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GENTINA INDIA FRANCE INDONESIA MEXICO NEPAL USA OMAN ROMANIA ITALY  
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**Date :** Jan 01, 1985

# Volume No

1995

ARGENTINA

Giani Zail Singh Hosts Banquet in Honour of President of Argentina

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 24, 1985 of the text of the speech by the President Giani Zail Singh at a banquet held by him in honour of His Excellency Dr. Raul Alfonsin, President of the Republic of Argentina, in New Delhi on January 24, 1985:

I should like, once again, to extend a very warm and cordial welcome to you and members of your party on your official visit to India. We are delighted that India is the first country in Asia which you are visiting. This underscores our strong mutual desire to strengthen our ties of friendship and cooperation. My visit to your country last year was in a sense a voyage of discovery, being the first-ever by the President of India to Latin America. The spontaneity and warmth of the welcome accorded to me and my party by yourself, the Government and the people of Argentina will always be cherished by me.

We have been impressed by Argentina's strong commitment to freedom and democracy and her determination to develop her vast resources and talents under conditions of peace. The restoration of democracy in your country has opened a new vista for the people of Argentina. We note that more and more nations in Latin America are taking to the democratic path. We in India have gone through a general election for the eighth time since our independence and results have once again shown that democracy has struck deep roots in India. Despite vast diversity, the people of India have renewed their commitment to democratic ideals and procedures. By giving an overwhelming vote of confidence to the leadership of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, they have reaffirmed their devotion to safeguarding the unity and integrity of India as well as the process of modernisation and economic development coupled with social justice. Our Government and people are committed to seeing India move into the twenty-first century as a developed and prosperous nation. This is their tribute to the legacy of our beloved Indira Gandhi, whose ideals along with those of Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru will continue to inspire future generation of Indians in building a strong, secular, united and democratic country.

NON-ALIGNMENT

Non-Alignment has been the guiding star of India's foreign

policy. Its relevance has never been greater than now when the world increasingly confronts suspicion and mistrust among nations, conflict and tension, escalating arms race and the menace of a nuclear war, militarisation of the Indian Ocean, and a widening gap between the rich and poor nations, problems of apartheid, racial discrimination and remnants of colonialism. It is our earnest desire to see the Indian Ocean become a zone of peace. We appreciate your concern about the possibility of a similar militarisation of the South Atlantic. As Chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement it has been India's endeavour to defuse international tensions, promote confidence among nations and help reverse the arms race and promote a North-South dialogue for a more equitable international economic order. Our two countries are united in our resolve to achieve global peace, disarmament and development. We are happy that close co

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operation has been forged between our two countries on these major issues which affect the destiny of mankind. I also note with satisfaction that the forthcoming summit meeting of six Heads of State or Government meeting in New Delhi in which your Excellency will also be participating is taking a new initiative in the field of nuclear disarmament. I wish you much success in this important task.

#### SOUTH ASIAN REGIONAL CO-OPERATION

In our region, it has been our endeavour to create an area of peace, friendship and cooperation. We have extended full support to South Asian Regional Cooperation and hope that it will lead to closer links among the peoples of the area who share common bonds of history, geography and culture. We are, however, concerned at attempts to militarise the region through induction of sophisticated weapons. We trust that all nations will realise the futility of confrontationist approaches and will instead choose the path of peace and cooperation, which alone can assure the benefits of modernisation to all the countries of the area.

We are aware that your country too has a similar approach towards its neighbours. We note with appreciation your efforts towards the settlement of longstanding bilateral issues through peaceful means. We also hope that a peaceful solution will be found to remove the remaining relics of the colonial era from your region. We have been greatly encouraged by your dedication to achieve closer integration and cooperation among Latin American nations which will surely contribute to world peace and cooperation.

#### BILATERAL RELATIONS

We may pride ourselves, Mr. President, at the improvement that our two countries have seen in their bilateral relations. These relations which encompass political, economic, cultural, scientific and technological fields, can well serve as a model

for South-South cooperation. We are confident that these bilateral ties will continue to develop in every field. The agreements on economic, scientific and technical cooperation being signed during your visit are a concrete manifestation of this trend. They will bring us even closer together in the years to come.

Your visit to our country, Mr. President ' is all too brief. I do hope, however, that even in this short period you will have an opportunity to catch glimpses of our past as well as some objects of modern development. Above all, I am sure, you will perceive our people's devotion to international peace, understanding and cooperation.

Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, may I now invite you all to join me in a toast to the health and happiness of His Excellency, the President of Argentina, to the well-being and prosperity of the Argentine people and to the ever-lasting friendship between the two countries.

GENTINA INDIA USA

**Date :** Jan 24, 1985

## Volume No

1995

ARGENTINA

Text of Argentina President's Speech

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 24, 1985 of the speech by His Excellency Dr. Raul Alfonsin, the President of the Republic of Argentina at a banquet held by the President, Giani Zail Singh, in his honour:

In a few hours India will celebrate its National Day. And if it is a pleasure and an honour for me to be in the ancient home of human dignity, it is even more so to be with you and your people on such a memorable date.

It was fifty-five years ago. The Congress of India - that forum of liberty and democracy, that bastion of struggle against despotism and foreign domination, whose creation soon a century will have passed -the Congress of India sanctioned, under the Presidency of Nehru, a proposal of

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Mahatma Gandhi in favour of independence.

A little later, also in 1930 and also at the insistence of that man who was a gigantic civil saint, the people of India launched themselves towards the conquest of emancipation declared by the Congress of Lahore, through the epic of salt, which astonished a very ancient world immersed in another economic crisis unleashed by financial speculation and social injustice.

#### MEANING OF HUMAN LIFE

What an example, Mr. President, your nation gave! What a lesson, Mr. President, they gave their fellowmen! But what other example, what other lesson can come from the nation in which Gautama, six centuries before Christ, would leave his wealth and comfort to travel the road in search of the meaning of human life, and where the poet Tiruvalluvar, a millenium later, would state: "Those who are devoid of love are not more than the meat and bones" and "Only he who knows how to be with other lives".

1930. A decisive year for India, a decisive year for Argentina. For while India found its way toward independence, in Argentina - which had established its independence in 1816 and perfected its democracy a century later - a coup d'etat demolished the people's sovereignty and threw into soil President Hipolito Yrigoyen, by the shores of the Plata coincided with Gandhi, without either of them knowing it, by maintaining that "Man must be sacred for other men and people for other people" - thesis or dogma that he lay before President Herbert Hoover of the United States, in that fatidical 1930 and by affirming that the concern of democracy is a minimum of happiness for all the inhabitants.

Yes, Mr. President, the message of Yrigoyen in benefit of the dispossessed and the disinherited united itself, at great distance, with that of the Mahatma, who struggled for an India "in which the poorest man must believe that he is part of his country, in whose formation he has an effective role".

