cooperation in New coal projects:

The fourth meeting of the working group on coal industry of the inter-governmental Indo-Soviet Commission on Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation at its two-day meeting which concluded here today has agreed upon the programme of cooperation in new areas for the period 1985-1990.

A protocol was signed between the two sides for cooperation in designing new coal projects. These include opencast mine in blocks 5 and 6 at Jharia coalfield with a capacity of 8 to 10 million tonnes of coking coal per year. The project is expected to have a coal washery also.

The second project is Sitamala mine at the Jharia coalfield with a capacity of 2 to 2.5 million tonnes of coking coal per year with a washery.

The third project is the Mohar opencast mine at Singrauli coalfield with a capacity of 10 million tonnes of power generating coal per year.

Both sides have also agreed for cooperation in setting up within Coal India, an <pp-352>

organisation for planning, detailed engineering and supervision of construction of washeries in India with Soviet assistance.

There will be cooperation with the Soviet side for assistance and technology transfer to the Indian side in the area of chemical utilisation of coal and gasification of coal at shallow depths and also for power generation.

The two sides have also agreed to cooperate in application of cosmoaerological methods of surveying, logging of walls,

electrical and seismic prospecting in exploration of coal deposits.

The protocol was signed on behalf of the Indian side by Shri S. B. Lal, Secretary, Department of Coal, Ministry of Energy and for the Soviet side by Mr. M. I. Stchadov, First Deputy Minister of USSR, Ministry of Coal.

The working group meeting also reviewed the progress in implementation of the on-going projects for the Mukunda and Nigahi opencast mines. These large opencast mines are being designed and constructed with Soviet collaboration. The meeting discussed in detail the scope of work for preparation of working drawings, designers' supervision etc. The meeting also worked out details of sinking of shafts in Jhanjra colliery, introduction of shield roofing mining at Tipong colliery and directional blasting at Jhingurda opencast mine.

The Soviet technical assistance is also being taken by M/s Singareni Collieries Company and the Soviet side has been requested to prepare the feasibility reports for reconstruction of Prakashan Khani collieries No. 1 & 2, Godavari Khani colliery No. 11 A, and a colliery in the Bellampalli area.

### DIA USA CHAD UNITED KINGDOM

**Date** : Nov 27, 1984

# Volume No

1995

### VIETNAM

India to Assist Vietnam in Expansion of Export Capability

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Nov 13, 1984 on the visit of the Vietnamese Minister of Foreign Trade to India:

India and Vietnam have identified areas for setting up joint projects with the view to developing the export capabilities of Vietnam. India will also provide technical know-how and equipment to Vietnam for developing its natural resources.

Matters relating to rescheduling of credits extended by India to Vietnam were also discussed when Mr. Le Khac, Vietnamese Minister for Foreign Trade called on Shri Pranab Mukherjee, Minister for Commerce and Supply, here today. Expressing his sorrow at the demise of the late Prime Minister, Smt Indira Gandhi, Mr. Le Khac said that she was the moving force behind the Non-Aligned Movement and had worked ceaselessly for greater South-South Cooperation. He thanked Shri Mukherjee for India's support in the field of economic growth and expressed the hope that India would continue to help in the reconstruction of Vietnam's industry in the future. Mr. Le Khac lauded the role of the Projects and Equipment Corporation (PEC) of the Government of India in this connection.

Shri Pranab Mukherjee said that India would assist Vietnam in increasing its export capability by expanding its industrial <pg-353>

base. In this connection he asked the Vietnamese Minister to identify specific projects in which the PEC could participate.

Shri Mukherjee suggested the setting up of joint ventures in third countries where India and Vietnam had a competitive advantage. In this connection he asked the Vietnamese Trade Minister to nominate specific agencies so that the details could be worked out with them.

At present PEC is supplying railway wagons, railway rolling stock and textile machinery to Vietnam. Generally consumable items like rice, wheat and cotton yarn have been exported by India to Vietnam. Both sides expressed satisfaction at the progress made by the Joint Economic, Scientific and Technical Commission which was set up in December, 1982. The Commission facilitates the implementation of the plans for economic, scientific, technical and trade cooperation between the two countries.

### ETNAM INDIA USA UNITED KINGDOM

**Date** : Nov 13, 1984

### Volume No

### 1995

### VIETNAM

Modalities of Wheat Export to Vietnam Under Consideration

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Nov 19, 1984 on the talks between the Vietnamese Minister of Foreign Trade and Shri S. M. Krishna: India would continue to trade with Vietnam on the basis of Most Favoured Nation status as had been done in the past. This was stated by Shri S. M. Krishna, Union Minister for Commerce and Supply, when Mr. Le Khac, Minister for Foreign Trade of Vietnam, called on him, here today.

The details as well as time framework for export of wheat to Vietnam from India as well as import of rice from Vietnam to India will also be worked out in pursuance of the importance of South-South cooperation which was actively promoted by the late Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi, Shri Krishna added.

Mr. Le Khac expressed his satisfaction at the role played by the Project and Equipment Corporation, a public sector undertaking under the Ministry of Commerce, in setting up projects in Vietnam. He expressed the hope that India would continue to participate in projects for the exploitation of mineral resources in Vietnam in the future also. <pg-354>

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Date : Dec 01, 1984

# Volume No

### ARGENTINA

Nodal Agencies for Stepping up Trade Between India and Argentina identified

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 10, 1984 on the setting up of the Argentine Council for International Co-operation with the Republic of India:

In a determined effort to increase the volume of trade between India and Argentina, nodal agencies for stepping up commercial activities between the two countries have been identified. While the State Trading Corporation (STC) will negotiate from the Indian side, Argentina has announced the setting up of the Argentine Council for International Cooperation with the Republic of India.

The decree for the creation of this Council which was issued on November 16, 1984, stipulates that the Council should come into being by December 15, 1984.

The setting up of the Council is a direct outcome of the recent visit of the Argentine trade delegation to India in September this year. Mr. Raul Prebisch, Adviser to the President of Argentina, who was the leader of the delegation had, during his talks with Shri Abid Hussain, Commerce Secretary, showed great interest in developing Indo-Argentine trade. It is a measure of their keenness to develop commercial and economic cooperation with India, that soon after the delegation returned to Argentina, the decree for the creation of this Council under the Argentine Ministry for External Relations was issued. Government officials as well as private sector enterpreneurs will find representation on this Council.

The traditional items of exports to Argentina are spices, lac, shellac, hessian cloth, cotton garments, precious stones, diamonds (ornamental), bicycle parts and components, wood and brass handicrafts, hand-knitted carpets, basic chemicals for pharmaceuticals and hand tools.

The main items imported from Argentina to India are sunflower seed oil, soyabean oil, wattle extracts, seamless tubes of iron steel, non-electric machinery and, dye and tanning materials.

GENTINA INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC **Date** : Dec 10, 1984

# Volume No

### 1995

### BANGLADESH

27th Meeting of Indo-Bangladesh Joint Rivers Commission

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 16, 1984 after the conclusion of the 27th meeting of the Indo-Bangladesh Joint Rivers Commission here on December 15, 1984:

The 27th meeting of the Indo-Bengladesh Joint Rivers Commission was held in <pp-355>

New Delhi on 15th December, 1984. H.E. Air Vice Marshal (Retd.) K. M. Aminul Islam, Minister of Irrigation, Water Development and Flood Control, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh and Chairman, Indo-Bangladesh Joint Rivers Commission presided over the meeting. H.E. Shri C. K. Jaffer Sharief, Minister of Irrigation, Government of the Republic of India and Co-Chairman of Indo-Bangladesh Joint Rivers Commission led the Indian delegation at the meeting.

Simultaneously the two Ministers held a ministerial level meeting. They discused the subject of sharing of the dry season flows of the Ganga/Ganges at Farakka between the two countries and the question of augmentation of the dry season flows of the Ganga/Ganges at Farakka. Recognising the need for continuing the dialogue the two Ministers agreed to meet at an early date in Dhaka.

The Joint Rivers Commission discussed the sharing of the Tista/Teesta waters, problems of embankments and river training works on common/border rivers and utilisation of waters of small common/border rivers.

The next meeting of the Joint Rivers Commission will also be held at an early date in Dhaka.

NGLADESH INDIA USA LATVIA

**Date** : Dec 16, 1984

# Volume No

### BULGARIA

Indo-Bulgarian Trade Protocol Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 17, 1984 on the signing of the Indo-Bulgarian trade protocol:

The Indo-Bulgarian trade protocol which was signed here today provides for a trade turn-over of \$74 million between the two countries during the first half of 1985. This figure is more than 30 per cent higher than the trade figure for the first half of 1984. India exported goods worth \$ 26.2 million to Bulgaria between May and December, 1984, and imported goods worth \$ 26.1 million from Bulgaria during the same period.

Among the major items that will be exported from India to Bulgaria during the first half of 1985 are oil cakes, raw cotton, steel wire ropes, hosiery, textile machinery, leather and leather goods, ores, graphite, electrodes, tobacco, etc. The main item of import from Bulgaria will be urea; besides steel products, soda ash, polypropylene and, machine and equipments.

The next meeting of Indo-Bulgarian Working Group on Trade will take place in June, 1985, and will review the performance of Indo-Bulgarian trade during the first six months as well as supplement the lists of import and export based on this performance.

The trade protocol which was signed by Mr. A. S. Chatha, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Commerce, and Mr. G. Vutev, First Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade of Bulgaria, has a wider commodity base than the trade protocol of the previous year.

Mr. Chatha expressed his satisfaction at the fact that large contracts had been signed in respect of a large number of commodities and many others were on their way to be finalised.

Mr. Abid Hussain, Secretary in the Ministry of Commerce, was present during the signing ceremony. <pp-356>

LGARIA INDIA USA **Date :** Dec 17, 1984

# 1995

### Volume No

### BULGARIA

Institutional Framework for Greater Trade

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 13, 19844 on the visit of the First Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade of Bulgaria to India:

India and Bulgaria have agreed to evolve an institutional framework for creating a regime for higher two-way trade between the two countries. The institutional framework which will be sketched during the on-going trade talks will incorporate innovative mechanisms which will have long-term catalytic effect on the trade status between India and Bulgaria.

The broad guidelines for building this institutional framework were discussed when the leader of the visiting Bulgarian trade delegation, Mr. G. Vutev, First Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade of Bulgaria, called on Mr. Abid Hussain, Commerce Secretary, here today.

Mr. Abid Hussain said that it was necessary to work out a longterm basis for trade rather than limiting the approach only to identifying new items of trade.

While agreeing with this view, Mr. Vutev said that Bulgaria had identified India as one of the priority countries for trade. He expressed the hope that in the future there would be greater participation between the two countries by way of investment and joint ventures. Mr. Vutev identified machine building and agriculture as areas where greater trade links could be forged.

In 1979, India exported goods worth Rs. 89.0 million to Bulgaria, which has steadily increased to Rs. 427.4 million (Prov.) in 1984. The balance of trade position between the two countries has been shifting from a negative balance of trade on the Indian side in 1977 to the tune of Rs. 123 million to a positive balance of trade of Rs. 102 million in 1983. The positive balance of trade on the Indian side was reduced to a figure of Rs. 26 million (Prov.) during 1984.

India is in a position to supply iron ore and mica to Bulgaria.

It is expected that there would be a substantial increase in the total trade turnover between the two countries during 1985 over the present figure of Rs. 828.0 million.

The main items of exports from India to Bulgaria are tobacco, jute goods, leather goods, readymade garments, machine tools,

iron-ore, earthmoving equipment, manganese ore, de-oiled cakes and cotton. Similarly the main items of imports into India are high speed diesel oil, urea, chemicals, organic and inorganic soda ash, steel-products, ball bearings, caprolactum, equipment and machinery for food processing industry and engineering goods.