#### NON-VIOLENCE

Perhaps non-violence, which has its beginnings in the traditions of the Jainas and in some aspects of Vedic thought, also pertains to the exploitation of man by other men and of the prevalence in the world concert of a few countries over them? Perhaps non-violence absolves the imperialistic actions and hegemonic crusades so combated by Yrigoyen? Perhaps nonviolence excludes the equality of nations, which Yrigoyen praised with great boldness after the hecatombe of the First World War, which revealed to him the monstrous dilemma between the advancement of science and technology and its application to the disadvantage of human beings and their progress as such, that is, of the respect of his rights and improvement of his material and spiritual well-being.

No, Mr. President, he who limits the teachings of Gandhi to the frontiers ' of India and his circumstantial opposition to the usurper who left in 1947 is wrong. No, Mr. President, Gandhi spoke for all humanity and did not preach a local strategy of opportunity: he opened the doors of a new structure, of a new conception of the world as brotherhood, true and durable. He also read the Gospel.

He was assassinated in another January, that of 1948, to the consternation of India and the other nations. But there is no way to assassinate thought and the expression of that thought, nor is there a way to abolish by force the hopes and necessities of a people; and in another January, three decades after the call of Lahore, the Constitution of India entered into force, in which the genius of Dr. Ambedkar brought together the ideals of Gandhi, his equals and disciples, which possibly started at the dawn of Indian civilization, three thousand years before Christ, in Mohenjodaro and Harappa, and which persisted through the centuries and through the mixtures of races, religions, philosophies, languages and

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arts, and in spite of the barbarity of invasions and the scourge of colonialism.

Today India shows itself to the world as the birthplace of a wise policy which can serve as the inspiration of the international community. Since his visit to Argentina nine months ago - a visit which increased the close friendship which ties our countries, and which left such fond memories for me and all of my countrymen - India has felt once more the irrational action of violence, and, once more, showed that political wisdom preserving her institutions and guarantee national unity in the midst of pain and indignation, thanks to its strength and prudence.

The Non-Aligned Movement recognizes in India one of its greatest and splendid founders and a member who most contributed to its basic principles on which its work rests. The remarkable Indira Gandhi, whose tragic disappearance the world still mourns, signalled out that Non-Alignment is not a mere or chance meeting of States, if not a vital historical process. It is the union of many historical currents, spiritual and cultural. It is an assertion of the will of humanity to survive, in spite of oppression, of the increased arms race and of the ideological divisions.

The common participation of Argentina and India in the Non-Aligned Movement has determined their international activities in a world in which the opposing military alliances and its inevitable consequence, the arms race, place the survival of man in extreme danger.

No one should be surprised, then, at the backing India again gave us in the last General Assembly of the United Nations in our peaceful campaign to regain Argentine sovereignty in the Malvinas, South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands. We have present the concepts of your ambassador in that international forum, Mr. Krishnan, in the sense that the elements of our claim "constitute unimpeachable objectives and principles which have the support of the Indian Republic."

In a like fashion, the Argentine participation with India in the Declaration of the Six on nuclear disarmament, responds to a similar preoccupation for the future of humanity and includes a definition in favour of life and against death. In the economic field it is necessary to emphasize the coordination of policies and the strengthening of the position of the developing countries with the aim of achieving the greatest support of the international community to the claims of initiating a new economic order; and it is also necessary to find paths which can make South-South cooperation more dynamic in its various aspects. From the commercial and financial to the scientific and cultural.

In this way we will unify our efforts to breach the great obstacles that have conditioned our access to development and the exercise of our economic sovereignty, forging a new situation of greater dependence whose most grave mark is the external debt, which bleeds the economies of the nations of the South and makes vulnerable their institutions and social stability, which affects the world's stability.

Mr. President, in the bilateral arena, the agreements of economic, and scientific and technical cooperation, and the cultural exchange programme, we have concluded show the will of our peoples to create more intimate, closer and more systematic ties. I am convinced that we have reached here the efforts started in Buenos Aires in April, 1984 to inaugurate a new phase in the fraternal collaboration between our countries, based beyond geographic distances and differences of origin, in the sincere friendship of our peoples and in our common faith in man, in justice, in harmony and in peace.

I offer a toast to that common friendship and faith, to the personal good fortune of the President and to the happiness and prosperity of the Indian people.

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GENTINA INDIA USA GEORGIA

**Date :** Jan 24, 1985

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ARGENTINA

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Indo-Argentinian Shipping Talks

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The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 24, 1985 on Indo-Argentinian shipping talks:

A three member Argentinian delegation led by Mr. Ricarda Camparo, Minister of Foreign Trade, today called on the Union Minister of State for Shipping and Transport, Shri Z. R. Ansari. The two sides discussed matters of mutual interest and expressed a strong desire to strengthen relations between the two countries not only on political level but also on commercial and economic levels.

It was agreed that commercial and trade between the two countries can only prosper if direct maritime service was available from India to Argentina. Already a commercial level agreement exists between the State-owned Shipping Corporation of India (SCI) and Empresa Lineas, Maritimas Argentinas (ELMA) SA for carrying of cargo with transshipment at Singapore. It was decided that a wider government level agreement should be drawn up for transportation as well as sharing of cargo on direct destination basis without involving a third country. It was further decided that officials of the two countries should meet to thrash out a mutually acceptable draft agreement.

ARGENTINA INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC USA REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE

**Date :** Jan 24, 1985

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## Volume No

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ARGENTINA

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India and Argentina for Higher Volume of Direct Bilateral Trade

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The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 28, 1985 on the bilateral trade between India and Argentina:

Issues pertaining to expansion of bilateral trade between India and Argentina were discussed between H.E. Mr. Ricardo Oscar Camparo, Minister for Foreign Trade of the Republic of Argentina

and Mr. Prem Kumar, Secretary, Ministry of Commerce, here today. Both sides agreed to mobilise direct trade activities through the two nodal points identified for easy trade flow between the two countries. While India has appointed State Trading Corporation to negotiate trade activities from the Indian side, Argentina has set up the Argentine Council for International Cooperation with the Republic of India, for this purpose. Mr. Prem Kumar said that the STC would associate the concerned public and private sector agencies in its trade activities with Argentina.

The Argentine Foreign Trade Minister said that a trade delegation would visit India next month with a view to identifying the items for trade as well as to negotiate contracts for bilateral trade between the two countries. This would be a concrete step towards establishing stable and longterm trade links between the two countries.

During the talks, broad areas which offered potential for development were identified. It was agreed that joint ventures in third countries would also be undertaken in certain areas to the mutual benefit of both countries.

#### FREIGHT STRUCTURE

The move to rationalise the freight structure which would give comparative cost advantage to items which were imported and exported between the two countries was welcomed by both sides.

Shri J. S. Baijal, Additional Secretary in the Ministry of Finance, as well as representatives of STC and Engineering Export Promotion Council were present at the meeting.

The major commodities which are exported from India to Argentina are hessian cloth, machine tools, bicycle parts, objects  
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for interior decoration, garments and other cotton dresses, aluminium, phosphide and shellac.