LGARIA INDIA USA **Date :** Dec 13, 1984

### Volume No

1995

CHINA

Sino-Indian Cooperation in Standardisation

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 15, 19844 on Sino-Indian co-operation in standardisation:

Indian and Chinese experts have identified areas of bilateral cooperation in the field of standardisation, quality control and certification. A team of experts from people's Republic of China headed by Mr. Zhong Ming, Deputy Director General, State Bureau of Standardisation (SSB) visited India for discussions with Indian

<pg-357>

experts on the bilateral cooperation. The Chinese experts held discussions with the Indian team headed by Shri B. K. Sinha, Director General of Indian Standards Institution (ISI) in New Delhi.

The Chinese delegation's visit was under the exchange programme between India and China in the field of science and technology. The major areas covered under discussions were on exchange of experts for study tours, lectures and advanced studies, training of personnel and retrieval of information on standardisation, quality control and certification, exchange of national standards, information on methods of quality assurance and certification, laboratory training and equipment and metrological standards and equipment. Both sides expressed great satisfaction for the achievement during the discussions and hoped that this would pave the way for closer cooperation between the two countries.

# Volume No

1995

DENMARK

### Indo-Danish Agreement Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 20, 1984 on the signing of an Indo-Danish loan agreement:

Denmark will give D. Kr. 240 million (Rs. 264 million) loan to India. An agreement to this effect was signed today between India and Denmark by Shri Lalit Mansingh, Joint Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance and H.E. Mr. Bjorn Olsen, Ambassador for Denmark in India, on behalf of their respective Governments. This new credit is interest free and is repayable over 35 years including grace period of 10 years.

The Danish loan will be used for providing consultancy services and licences for the gas-based urea fertilizer plant being constructed by NFL at Guna, refuse incineration plant at New Delhi to use garbage for production of electricity and fisheries research.

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 D. Kr. 1945 million (Rs. 1149.5 million). In addition to the interest free loans Denmark will also provide grant assistance annually for a number of projects in the areas like animal husbandry, fisheries. health care and water supply.

NMARK INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC **Date** : Dec 20, 1984

# Volume No

### JAPAN

#### Opportunities for Japanese Investment and Business

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 04, 1984 of the speech of Shri Pranab Mukherjee, Union Finance Minister delivered here, this evening (New Delhi, December 4, 1984) at a dinner hosted by him in honour of Mr. Goro Koyama, His Excellency the Ambassador and members of the Japanese delegation:

Mr. Goro Koyama, H.E. the Ambassador and distinguished members of the Japanese delegation; it gives me great <pg-358>

pleasure to welcome you this evening on my behalf and on behalf of the Government of India. India and Japan have been bound together by strong ties of history and culture. Both of us have shared in our cultural heritage. In recent years our economic relations have widened and deepened further cementing this bond of friendship.

We are conscious Mr. Koyama that your visit represents the political commitment of your country to strengthen relation with India. The quality of your delegation is a measure of earnest on the part of your Government to strengthen links with India. After nearly 23 years, a Japanese Prime Minister visited India this year. The visit of Prime Minister Nakasone and the discussions with the late Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, gave a new dimension to our relationship. This mission was mooted at that time. We are deeply appreciative of the presence of Prime Minister. Nakasone and other members of his delegation at the funeral of our late Prime Minister. His brief discussions at that time with Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, and the announcement for the visit of this mission immediately on return of Mr. Nakasone represents your confidence and commitment for stronger relations with India.

We are aware that Japanese are shy and reticent by habit. They are hesitant to commit too easily. But it is also well-known that once they commit, they perform without looking back, and with genuine sincereity and sense of purpose. A new era in our economic relations began in the 80's with our new liberalised policy lead to several successful Indo-Japanese ventures. The visit of your mission is a high point of these efforts. I sincerely hope that you and your other members of your delegation would gather a new perception about India. And you would recognise that there are indeed great opportunities existing for Japanese investment and business.

I am conscious, Mr. Koyama, of the personal efforts made by you to compose a delegation of this quality. I am also aware of your

personal commitment for deepening friendship with India. We are deeply appreciative of your efforts. I do hope that you would convey to your Government and your Prime Minister our greatful thanks for sending this mission. I wish you and your colleagues a pleasant stay in India. I hope that apart from your business discussions you get some opportunity to see India in its diversity.

I have great pleasure in proposing a toast to your personal health, to the success of your mission and to the growing ties of Indo-Japanese friendship.

### PAN USA INDIA UNITED KINGDOM

**Date** : Dec 04, 1984

# Volume No

1995

### JAPAN

Liberalisation of Economic Policy

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 04, 1984, when the Japanese economic mission called on the Union Finance Minister:

Liberal economic policy will continue to improve the production base. Infrastructure facilities like power generation, telecommunication and transportation will be modernised to ensure larger outputs. This was expressed by Shri Pranab Mukherjee, Union Finance Minister while addressing a high-level Japanese economic mission led by Mr. Goro Koyama, President of the Japanese Chamber of Commerce, here today.

Earlier the delegation had discussions with Finance Secretary, Shri P. K. Kaul. This delegation has come to India following Japanese Prime Minister Nakasone discussions with late Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi and the recent discussions of Japanese Prime Minister with Shri Rajiv Gandhi, Prime Minister of India.

The Finance Minister gave them an account of the Indian economy and the progress achieved in the Sixth Five Year <pp-359>

Plan. He also emphasised that in the Seventh Five Year Plan, there would be increased emphasis in improving infrastructure facilities, particularly in the field of communication, power generation and transport. It was also Government's intention to retain a substantial role for private sector investment. In the context of the Seventh Five Year Plan, there was great opportunity for greater Japanese partnership in India's economic progress.

The Japanese expressed appreciation of the progress achieved by the Indian economy and the scope it offers for enhanced Indo-Japanese co-operation. They were particularly appreciative of the liberalised policies being pursued by India progressively since 1980. They wanted diversification of India's exports, further simplification of rules and procedures and greater role for trading houses.

The Finance Minister assured them that the liberal policies would be continued in the future and facilities for export promotion to Japan would be intensified. He also felt that trading houses had an important role to play. With all these measures, the Finance Minister expressed the hope that full potential which exists for Indo-Japanese economic cooperation can be progressively realised.

### PAN INDIA UNITED KINGDOM USA

**Date** : Dec 04, 1984

### Volume No

### 1995

### JAWAHARLAL NEHRU AWARD

### President Zail Singh's Presentation Address

The following is the text of the Presidential Address of Giani Zail Singh at the presentation of the Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding on Dec 12, 1984 in New Delhi:

Dr. Senghor, Members of the Jury for the Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding, Excellencies and Friends, it gives me great pleasure to be here amidst this distinguished gathering and participate in the important function to honour the great statesman and poet of Africa, Dr. Leopold Sedar Senghor. This award is an appropriate way of commemorating Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru's services to humankind as a whole. He stood for freedom and justice to all people in the world and was a champion of the downtrodden. It has been my good fortune to be closely associated with the Nehru tradition for over four decades. Today in this function, we miss the presence of our late Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi. On such occasions in earlier years, she used to add lustre and liveliness by her presence. Apart from being Prime Minister of India and the daughter of Panditji, Indira Gandhi was a valiant champion of the causes and ideas which Panditji had stood for in his life. By her policies and actions, she made outstanding contributions to the deepening of understanding among the nations of the world. Her tragic assassination has left a void in the world difficult to fill. Peace and progress are inseparable and indivisible. It is the bounden duty of all of us to carry forward the movement for world peace, progress and justice in which she played such a leading and creative role. The urgency for this needs no emphasis as humankind is living amidst ever increasing tension and fear of nuclear holocaust.

### MULTIFACETED AFRICAN PERSONALITY

We feel proud to honour a multifaceted African personality. Dr. Senghor has been a poet, teacher, philosopher, statesman and an ardent promoter of the concept of Negritude and universal brotherhood. Endowed with vision, his life and writings are in spg-360>

divisible from each other. His poetry and his prose full of profound humanism constitute a synthesis between the realities of everyday life and the sublime heights of the poetic imagination. He exemplifies for us today Plato's fine concept of philosopherking. His writings have been translated into more than 20 languages and reached all parts of the world. The intimate synthesis of culture and politics in Dr. Senghor's personality is revealed in his own words: "Independence of spirit, cultural independence is a necessary preliminary to all other independence - political, economic and social."

Dr. Senghor's personality has been deeply fashioned as much by the ongoing concerns of the common man in the fields and streets of Africa as by Africa's traditional values. As a statesman he has had the rare honour of being democratically elected Head of State for five consecutive terms and to serve his country in that capacity for twenty long years. A great supporter of national independence and international cooperation based on mutual respect and tolerance, he has spoken consistently and in an unwavering voice, for freedom, racial equality, African Unity, World Peace and International Cooperation. It is heartening to note that in this striving he had the staunch and friendly support of Jawaharlal Nehru and Indira Gandhi.

### TRADITIONAL VALUES

It may be recalled that Jawaharlal Nehru and Indira Gandhi struggled to build a strong, united, democratic, secular and modern India, true to and proud of its own traditional values. In this context, Dr. Senghor's inspiring and characteristic words also come to mind, "The problem is how to integrate African values into the modern world. It is not a case of reviving the past so as to live in African museum. It is a case of animating this world, here and now, with the values that come from our past...."

In conferring this Award, we will do well to remember Dr. Senghor's rich contribution to International Understanding and his unwavering commitment to the struggle for freedom, justice and universal brotherhood. It is with great pleasure that I now confer the 1982 Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding on Dr. Leopold Sedar Senghor.

DIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC **Date** : Dec 12, 1984

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1995

### JAWAHARLAL NEHRU AWARD

Acceptance Address by Dr. Leopold Sedar Senghor

The following is the text of the Acceptance Address by Dr. Leopold Sedar Senghor of the Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding on Dec 12, 1984 in New Delhi:

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen, the jury of the Jawaharlal Nehru Award has honoured me by bestowing on me this very coveted award. I have appreciated this all the more because my teachers at Sorbonne had taught me to admire Indian civilisation when I was a student.

Today, the world's greatest biologists inform us that all the great civilisations are biological and cultural hybrid civilisations. This applies to the Egyptian, Indian, Arab, Greek, Roman, American, British and French civilisations. It is not by accident that College of France Professor Jacques Ruffie's bestseller is entitled "From Biology to Culture". Actually, it is Paul Rivet, one of the leading proponents of anthropology as a science, who started teaching us this truth in the 1930's at the Institute of Ethnology in Paris.

As you know, the first International Palaeontologic Congress, which was held at Nice from 15-21 October 1982, has confirmed that Man emerged from an animal state around 2.5 million years

ago and that he remained at the outposts of civilisation until the appearance of the Homo Sapiens, some 40,000 years ago. I would, in fact, specify: until the invention by the Egyptians, with the script, of the first human civilisation worthy of that name. That was in 4000 B.C. <pg-361>

The truth is more complex. Emerging in Africa, Man developed himself on that continent, as he did in Asia, more precisely in South Asia on the Indian sub-continent. The environment was identical: the same latitudes, the same tropical and paratropical climate, the same favourable conditions, that is to say wooded savannahs and densely forested plateaux and high mountains.

### THREE GREAT CIVILISATIONS

So it is not by chance, reverting to the subject of culture, that the three first great civilisations, with their written script, were shared between Africa and India: the Egyptian, the Sumerian and the Indian, at that stage essentially Dravidian. I refer you to the famous text of Asko Parpola, the Finnish professor, concerning his deciphering of the Indus valley script. I add to it the work of Paul Rivet, entitled "Sumerians and Oceanians".