India imports several items from Argentina namely soyabean oil, sunflower, seed oil, raw steel in bars, raw aluminium, iron and steel bars, tartaric acid, unmarked steel in bare, iron bore steel angles, steel and iron pipe fittings; petroleum derivatives, rubber tubes, seamless tubes and auto parts.

The existing value of trade between the two countries was Rs. 4590 lakhs (prov.) in 1983-84 and Rs. 3131 lakhs (prov.) during the period April-September, 1984.

GENTINA INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC USA

**Date :** Jan 28, 1985

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## DISARMAMENT

### Six Nation Summit in New Delhi

The following is the statement by the Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi at the Six-Nation Summit on Nuclear Disarmament in New Delhi on Jan 28, 1985:

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, it is a high privilege for me and the Government and people of India to welcome the Presidents of Argentina, Mexico and Tanzania and the Prime Ministers of Greece and Sweden to New Delhi. What brings us together is mankind's highest cause today or ever - namely, Peace. We represent not only our own peoples but the constituency of peace which embraces all continents and countries and includes vast millions even within nuclear weapons countries. We reflect humanity's passionate conviction that the Earth shall live. That is our mandate. That is the cause for which Indira Gandhi lived and worked.

In 1944 a great experiment was launched, the United Nations, in the tremulous hope that the thought of war can be abolished from the minds of men. Another experiment was going on at that time - for harnessing the secrets of the atom to military power. The first nuclear bombs were dropped in 1945. The U.N. Charter could not obviously refer to nuclear weapons, but the General Assembly has unequivocally declared that the use of such weapons is a crime against humanity. The five permanent members of U.N., who have a monopoly of nuclear weapons, claim a kind of legitimacy for possession of such weapons. But to the peoples of the world, nuclear weapons are in themselves an unmitigated evil and their use or threat of use by anyone is impermissible in any circumstances.

### BALANCE OF TERROR

It is true that no nuclear weapons have been actually used since 1945. The proponents of the theory of balance of terror take credit for this nuclear peace. It is at best a grey peace, precarious and unstable. Production of nuclear weapons is going on. They are becoming increasingly sophisticated. Each improvement in accuracy and mobility makes present agreements so much more fragile.

Existing compacts deny to non-nuclear-weapons states the right to conduct experiments even for peaceful purposes, while placing no restraint on the nuclear-weapons powers in the matter of multiplying their arsenals. This is a discrimination to which we have objected. Much is made of the danger of horizontal proliferation. But the dangers of present stockpiles, their vertical proliferation and the risk of catastrophe

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by error or design are slurred over. How can one nation or five nations be considered more responsible than the rest? Basic problems of sovereignty and human survival are involved.

#### NUCLEAR FREEZE

The two great powers have recently agreed to resume discussions on nuclear weapons. This is a good development and we welcome it. We want these negotiations not to be confined to ways of dealing with only the consequences of improvements in capacity and delivery systems. They must ultimately address themselves to the basic objective, which is the elimination of all nuclear weapons, as recognised in their statement. Credible and reassuring first steps would be a freeze on further production and deployment of nuclear weapons as well as fissile material for weapons purposes. This has to be followed by nuclear-weapons powers embarking on physical reduction of stockpiles. Furthermore, the discussions and agreements should be more than bilateral; they must apply to all possessors of nuclear weapons. Otherwise the peril remains open.

The actual prospect of nuclear weapons being used remains where national security is based on the premise of "stability" through extended deterrence or through the building up of counterforce capabilities or a multilayered network of defence systems. Every refinement of deterrence, like "flexible response" and "limited" and "winnable" war scenarios, assumes that the use of these weapons can be controlled by increasing their technological sophistication. The qualitative arms race is thus built into the arms control approach. That kind of arms control is in reality no control.

The dangers have increased of computer errors, systems failures, accidents, and misjudgements at lower echelons to whom responsibility is inevitably delegated. There is, besides, the new danger of nuclear terrorism and blackmail.

#### WEAPONS TRANSFER

Sophisticated weapons are being transferred not merely between members of military alliances but also outside. Global justifications are advanced. This leads to several new local and regional tensions which, sooner or later, are bound to result in physical conflict. This is not mere speculation. It has immediate

relevance to the situation in our region.

Arms race and international tension are inseparable companions. Over the years there has been a heightening of tension all over the world. All multilateral activity is getting increasingly snarled in bloc rigidities and polemics. There is a spurt in proxy wars and many regions are affected by turmoil directly and indirectly. Therefore, the initiation of a dialogue between the major powers, though welcome, does not by itself free smaller and vulnerable States from the competitive attention of the big powers. Along with the dialogue, there must also be a genuine effort not to view all relationships in terms of the global strategic balance and "spheres of influence".

#### MILITARY SPENDING

Military spending is rapidly nearing the staggering figure of \$ 1000 billion annually. It continues to rise while the world economy hovers between uncertain recovery and a relapse into deeper recession. This vast military expenditure, apart from causing dissonances in the economies of the leading military powers, has aggravated the problems of global economic recovery and development. Many developing countries face the stark prospect of economic collapse and social upheaval.

Technological advances are inexorably widening economic disparities among nations. The policies of powerful governments are further accentuating these disparities, building up tensions which bode ill for relations amongst countries. Force cannot find answers to these problems. Vision and statesmanship demand a cooperative approach and constructive measures

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to reduce and remove disparities and ensure a better life for all.

#### UNDERMINING THE U.N.

A new and unfortunate development is the undermining of the various multilateral agencies in the U.N. system. These agencies have played a notable part in assisting poorer countries in the last four decades. If they are weakened, the ideals of the United Nations, indeed the very basis of international cooperation, would be shaken. A campaign has to be launched in the capitals of the world to reverse this unfortunate trend.

The threat of first strike is now being used to justify new kinds of arms races. The probability of climatic catastrophe renders the first strike meaningless. The Nuclear Winter hypothesis, which is being increasingly accepted, shows that even a first strike would spell a holocaust as much for the aggressor as for the victims. It underlines the indivisibility of peace and the urgency of disarmament.

Another matter of concern is the idea of deep strike, according to which conventional weapons could be used for striking at targets at distance up to 300 k.m. It is claimed that this would lessen the resort to nuclear weapons at an early stage of war in Europe. The delivery systems for the conventional deep strike weapons are indistinguishable from those of nuclear weapons. By blurring the distinction between nuclear and conventional weapons, the possibility of a nuclear war is increased and the control of nuclear arms made more difficult.

#### SIX NATION CALL

In May last, our six nations called upon nuclear-weapons powers to halt the arms race and put into effect a programme for the cessation of the testing, production and deployment of nuclear weapons and their delivery systems. It was endorsed by many parliaments and national groups and evoked positive response from one nuclear weapons power. Today we also ask the powerful to prevent an arms race in Outer Space and to embark on a comprehensive treaty to ban the testing of all nuclear weapons.