The first major deducation from these studies is that the human civilisation was born in the South, among peoples who spoke agglutinated (binding) languages, and not in the North. It is the Greeks, inventors of the Albo-European civilisation, who have recognised and proclaimed this truth in the best manner, from Homer to Diodore of Sicily. The second major fact equally important, is that if, in the fifth century B.C., Egypt passed on the torch to the Greek civilisation, India herself conserved human civilisation which has continued to illuminate Asia and the world until today.

### CULTURAL SYMBIOSIS

If India has been able to do this, it is because other Albo-Europeans, the Aryans, came into India around 1,500 years before the Christian era injecting new blood and bringing another culture. The Mughals and other peoples also made their contribution. It is the fusion, more accurately the biological and cultural symbiosis, of all these peoples that enriched Hinduism, with Buddhism as its most perfect expression. In fact, if I understand it well, Buddhism is founded on the renunciation by man of his individual, animal passions, in order to help him and society realise their full potential. This is all the more relevant today considering that the "modern humanism" which is offered to us by Europe and America is founded on the individual, which all too often is synonymous with egoism.

It is less its particular aspect, Buddhistic, than its general

aspect, Hinduism, which has fascinated me about Indian civilisation. And that is why I had introduced its study in the Fundamental Institute of Black Africa, which is the principal research centre of the Dakar University. Hinduism, as a civilisation, is essentially, for us, a philosophy and an art. An art which unfolds in poetry, sculpture and painting, music and dance.

Hinduism, which some regard as a "syncretism", that is to say a mere or less coherent combination of heterogeneous elements, is better than that. It is, once again, a symbiosis, a harmonious and dynamic fusion of three different civilisations, where, nevertheless, the Aryan and the Dravidian dominate. This symbiosis materialised only only after the active assimilation of new elements by the old Indian foundation, from the 7th century A.D. It is only then, as Rene Grousset, the Orientalist, specifies it, that Brahmanism regained ascendency.

The perfect symbiosis, because creative, I perceive first of all in the Hindu philosophy: in the Divine Trinity of Brahma, Vishnu and Shiva. If Brahma, the creator of the universe, remains a God too asbstract and Albo-European, Vishnu and Shiva, on the contrary, are, so to say, born out of the profound realities of the Indian sub-continent. Here you have then, Vishnu incarnated on the one hand in Krishna, "the dark-complexioned", sensual and loving, and on the other hand in Rama, the paragon of duty as well as honour. As for Shiva, the cosmic God, he symbolises symbiosis itself: the forces of nature, death, but above all rebirth. Shiva is the great God who integrates all the others in his cosmic dance and who, more than a symbol, represents the unending creation of the world. That is how with Shiva we come back to the pre-Aryan Hindu roots. <pg-362>

"Our Lord", sings a mystic poem, "is the Dancer who, like the latent heat in firewood, diffuses his might in spirit and matter, and makes them dance one after the other."

### SYMBOLIC IMAGERY

One observes that what characterises this poem is its symbolic imagery. There is also a rhythm, marked by repetitions which do not recur, by breaks followed by restarts. It is this rhythm, with analogic images, which one finds in Indian music and dance, sculpture and painting. Dwelling on these plastic arts, I am especially reminded of the art of Amaravati, Begram and the paintings of Ajanta. More than all others, these express aesthetics, markedly Hindu, which in many ways remind me of the African aesthetic, in particular the Egyptian. However, Hindu art is, at the same time, more natural and more idealistic. And it owes this essentially to its biological and cultural symbiosis which extends its scope from the most carnal sensuality on the one hand to the most elevated spirituality on the other. I wouldn't say: the most abstract. African art, however, has paradoxically, something severe and abrupt about it, even geometrical, whereas in Hindu art, sensual smiles co-exist with eyes with the spiritual serenity of the stars.

### AFRICAN EMANCIPATION

You would understand now, why I set up an "Indo-African Department" in the Fundamental Institute of Black Africa. However, earlier, in our political struggle for African emancipation, we had received inspiration from the ideas and practice of Mahatma Gandhi and Pandit Nehru.

Before its Independence in 1960, my country, Senegal, was the oldest French colony in Africa, and at the same time the most emancipated. Indeed, since 1848, it sent an elected representative to the French Parliament. And, apart from the Guinean case, we were the first to ask for independence from General de-Gaulle. And to obtain it without a shot bing fired, in friendship with France. Our secret is that we inspired ourselves with the philosophy, the

doctrine and the action of Gandhi, interpreted and enriched by Nehru, who, one forgets too often outside India, was a greatly talented thinker and writer.

We found inspiration in the Mahatma as his political doctrine was founded on a philosophy and a religion, but also because it had started to find concrete expression against the most colonial and racist State which could be. that of Apartheid. Thus, one can say that the constitutional change which, this year, is taking timid form in South Africa, is the result, although belated, of Gandhi's action. However, the Africans that we were, and remain, we were less inspired by the action of the Mahatma in Africa than by his politics in India, after his return.

### AHIMSA

His political action was founded on Ahimsa, to which I had alluded in speaking about Buddhism: upon the doctrine of nonviolence. Ahimsa requires active action towards all men and all manifestations of life. An action which is based on the principle of equality of rights between all men and the suppression of discrimination founded on race, caste, language, religion or culture.

However, it is back in India that Gandhi preached and practised his doctrine, to its ultimate consequence. It is then that he started to apply it in the form of "civil disobedience", but without hatred. In his campaign against colonialism, the object was to touch England, the occupying power, where she was the most vulnerable: in her economy, specifically her trade. And the best way to succeed in it was again to return to the traditional occupations: among others, spinning and weaving. It is Jawaharlal Nehru who continued the work of Gandhi, and not only in the political field. We saw it. In the "Discovery of India", he outlined what I call Indian Humanism. A humanism rooted in the symbiotic values of historical and even prehistoric India, but already open to the Universal civilisation because of the fruitful interaction with different civilisations, including the British.

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I say that Pandit Nehru continued the philosophical and political work of Mahatma Gandhi by starting to be one of his most fervent disciples. Not as a student who is satisfied by listening to his Master, but as one who adds to the profundity of the doctrine in the context of changing 20th century realities in India, herself an integral part of Asia. That is how Nehru participated actively in the civil disobedience campaigns launched by Gandhi. That is how he animated the Congress Party and, in 1947, brought the country to independence. And the part-failure constituted by the secession of Pakistan proves that the humanitarian message of Gandhi had not been well understood by all the cultural communities. I stress this last word, because, thanks to the Mahatma, Indians had succeeded, in spite of everything, in overcoming ethnic differences and to accept the biological and cultural symbiosis.

It is the occasion to pay tribute to the daughter of Jawaharlal Nehru: to Indira. Whoever studied her work, as I tried to do during my official visit in 1974, could not help observing the impact of the interlinked personalities of Indira, her father, and the Mahatma. First of all through her vast culture. Despite her European schooling or because of it she was well placed to judge, at its true value, the doctrine and action of the Mahatma. And the fact itself that like him, she sacrificed her life for the cause is conclusive proof that Indira was among the most faithful disciples of the Mahatma. Like her guide, she worked for the rehabilitation of the Untouchables. At the same time, like her father, she was especially engaged in reciprocally integrating the South and the North, with, as I saw her do it, special concern for the Dravidians.

On reflection, it is this modernism which best characterises Indira Gandhi, starting solidly with her studies, done successively in English and French. She addressed her effort, on the one side, to the fight against illiteracy, which declined by 34%, and on the other side, to scientific and technical manpower development, in which India today holds the third place in the world.

To conclude. After the Second World war, which succeeded in discrediting racism as well as a science without conscience, the palaeontologist and philosopher Pierre Teilhard de Chardin declared that by the year 2000 a "Universal Civilisation" would be born. All continents, all races, and in any case all civilisations would contribute to it their own irreplaceable values.

The "Greek miracle", about which I too have spoken when I was teaching Plato's language, is in effect nothing but a result of biological and cultural hybridism. To start with, the Greek founders of the Albo-European civilisation are, today, one of the rare peoples of Europe with the blood group 'D' as preponderant, as in Africa. It is well known that the principal Greek philosophers, writers and sages, who, between the 7th and the 4th centuries B.C. founded the classic civilisation, had been in Egypt to study. In an Egypt in which, as Herodotus, the father of history wrote, the inhabitants had "black skin and curly hair". I would mention among others, Phythagoras and Plato, Thales and Eudoxe, Hippocrates and Herodotus himself.

Although the Indian biological miracle reached completion only in modern times, it is not less significant. It is exemplary, as the numerical list of the blood groups in India demonstrates. Each one of the three principal groups characterises one continent, where it is at the top: 'O' Africa, 'B' Asia and 'A' Europe. India is one of the few countries who have achieved the perfect equilibrium between the three. I say: "perfect". In fact, in India, Group B is slightly at the top, this group born in Asia and which characterises your continent.

One is led to conclude that, even with its hybridising, India has chosen, above all <pp-364>

and definitely, to be Asian: a model offered to the three great races - the Whites, the Yellows and the Blacks - to the three great civilisations which met on the largest of the five continents. In the heart of Asia.

# DIA USA GERMANY EGYPT OMAN FRANCE PERU SENEGAL CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC GUINEA SOUTH AFRICA PAKISTAN

**Date** : Dec 12, 1984

# Volume No

1995

### ORGANISATION OF ISLAMIC CONFERENCE

Shri Rahim Addresses OIC Meeting

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 19, 1984 of the address at the Organisation of Islamic Conference in Sanaa (Yemen Arab Republic) yesterday (December 18, 1984) by the Minister of State for External Affairs, Shri A. A. Rahim, in his capacity as the representative of the Chairman of the Non-Aligned movement:

I have pleasure in addressing this august gathering as the representative of the Chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement. I bring to you personal greetings from Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi. We appreciate this gesture of the Organisation of Islamic Conference in inviting the Chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement to participate in your deliberations as an observer.

We are particularly happy in attending this conference in a friendly non-aligned capital, Sanaa. The warm welcome and the traditional Yemeni hospitality to which we have been witness since our arrival here have at once made us feel completely at home. For this, the Government and people of the Yemen Arab Republic deserve all round praise and appreciation.

In India, the Islamic faith and its traditions date back to almost the time of the Prophet himself. Over the centuries Islam has taken firm roots in the Indian soil. Today India has one of the largest Muslim population in the world. Our policies have promoted unhindered growth of all faith in the country.

Most of the countries present here today are also full-fledged members of the Non-Aligned Movement. The Organisation of Islamic Conference itself attends the meetings of the Non-Aligned Movement as an Observer. A cooperative relationship between the two should therefore be welcomed as it can assist in the attainment of our common goals.

World peace is fundamental for human well-beings. The Organisation of Islamic Conference, which is inspired by the tenets of Islam, advocates search for solutions to international problems by peaceful means. With a membership that has more than 40 nations in its fold, we believe that the Organisation of Islamic Conference holds great potential for promoting world peace and cooperation.

### LARGEST PEACE MOVEMENT

The Non-Aligned Movement itself has been widely described as the largest peace movement in history. In defining the character of the Movement, the late Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi said, "In a fast changing world, Non-Alignment remains the bulwark of an everwidening area of peace, a shield against external pressures and a catalyst of a new world economic order based on equality and justice. It promotes and hastens change, itself remaining unchanged. We represent nations which, amidst their colourful diversity, are united in their unvarying search for freedom, equality, peace and stability, for their < pg-365 >

own peoples and for all the world. Non-Alignment is the courage of true independence."