Prime Minister Palme mentioned that the U.N. Charter gave the right to every nation to defend itself. We are gathered here today defending ourselves not with weapons but with words. We will not defend ourselves with war, we will defend ourselves by building a public opinion against war.

The survival of the human race depends on the demilitarisation of the global surface and on keeping Outer Space free of weapons. We must strengthen the defences of peace in man's inner space as well - his mind, soul and spirit. Mahatma Gandhi, who was alive when Hiroshima took place, declared so perceptively: "The bomb will not be destroyed by counterbombs, even as violence can not be by counter-violence". Let us work to strengthen humanity's faith in itself and its capacity to conquer the peril which has come out of its own technology.

DIA ARGENTINA MEXICO TANZANIA GREECE SWEDEN USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC  
PERU JAPAN

**Date** : Jan 28, 1985

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DISARMAMENT

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## Delhi Declaration

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The following is the text of the Delhi Declaration at the Six-Nation Summit on nuclear disarmament in New Delhi on Jan 28, 1985:

Forty years ago, when atomic bombs were blasted over Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the human race became aware that it could destroy itself, and horror came to dwell among us. Forty years ago, also, the nations of the world gathered to organise the international community, and with the United Nations hope was born for all people.  
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Almost imperceptibly, over the last four decades, every nation and every human being has lost ultimate control over their own life and death. For all of us, it is a small group of men and machines in cities far away who can decide our fate. Every day we remain alive is a day of grace as if mankind as a whole were a prisoner in the death cell awaiting the uncertain moment of execution. And like every innocent defendant, we refuse to believe that the execution will ever take place.

### RIGHT TO LIVE

We find ourselves in this situation because the nuclear weapon states have applied traditional doctrines of war in a world where new weapons have made them obsolete. What is the point of nuclear ((superiority" or "balance" when each side already has enough weapons to devastate the earth dozens of times over? If the old doctrines are applied in the future, the holocaust will be inescapable sooner or later. But nuclear war can be prevented if our voices are joined in a universal demand in defence of our right to live.

As a result of recent atmospheric and biological studies, there have been new findings which indicate that in addition to blast, heat and radiation, nuclear war, even on a limited scale, would trigger an arctic nuclear winter which may transform the Earth into a darkened, frozen planet posing unprecedented peril to all nations, even those far removed from the nuclear explosions. We are convinced that this makes it still more pressing to take preventive action to exclude forever the use of nuclear weapons and the occurrence of a nuclear war.

### HALT TO ARMS RACE

In our Joint Statement of May 22, 1984, we called upon the nuclear weapon states to bring their arms race to a halt. We are encouraged by the world-wide response to our appeal. The international support we received, and the responses of the nuclear weapon states themselves, have been such that we deemed it our duty to meet here in New Delhi to consider ways to further our efforts.

The nuclear weapon states have a particular responsibility for the dangerous state of the arms race. We urge them to join us in the search for a new direction. We welcome the agreement in Geneva, on January 8, 1985, between the Soviet Union and the United States to start negotiations on "a complex of questions concerning space and nuclear arms - both strategic and intermediate range - with all the questions considered and resolved in their inter-relationship". We attach great importance to the proclaimed objective of these negotiations: to prevent an arms race in space and to terminate it on earth, ultimately to eliminate nuclear arms everywhere. We expect the two major nuclear weapon powers to implement, in good faith, their undertaking, and their negotiations to produce, at an early date, significant results. We will follow their work closely and we expect that they will keep the international community informed of its progress. We stress that the agenda for and the outcome of these negotiations is a matter of concern for all nations and all people.

We reiterate our appeal for an all-embracing halt to the testing, production and deployment of nuclear weapons and their delivery systems. Such a halt would greatly facilitate negotiations. Two specific steps today require special attention: the prevention of an arms race in outer space, and a comprehensive test ban treaty.

#### OUTER SPACE

Outer space must be used for the benefit of mankind as a whole, not as a battleground of the future. We therefore call for the prohibition of the development, testing, production, deployment and use of all space weapons. An arms race in space would be enormously costly, and have grave destabilising effects. It would also endanger a number of arms limitation and disarmament agreements.

We further urge the nuclear weapon states to immediately halt the testing of  
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all kinds of nuclear weapons, and to conclude, at an early date, a treaty on nuclear weapon test ban. Such a treaty would be a major step towards ending the continuous modernisation of nuclear arsenals.

We are convinced that all such steps, in so far as necessary, can be accompanied by adequate and non-discriminatory measures of verification.

#### MILITARY EXPENDITURE

A halt to the nuclear arms race is at the present moment imperative. Only thus can it be ensured that nuclear arsenals do

not grow while negotiations proceed. However, this halt should not be an end in itself. It must be immediately followed by substantial reductions in nuclear forces, leading to the complete elimination of nuclear weapons and the final goal of General and Complete Disarmament. Parallel to this process it is urgently necessary to transfer precious resources currently wasted in military expenditure to social and economic development. The strengthening of the United Nations must also be an essential part of this endeavour.

It is imperative to find a remedy to the existing situation where hundreds of billions of dollars, amounting to approximately one and a half million per minute, are spent annually on weapons. This stands in dramatic contrast to the poverty, and in some cases misery, in which two-thirds of the world population live.

The future of all peoples is at stake. As representatives from non-nuclear weapon states, we will not cease to express our legitimate concern and make known our demands. We affirm our determination to facilitate agreement among the nuclear weapon states, so that the required steps can be taken. We will seek to work together with them for the common security of mankind and for peace.

#### PROGRESS IN DISARMAMENT

We urge people, parliaments and governments the world over to lend forceful support to this appeal. Progress in disarmament can only be achieved with an informed public applying strong pressure on governments. Only then will governments summon the necessary political will to overcome the many obstacles which lie in the path of peace. The World Disarmament campaign launched by the United Nations represents a very important element in generating that political will.

For centuries, men and women have fought for their rights and freedoms. We now face the greatest struggle of all - for the right to live, for ourselves and for future generations.

Forty years ago, in Hiroshima and San Francisco, the horror of nuclear war was matched by the hope for peace. We would like this year of 1985 to be the year when hope begins to prevail over terror. We dare to hope that by October 24, 1985, the Fortieth Anniversary of the United Nations, we might see the first concrete steps to avert the threat to the survival of humanity.

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DIA JAPAN USA SWITZERLAND

**Date :** Jan 28, 1985

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FRANCE

### Indo-French Protocol on Cinematography Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 16, 1985 on the signing of the Indo-French protocol on cinematography:

India and France will cooperate in the joint production of films. A protocol to this effect was signed here today between the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting and National Centre for Cinematography of the Government of France.

It was signed by Shri S. S. Gill, Secretary, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting on behalf of Government of India and H.E. Mr. Serge Boidevaix, Ambassador of France in India on behalf of the French Government.

The protocol envisages overall balance not only in the field of film production but also for participation of artists and technicians. It aims at commercial exchange of films on reciprocal basis.

According to the protocol, the Government of India may allow yearly import of 20 French films either sub-titled or dubbed in English or Indian languages or both. The French Government will similarly allow import of equal number of Indian feature films every year. The French films imported under this agreement will be distributed by the National Film Development Corporation in accordance with the agreed terms and conditions.

The protocol also seeks to explore the possibility of regular screening of each other's films on television. It will remain in force initially for a period of two years.

ANCE INDIA

**Date :** Jan 16, 1985

## Volume No

1995

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Prime Minister's Broadcast to the Nation

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The following is the text of the broadcast to the nation by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi over A.I.R. and Doordarshan on Jan 05, 1985:

Fellow citizens, you have given my party and me your confidence in overflowing measure. Who could ask for more? And how can we prove worthy of it? Only by working for you with unremitting faith and humility, summoning all our reserves of strength and energy, being as unsparing with ourselves as you have been generous with your trust.

I do not regard it as my victory, or even the victory of my party, which commences its hundredth year of services; it is the victory of the people of India.

You have spoken clearly and unmistakably. You have given a mandate for unity, for strength, for harmony.

The whole world sees once again the vitality of India's democratic tradition. The political system built up by our great leaders, Gandhiji, Panditji and Indiraji, has marched to new strength. The election has

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been a great celebration of democracy. India's ancient heritage going back to the dawn of mankind, stands renewed in freedom.

The dust and din of the elections are behind us. The passion they generated must now make way for reconciliation. Great tasks await us and we should approach them in a spirit of togetherness. United, there is no challenge that we cannot meet.

Secularism is the basis of our unity. Communalism and all other narrow loyalties are incompatible with unity. These elections have shown that our people always rise above these artificial barriers. We have to fight communalism and the suspicion and insecurity it breeds. It is my first duty to safeguard the life, property and legitimate rights of citizens belonging to every faith.

We must go beyond the prevention and suppression of violence. We must cure the minds where hatred and prejudice arise and grow. We must take the campaign for unity to every village and every street of every town. An ideological battle against communalism, fanaticism must be waged in our schools and universities, in our workplaces and in our media.

PRIORITY TO PUNJAB PROBLEM

My Government will give top priority to the problem of Punjab. A Cabinet Committee has been formed to study various aspects of the problem and to look at alternatives for a peaceful settlement within a specified time-frame. In ending the sad chapter of discord, all should cooperate. The Sikhs are as much a part of India as any other community. They have played a heroic role in Winning and defending our freedom. I wish to assure them that their life and property will be protected in every part of the country. In Punjab and elsewhere, all patriotic forces must repudiate those who preach separatism and practise violence. There cannot, and will not, be any concession to separatist ideologies and to the cult of violence. India's unity is paramount, everything else comes after that.

Earnest efforts will be made to settle the foreigners' issue in Assam. The give-and-take of the conference table can yield victories which confrontation cannot.

#### GROWTH WITH JUSTICE

In a few months we shall begin the Seventh Plan. The war against our old enemies -- poverty, unemployment, disease, ignorance - continues. In the weeks ahead, we shall review our existing policies and programmes to ensure that our basic objectives of growth with justice are realised within the stipulated time-table.

The public sector will continue to be a major tool of development; deficiencies in performance, wherever they exist, will be quickly overcome. Far-reaching proposals for change have been formulated and are under consideration.

Improvement in productivity, absorption of modern technology and fuller utilisation of capacity must acquire the status of a national campaign. I have asked the Ministries of Science & Technology and Industries to prepare specific proposals to achieve these objectives.

I have reviewed the foreign trade policies and directed that concrete steps should be taken in the next few weeks to give a fresh impetus to our exports.

The 20-point programme for the weaker sections is being restructured to be more effective.

#### MEETING THE ECOLOGICAL CRISIS

Continuing deforestation has brought us face to face with a major ecological and socio-economic crisis. The trend must be halted. I propose immediately to set up a National Wastelands Development Board with the object of bringing 5 million hectares of land every year under fuelwood and fodder plantations. We shall

develop a people's movement for afforestation.

The Ganga is the symbol of India's culture, the source of our legend and poetry,  
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the sustainer of millions. Today it is one of the most polluted rivers. We will restore the pristine purity of the Ganga. A Central Ganga Authority will be set up to implement an action plan to prevent the pollution of the Ganga and its tributaries. Measures will be taken to ensure cleaner air and water in all parts of the country.

#### NEW ADMINISTRATIVE CULTURE

Administrative reform is crucial for social and economic transformation. It is for this reason that I decided to take under my own charge the Department of Personnel and Administrative Reforms. A fullscale review of administrative organisation, policies and procedures is in progress.

I have asked that the decision-making processes should be decentralised along with enforcement of accountability. Rules and procedures will be drastically simplified to speed up decision-making. Results will take precedence over procedures.

I have directed all concerned agencies to ensure that citizens get prompt and courteous service from Government departments and agencies. An effective machinery for redressal of public grievances will be set up in offices and departments with large public dealings.

Action will be taken to raise the morale of public services. We shall prevent extraneous interference in the normal functioning of public services. We must create a new administrative culture for service of the masses. Training of civil servants of all categories will be restructured to develop competence and commitment to the basic values of our society.

#### EDUCATIONAL AND NATIONAL COHESION

Education must promote national cohesion and the work ethic. The grandeur of our freedom struggle and its significance for national integration have to be brought home to every student. Our schools and colleges should acquaint the younger generations with India's ancient heritage and culture. The curricula and text books should curb parochial and communal interpretations of our composite culture.

I have looked at some of the policies and programmes in this field. I have asked that a new national education policy be drafted.

We are formulating programmes to use on a large scale the new communication technology in our school system. Delinking of degrees from jobs under Government is under active consideration. Steps are being taken to establish an Open University to bring higher education within easy reach of all. The Central Schools organisation will be expanded. These schools will function as centres of excellence in every district of our country.

I would strongly emphasise education's organic link with the productive forces of society. We shall reorganise vocational education to align it with industry, agriculture, communications and other productive sectors of our economy.

#### COMMITMENT To NON-ALIGNMENT

We have inherited a well-tested and consistent foreign policy which serves our national interest. We have always believed in working for peace. Our policy is to be friends with all countries on the basis of reciprocity and mutual benefit. Our commitment to non-alignment and a new world economic order based on justice, equality and mutual cooperation is unshakable. This means a total dedication to the twin causes of peace and development. We also believe in safeguarding the independence of States and upholding the principles of non-interference and non-intervention.

One aspect of our foreign policy needs special attention. We have deep historical and cultural links with our immediate neighbours in South Asia. We share the same memories of foreign rule and look forward to the same prospects of development and a better future for our peoples. I believe firmly that we can work together to realize these common aims. We do have some problems, but we are determined to resolve them on the basis of mutual respect, sovereign equality and friendship.