Mr. Chairman, we face today a troubled international situation. Maintenance of international peace and security have become increasingly difficult and elusive. Paradoxically, at a time when the role and effectiveness of the United Nations needs to be strengthened, there is now a trend perceptible in some quarters of a retreat from multilateral approaches. This needs to be firmly discouraged. The Non-Aligned Movement is fully committed to the purposes and principles of the United Nations. Indeed the Movement is convinced that the discharge of its entrusted responsibility by the United Nations, is indispensable to the maintenance of international peace and security and promotion of social and economic cooperation world wide.

#### DISARMAMENT

Disarmament is a basic issue that concerns all of us. In particular the nuclear arms race is posing a threat to the very survival of mankind. The speed, sophistication and single mindedness with which weapons of mass destruction are being added to an already enormous stockpile is truly unprecedented in history. In this climate of rising tensions, we can ill-afford to either despair or even adopt an indifferent stance. Indeed, in precisely such circumstances should Movements such as the Organisation of Islamic Conference or the Non-Aligned Movement redouble their energies in promoting world peace and cooperation.

In one such effort the late Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi, had joined five other Heads of States and Governments in May last year in a Joint Declaration calling upon the nuclear weapon States to halt the testing, production and deployment of weapons of mass destruction and to take up a programme of arms reduction leading to general and complete disarmament. While this Declaration has found wide support in the international community, the countries to which the appeal was mainly directed have been less than promising in their response. It is, however, a matter of some satisfaction that both the USA and the USSR have agreed to hold bilateral talks early next year on disarmament and related issues. We hope these would break new ground, which would enable a reversal of the arms race and lead to a general relaxation of global tension.

#### MIDDLE EAST

The situation in West Asia is an issue which poses a serious threat to international peace and security. The events there continue to arouse our anguish and indignation. The Palestinian people who have been driven away from what is their rightful homeland continue to be denied their right to self-determination and nationhood. Israel has not given up its expansionist designs and is consolidating its settlements over occupied territories against overwhelming world opinion. Lebanon's travails too have not ended with Israel still not having vacated its aggression in southern Lebanon. All these, however, are different manifestations of the questions at the core of the Middle East problem which is Israeli aggression and the self-determination of and nationhood for the Palestinian people. Unless these are addressed, no durable solution can emerge.

The Non-Aligned Movement recognises the Palestinian Liberation Organisation as the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. There is a major struggle ahead and in order to achieve success, we must remain steadfast and united. The Non-Aligned Movement have fully endorsed the Arab Peace Plan adopted at Fez. The Movement has also extended its total support to the convening of an International Peace Conference on the Middle East. The Non-Aligned Committee of Eight on Palestine has mounted considerable efforts to mobilise support amongst the international community for the proposed Peace Conference. However, the negative stance of certain countries is withholding progress in this regard. <pg-366>

### SITUATION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

Another important issue that has constantly engaged the attention of the Non-Aligned Movement is the situation in Southern Africa. Despite the clear-cut plans for independence laid down by the UN, freedom for Namibia has still not become a reality. Today, new proposals and arrangements are sought to be introduced which we are being led to believe could usher in the long awaited independence. We have, however, still to be convinced of South Africa's preparedness to agree to the political implementation of the UN Plan for Namibia.

There has also been a marked deterioration in situation in South Africa itself. Dubious constitutional reforms have been introduced by the South African Government despite their total rejection by the majority non-white community. The root cause of all the problem in Southern Africa is the policy and practice of Apartheid which has been declared a crime against humanity. The Non-Aligned Movement will continue to agitate actively for the full sovereignty of the peoples of Namibia and South Africa.

There are a number of other international political issues on which the Non-Aligned Movement have worked with great unity and solidarity. The positions adopted by the Movement are in accordance with its traditions and the principles that have guided it since inception.

### ECONOMIC PROBLEM

Economic problems facing the world are no less serious than the political issues. The widening gap between the developing and developed countries has become a source of instability threatening world peace and security. Economic pressures by means of barriers in trade, technology transfer, access to resources. and debt burden give cause for doubt about the very survival of some developing countries. Of particular concern, is the gravity of the economic situation in Africa. Challenges such as these, will have to be met through cooperative endeavours of the international community, wherein the industrialised countries should assume major responsibility. Regrettably however, the efforts of the developing countries to secure even modest demands have met with only an unwilling response from the industrialised countries. This attitude notwithstanding, the Non-Aligned Movement has been vigorously pursuing, in consultation with G-77, the comprehensive approach evolved at the New Delhi Non-Aligned Summit. A few months ago, group of five eminent experts appointed by the late Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, completed a study of the substantive and other issues that would arise in an international conference on money and development, the call for which was given at the New Delhi Summit. The Group's report has been circulated and is under the consideration of various Governments.

The Non-Aligned Movement has also been active in promoting economic cooperation amongst developing countries as a means of promoting collective self-reliance. South-South cooperation could be a valuable instrument for promoting the rational and efficient use of human, material, financial and technological resources available in developing countries for their individual and collective welfare.

Mr. Chairman, I have briefly dwelt on certain major political and economic issues facing the world today. I have also outlined the Non-Aligned Movement's activities on some of these. I am glad to note that this important conference, at the level of Foreign ministers, would also be addressing several of these and related questions. I would, therefore, like to extend, on behalf of the Chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement, our best wishes to you in your endeavours, to seeking constructive solutions for promoting global peace and cooperation. <pg-367>

DIA YEMEN USA PERU ISRAEL LEBANON NAMIBIA SOUTH AFRICA **Date** : Dec 19, 1984

# Volume No

### SOVIET UNION

### 20 Per Cent Increase in Indo-USSR Trade Plan for 1985

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 07, 1984 on the signing of the Indo-USSR Inter-Governmental Trade Protocol:

The Indo-USSR trade plan for 1985 envisages a dramatic increase in trade turn-over to Rs. 4,620 crores which is an increase of approximately 20 per cent over the targetted trade turn-over of Rs. 3,840 crores for 1984.