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In a troubled world, India has a role to play because of its history, its geography and its faith in peaceful co-existence. In trying to live up to our responsibilities, this Government will scrupulously follow the basic approach and principles bequeathed to us by Jawaharlal Nehru and Indira Gandhi. Like them, we shall be dynamic in our responses to the changing context.

#### FACE TO FACE WITH THE PEOPLE

In the last few weeks it was my privilege to have travelled over all parts of our beloved and beautiful country. I saw millions of fellow Indians face to face. In all the cultural diversity of our people, what stood out was the unity of India. It is a privilege to be born in India and to be heir to its great civilization. We have so much to secure for our own people and so much to give to the world.

We are passing through a difficult phase. Our burdens are

immense, our road long and arduous. Your cooperation is vital for achieving the national goals.

I give you my greetings for the New Year. May it bring happiness to everyone.

From time to time I shall share with you my ideas, my hopes, my struggles. But, even more, I want to listen to you, to your difficulties, your ideas, your hopes. Together we shall share the burden and the ecstasy of building our India.

Jai Hind.

A INDIA

**Date :** Jan 05, 1985

## Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Address by the President of India to Parliament

The following is the text of the address by the President of India to Parliament in New Delhi on Jan 17, 1985:

Honourable Members, it gives me great pleasure to welcome you to this first session of the Eighth Parliament. I felicitate the members of the new Lok Sabha and trust that they will make a significant contribution to the nation's progress.

For India, 1984 was a year of trial and tribulation. But in the midst of sorrow and anguish, there was also hope and strong affirmation of the principles the nation has chosen and cherished.

In the earlier part of 1984, subversive and anti-national elements stepped up their activities in Punjab. The process of dialogue was frustrated. A serious threat to the unity and integrity of the country was posed by extremists and terrorists. The Army had to be called in aid of the civil authorities. The series of events which compelled the Government to use the Army to deal with the threat to India's unity and integrity have been chronicled in the White Paper issued on July 10, 1984.

On October 31, 1984, our beloved leader and Prime Minister, Indira Gandhi, was assassinated in an act of perfidy.

A Commission of Inquiry headed by Justice M. P. Thakkar has been appointed to enquire into the facts and circumstances leading to the assassination.

#### RANKS OF THE IMMORTALS

Indira Gandhi has joined the ranks of the immortals of world history. The saga of her life will inspire generations to come. Every moment of her life was devoted to the consolidation of the unity of India and to the strengthening of the Indian people in all spheres. No memorials can fully capture the magnificence and radiance of her personality. The best homage that we can pay to her memory is to follow the path she illumined till her last breath.

Disturbances and violence in Delhi and in some other parts of the country, following Indira Gandhi's assassination, resulted in loss of life and property. Stern and effective action was taken to control the  
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situation within the shortest possible time. MY Government extend their deepest sympathy to the families which suffered during the violence. Rehabilitation of the affected persons is a priority task to which both the Central and State Governments are attending with a sense of urgency.

Government express their deepest sympathy with those families which were victims of the gas tragedy in Bhopal. Rehabilitation of families which have lost their bread-winners is being attended to. Action is also being taken to secure compensation for the affected families. Government are undertaking a thorough examination of the location policy and safety measures of industrial establishments with a view to preventing the recurrence of such disasters.

The maturity and strength of India's democratic system were demonstrated by the smooth and orderly election of Shri Rajiv Gandhi as the new leader of the Congress (I) Parliamentary Party. Elections to the Lok Sabha were promptly called. The fair and peaceful manner in which they were held is a tribute to the democratic genius of our people.

The elections of 1984 mark the resurgence of Indian nationalism, transcending all barriers of community, caste and region. The unprecedented mandate received by the ruling party under the leadership of Shri Rajiv Gandhi shows the overwhelming concern of our people for the unity and integrity of the nation and their desire for a strong and stable Government at the Centre.

The unambiguous verdict of the people is also for continuity of the basic policies which have given strength to our country with

dynamic responses to changing situations.

The economy has made significant progress during the last five years. The average growth rate in the Sixth Plan period is likely to hit the target level of 5.2%. Foodgrains production rose from 109.7 million tonnes in 1979-80 to 151.5 million tonnes in 1983-84, exceeding the year's target by as much as 9.5 million tonnes. Agricultural production in the current year is expected to maintain its buoyancy. The enterprise and hard work of our farmers and agricultural workers have written a new chapter of high achievement of which all of us can be proud. The most noteworthy feature of the acceleration in agricultural growth is the spread of the Green Revolution to the Eastern and the Central regions of the country.

Industrial production during the Sixth Five Year Plan has also recorded an increase of nearly 24% upto 1983-84. In the first six months of the year a growth rate of over 7% has been recorded. This will give a strong thrust to the economy. The working class, in accordance with its traditions, has made a notable contribution to the increase in production.

There has been a remarkable improvement in the performance of infrastructural industries during the Sixth Plan period. By the end of 1983-84 coal production had increased by 32.9% and electricity generation by 32.6%. Production of crude petroleum had registered a growth of 121%. Production of fertilizers and cement have also registered increase of 52.3% and 53.6% respectively. During the current year these sectors have registered further growth.

#### PRICE SITUATION

The price situation has shown considerable improvement. During the current year till the end of December 1984, the wholesale prices rose by only 4.8% as against 7.7% in the corresponding period of 1983. The annual rate of inflation as at the end of December 1984 was 5.4% as against 10.7% at the end of December, 1983.

The success in containing inflationary pressures was due to the efficient management of the demand and supply position. Efforts were made to check the pace of monetary expansion and also to restrain government expenditure. On the supply side a number of initiatives were taken to increase availability of essential commodities. Larger production in response to Government policies of providing remunerative prices and of supply of key inputs, adequate imports of essential commodities wherever needed and the building up of large buffer stocks of foodgrains have helped in this process. The public distribution system has played a key

commodities. Larger production in response to Government policies of providing remunerative prices and of supply of key inputs, adequate imports of essential commodities wherever needed and the building up of large buffer stocks of foodgrains have helped in this process. The public distribution system has played a key

role in maintaining price stability.

The external payments position has continued to improve. It may be recalled that the Government had voluntarily given up the balance part of the SDR 5 billion available under the IMF arrangement after drawing only SDR 3.9 billion. The reserves position has since been further strengthened. Foreign exchange reserves increased from Rs. 4265 crores at the end of 1982-83 to Rs. 5498 crores at the end of 1983-84. They increased further to Rs. 6250 crores at the end of December 1984. However, this is an area in which there can be no room for complacency.

Through the 20-Point Programme, vigorous efforts continued to be made for the alleviation of poverty. In the first four years of the Sixth Five Year Plan the Integrated Rural Development Programme covered 4.7 million families belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and 7.9 million families of economically weaker sections comprising various other communities. This, together with an additional 19.45 lakh families covered during the current year up to November, 1984 bring the total number of families covered under the Programme to 14.5 million. The National Rural Employment Programme (NREP) and the Rural Landless, Employment Guarantee Programme (RLEGP) have substantially expanded employment opportunities for the rural poor. In implementing these programmes special emphasis has been given to benefiting women and minorities.

#### RURAL DRINKING WATER

Under the rural drinking water supply programme, out of 2.31 lakh problem villages 1.52 lakhs had been covered till March 31, 1984. During 1984-85, nearly 42,000 more villages will have been covered.

Additional irrigation potential of 11.5 million hectares is expected to be created during the Sixth Plan. The total irrigation potential of the country by the end of the Sixth Plan is expected to be of the order of 68 million hectares against the ultimate potential of 113 million hectares. The multipurpose development of Narmada Valley has been taken up.

The all-round progress of the economy in the Sixth Plan testifies to the soundness of the strategy of planned development and is a tribute to the dynamic leadership provided by Shrimati Indira Gandhi. Government are now formulating the Seventh Five Year Plan in the light of the Approach Paper. The priorities in the Seventh Plan were summed up by Shrimati Indira Gandhi as 'Food, Work and Productivity'. The country has now to make disciplined and vigorous efforts to reach a higher stage of development in which the imperatives of technological advances and social justice reinforce each other.

#### PRINCIPLED FOREIGN POLICY

The new Government have inherited a coherent and principled foreign policy from Jawaharlal Nehru and Indira Gandhi. The continuity and wide acceptance of our foreign policy rests on our firm adherence to the principles and purposes of the United Nations Charter, commitment to non-alignment and stout opposition to colonialism, old and new, and racial discrimination.

As Chairman of the Non-aligned Movement, India has worked together with other nations to build a just world order and helped to reduce tensions and resolve conflicts between member States. The single most important challenge today is the threat of nuclear war. Last year, Leaders of Argentina, Greece, Mexico, Sweden, Tanzania and India collectively called upon the nuclear-weapon States to declare a nuclear freeze and to substantially reduce nuclear stockpiles. In a few days from now, the leaders of these six countries will meet in New Delhi to consider what further action they can take to contain the nuclear peril.

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We welcome the resumption of talks in Geneva between the USA and the USSR and hope that they would lead to meaningful disarmament measures.

#### RELATIONS WITH NEIGHBOURS

Government attach high priority to develop close relations with all our neighbours. We are keen to see progress in the South Asia Regional Cooperation framework.

The militarisation of the Indian Ocean is continuing. This brings tensions and the possibility of conflict close to our shores. Government are committed to the objective of demilitarisation of the Indian Ocean so that the tensions are removed from this region and the littoral States, which are mostly developing countries, can devote their resources, attention and energy ' to the all-important tasks of development.

The induction of sophisticated armaments in our neighbourhood is a matter of grave concern. We hope Pakistan will respond positively and constructively to the several initiatives taken by Government.

The ethnic violence in Sri Lanka is a matter of deep concern to us. We are convinced that use of force cannot lead to a solution. A political process, in which all the concerned parties are involved, can alone result in a just settlement. Conditions must be created in Sri Lanka to enable the return of the large number of refugees who have been forced to take shelter in India.

Our relations with China have shown improvement. We shall persevere in seeking a solution to the boundary question.

Our friendly relations and cooperation with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries continue to develop.

We welcome the increasing cooperation in economic, scientific, cultural and educational fields with the United States of America.

#### BILATERAL RELATIONS

We have noted with satisfaction the uninterrupted development of our bilateral relations with countries of West Asia, South-East Asia, and the Pacific region, East Asia, Africa, Western Europe, Central and South America and the Caribbeans.

We are distressed at the unprecedented drought and famine in parts of Africa. We have contributed 1,00,000 tonnes of wheat for famine relief and have offered medical help. The world community must come to the aid of the African nations in distress.

During the past year, I paid State visits to Argentina, Mexico, Mauritius, the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen and the Yemen Arab Republic. The late Prime Minister visited the USSR, Libya and Tunisia. We also had the privilege to host visits by the King of Bhutan, the Amir of Qatar, the Presidents of Sri Lanka and Yugoslavia, the Federal Chancellor of Austria, the Prime Ministers of Czechoslovakia, Japan, New Zealand and Vanuatu, the Secretary General of the Communist Party of Vietnam and the Chairman of the Burma Socialist Programme Party. All these exchanges have helped in further promoting friendly ties and cooperation between India and these countries. Leaders of 102 countries were in New Delhi in early November to attend the funeral of Shrimati Indira Gandhi, bringing to us the sympathy of their peoples in our hour of sorrow.

I now turn to future tasks. The Prime Minister has already expressed Government's determination to find solutions to the problems in Punjab and Assam.

Government are committed to a clean public life. They intend to initiate wideranging discussions on electoral reforms with political parties and would welcome their cooperation.

In consonance with the objective of a healthy political system, Government intend to bring forward in this session of Parliament an anti-defection Bill.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE SYSTEMS

Government will pursue vigorously the reforms of the administrative system

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in order to make it more efficient and responsive to the people's

needs and aspirations.

Textile industry is in a poor state of health and this problem needs immediate attention. Government will formulate and announce a new policy for the industry. .

Comprehensive reforms will be introduced in the educational system and a new National Educational Policy will be formulated.

Our judicial system has an important role in upholding the Constitution and in protecting the fundamental rights of the people. Some aspects need attention. The under-privileged section of society must have easier access to judicial remedies. Speedier justice has to be ensured. Government intend to introduce measures for fulfilling these objectives.

Government will accord high priority to the social, economic and cultural development of women. An important step in this direction will be the provision of free education for girls up to the end of higher secondary stage. Government will frame a new national programme for women. In both the formulation and implementation of this programme, voluntary organisations will have an important role.

1985 is being observed as the Year of the Youth. Our youth have already shown great promise in promoting national integration, undertaking social work and achieving excellence in all fields of human endeavour. The need of the hour is to let the youth come forward to participate enthusiastically in nation-building. Appropriate programmes in this regard will be implemented.

Government have constituted a separate Department of Forests and Wild Life in recognition of the vitally important national task of conserving and developing our forest wealth. A new forest policy will be announced soon. A Waste Land Development Board is being set up to give new impetus to afforestation as a people's movement. Steps are being taken to deal effectively with the problems of air and water pollution.

#### CENTRAL GANGA AUTHORITY

My Government are establishing a Central Ganga Authority to stop the pollution of the Ganga. The Ganga is no ordinary river. With it are bound long memories of our past, our song and poetry and our search for Truth. A cleaner Ganga is thus a matter of the deepest satisfaction to our people.

Government attach high importance to the preservation of our cultural heritage. Equal importance will be given to promotion of creativity in the arts. Encouragement of science and technology and the application of scientific knowledge for solving the problems of the people will continue to receive high priority.