The Indo-USSR trade talks for 1985 concluded here today with the signing of the Inter-Governmental Trade Protocol for 1985 by Mr. Abid Hussain, Commerce Secretary, Government of India and Mr. I. T. Grishin, Deputy Minister for Foreign Trade of USSR.

With the volume of trade touching a figure of Rs. 4,620 crores in 1985, the targets laid down in the long-term programme of economic, trade, scientific and technical cooperation signed by the Prime Ministers of the two countries would not only have been achieved but considerably exceeded. This long-term programme envisaged that the growth in bilateral trade in 1981-85 should be 1.5 to 2 times of what it was in the period 1976-80. In fact, by the end of 1985 it is expected that total trade in 1981-85 would have increased by more than 2.5 times of what it was in the period 1976-80.

The trade protocol for 1985 provides for total trade turn-over of Rs. 4,620 crores against the turn-over of Rs. 3,840 crores in 1984. Exports from India to the USSR are expected to touch a record figure of Rs. 2,500 crores in comparison to Rs. 2000 crores in 1984 marking an increase of 25 per cent over 1984. This rate of growth is much higher than the rate of growth of India's global exports.

Similarly, imports from the USSR in 1985 are expected to be Rs. 2,120 crores. The corresponding figure in 1984 was Rs. 1,840 crores. The increase in 1985 would thus be about 15 per cent over 1984. The USSR would thus continue to be India's biggest and most important trading partner. The rate of growth of Soviet trade with India is considerably higher than the rate of growth of USSR trade with any other country.

The protocol for 1985 enviasges significant break through in many sectors of Indian exports. This is particularly so in the case of chemicals and allied products (growth 43 per cent), textiles (growth 36 percent) and engineering goods (growth 25 per cent).

### NOTABLE FEATURE

Substantially higher provisions have been made in the protocol of 1985 for packaged tea, cashew kernels, cigarettes, fruit juices and fresh and canned fruits, pesticides and herbicides, polypropylene ropes, shoe uppers, bed linen, readymade garments, cotton hosiery, woollen knitwear, automobile storage batteries, Xerographic equipment, steam boilers, V. Belts, machine tools, freight containers, handicrafts and sports goods.

A notable feature of USSR exports to India is the large increase which is anticipated in the imports of machinery and equipment from the USSR. Significant increases have also been provided for chemicals and non-ferrous metals.

year, for the first time, synthetic rubber and several chemicals have been added to the list of items to be imported from USSR. On the export side, veterinary preparations, medical equipment and instruments and mohair products are the new items which have been added to the list of items to be exported from India.

This high level of trade would provide a good benchmark for achieving significant growth in trade in the years 1986-90 for which the long-term plan is currently under preparation.

The talks as usual, were held in an atmosphere of extreme cordiality, mutual understanding and goodwill. Both sides have expressed complete satisfaction with the results achieved in the talks.

A INDIA FRANCE **Date** : Dec 07, 1984

# Volume No

1995

**SPAIN** 

Indo-Spanish Trade Parity Emphasised

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 04, 1984 on bilateral trade talks between India and Spain:

Bilateral trade between India and Spain must be enlarged from the present annual trade turn-over of Rs. 164 crores, with special emphasis on achieving reasonable parity of trade on both sides. Mr. S.M. Krishna, Minister of State for Commerce, told Mr. Lui De Velasco, Secretary of State of Trade of the Government of Spain, that it would be advantageous to strive for symmetrical model in bilateral trade in view of the fact that even though there were abundant opportunities for exports from India to Spain the existing opportunities had not been adequately tapped. At present India is exporting goods valued at Rs. 38.12 crores to Spain, and imports from Spain to India were approximately of the order of Rs. 126.0 crores. These views were expressed by Shri S.M. Krishna, Union Minister of State for Commerce, when Mr. Velasco called on him here today.

The Minister said that export of non-traditional items to Spain could be increased particularly of valued-added items and engineering goods. Mr. Velasco, while agreeing with the views of Shri Krishna said that there was need to have greater exchange of trade information and capabilities on both sides. He emphasised the fact that Spain had very few non-tariff barriers and low tariff duties. He exhorted Indian exporters to take advantage of this fact and promote exports of Indian goods to Spain.

Earlier at the trade talks held between India and Spain possibility for exporting garments, tobacco and finished leather from India to Spain were identified. India, on the other hand, agreed to study the application of Spanish technology for agricultural products for adaptation in Indian conditions. <pp-369>

AIN INDIA USA **Date :** Dec 04, 1984

### Volume No

1995

**SPAIN** 

India and Spain Identify New Areas for Trade

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

on Dec 03, 1984 on Indo Spanish trade:

India and Spain have agreed to increase their volume of trade and will explore the possibility of exporting garments, tobacco and finished leather from India to Spain. On the other hand, India will study the application of Spanish technology in agricultural products, for example, citrus fruits, olive, saffron and fisheries and marine products in India. These areas were identified at a meeting between Shri Abid Hussain, Commerce Secretary, and Mr. Lui De Velasco, Secretary of State of Trade, who is the leader of the five-member trade delegation from Spain, when they met here today.

With a view to overcoming the barrier in easy flow of trade between the two countries, there will be greater exchange of trade information. In this connection Spain has recently opened a permanent commercial office in New Delhi.

At present India exports fish and fish preparations, spices, sesame seeds, coffee, garments, pearls and precious stones, metal manufactures, etc., to Spain.

India imports synthetic fibre, iron and steel, non-ferrous metals, printing paper photographic and cinematographic supplies, etc. from Spain.

According to provisional trade figures for 1983-84 the total trade turn-over between India and Spain is Rs. 164.27 crores. <pp-370>

AIN INDIA USA RUSSIA

**Date** : Dec 03, 1984