These are some of the priorities of national effort. Our duty as representatives of the people is to canalise the tremendous upsurge among the masses into cooperative and disciplined endeavour to accelerate development and to prepare the country for the 21st century. I wish you success in this great and exciting task.

Jai Hind.  
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DIA USA LATVIA ARGENTINA GREECE MEXICO SWEDEN TANZANIA SWITZERLAND PAKISTAN  
SRI LANKA CHINA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC MAURITIUS YEMEN LIBYA TUNISIA BHUTAN  
QATAR AUSTRIA YUGOSLAVIA JAPAN NEW ZEALAND NORWAY SLOVAKIA VANUATU VIETNAM  
BURMA

**Date :** Jan 17, 1985

## Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

President Republic Day Message to the Nation

The following is the text of a press 'release issued in New Delhi on Jan 25, 1985 of the message to the Nation by the President, Giani Zail Singh:

We celebrate our thirty-sixth Republic Day tomorrow. On this occasion, I greet you all, my fellow citizens, and convey my best wishes.

The Republic Day is a day of special significance in the life of our nation. On this day thirty-five years ago, a Constitution given by the founding fathers came into effect. The Preamble, which epitomises the intent and spirit of this Constitution, underscores the principles of socialism, secularism and democracy. In pursuance of this the Constitution safeguards and directs for all citizens justice, social, economic and political liberty of thought, expression, faith and worship; equality of status and opportunity. During these years we have made considerable progress and achieved a great measure of political justice. However, in the matter of affording economic and social justice and equality of status and opportunity more remains to be done. To fulfil this promise, the pace of economic progress needs to be accelerated and the benefits of progress have to reach the weaker sections of our people. I appeal to all citizens on this occasion to remember that the constitution gives them certain

rights as well as duties. While they should remain vigilant in protecting their rights, they should also be devoted to the performance of their duties.

The last year was one of great trial for our country. Our federal polity was subjected to an acid test. The cult of violence culminated in the most tragic assassination of our beloved Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi. She was not only one of the greatest Indian leaders of the present century, but undoubtedly an outstanding states-person of all times. Her untimely demise was traumatic for the nation. People of India are fortunate that inspite of such a grave situation, the country's political system, dynamic and resilient as it is, remained resolutely unshaken and our outlook unaltered. The year ended on a note of hope with the electorate's clear verdict in the peaceful elections to the Eighth Lok Sabha last month. The vigour and maturity of our democratic tradition were vindicated.

#### CULTURAL HERITAGE

We in India can feel justifiably proud of our composite cultural heritage, characterised by tolerance and respect for one another and commitment to peaceful and democratic way of life.

It was in this land that the welfare of humanity as a whole, "Sarve Janah Sukhino Bhavantu" was proclaimed as the supreme ideal, influencing the people's outlook. The greatness of our society was achieved not by the victories of groups or factions over each other but by reconciliation - a synthesis which enriched and fostered a composite culture. Let us all join together and add to this precious heritage. This country belongs to all of us, irrespective of religion, language, colour or creed, and we are all its proud citizens.

The principal role of every religion in the context of development of civilization has been to generate spiritualism. However, it is painful to see that in the name of religion, basic tenets and teachings are distorted by over-zealous defenders of faith, giving birth to communalism. Before independence an accusing finger could be pointed at the foreign rulers for the scourge of communalism. After independence, we have to ask ourselves why the malaise persists. Communalism has not only reduced the respect for religion, but even diminished the sanctity of religious places. What is most distressing is that some amongst our youth, on which rests the future of the country, are also succumbing to this evil. Communal riots instigated by a mischievous few cause untold misery and suffering to large numbers of innocent people. In a multi-religious society like

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ours, communalism can be the greatest hurdle in the economic progress and political stability of the country.

## FOREIGN POLICY

India's foreign policy remains anchored to peace and non-alignment. In the previous year, both during my State visits abroad as well as from my meetings with the visiting dignitaries from other countries, I have noticed the respect which India's foreign policy commands in the comity of nations and the weight that the Indian view carries in the international fora. This itself is the barometer of the success of our foreign policy. As Chairperson of the Non-Aligned Movement, India has taken an initiative to convene the Six-Nation Summit to make a joint appeal for disarmament. In this context, I am happy that the two major powers have decided to resume their dialogue on disarmament. I hope that the major powers realise that nuclear holocaust poses a danger to all humanity and that curbing this danger is a responsibility they owe to each living being.

I have had many opportunities of meeting officers and men of our armed forces and other para-military security forces, who are serving the nation with dedication. The Army, Navy and Air Force are ever vigilant to meet any threat to the country. For this they deserve the appreciation of the nation.

I sometimes wonder as to why in this land of saints and philosophers, whose principal message was the attainment of peace within and without, resort to violence should be made to settle difference of opinion. For centuries we have spread the message of Ahimsa. I would like to call upon all citizens to generate an environment in which irrespective of faith, language or religion, mutual love and cooperation prevail. Let our energies be collectively directed to combat the evils of poverty, obscurantism, ignorance and disease.

DIA USA UNITED KINGDOM CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC ITALY

**Date :** Jan 25, 1985

## Volume No

1995

INDONESIA

Shri Khurshed Alam Khan Hosts Dinner in Honour of Foreign Minister of Indonesia

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 18, 1985 of the speech by the Minister of State for External Affairs, Shri Khurshed Alam Khan at a dinner hosted by him in honour of His Excellency Dr. Mochtar Kusumaatmadja,

Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia, here tonight, (New Delhi, January 18, 1985):

It is with great pleasure that we welcome you and your delegation to India.

The relations between India and Indonesia go back into history. Both countries are linked with common strands of a rich cultural heritage and shared values. These bonds acquired an additional dimension during our common struggle against imperialism and colonial rule. History will always record the close contacts between the freedom fighters of the two countries and the inspiration that we drew from each other.

#### BANDUNG CONFERENCE

After attaining our freedom, however, we did not feel that our independence was complete unless colonial and imperial rule all over the world had terminated. These ideas and the expectant aspirations of our

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peoples and those of other newly liberated countries inspired the founder members of the Afro-Asian Conference in Bandung. Today we are looking forward with great expectation and a sense of history to the 30th anniversary celebrations of that great Conference to be held in April this year. ,

Excellency, the international situation is marked by conflict and dissension. Indonesia and India, being members of the Non-Aligned, share many common approaches to bringing about peace and international stability. The world economy is today facing its gravest crisis in the last half century and the worst sufferers have been the developing countries.

Peace and development are closely inter-related. There can be no development without peace, as there can be no peace without development. One major reason for this state of affairs is the wasteful expenditure on armaments which diverts scarce resources from developmental needs.

Indonesia and India both stand for strengthening regional cooperation and cooperation between developing countries. I am happy to state that the economic and commercial relations between our two States have grown in the past few years and I am confident that this will be further strengthened in the future.

Excellency, once, again let me take this opportunity to welcome you and your delegation to this country. In the short time you have been here, you have had an opportunity to talk to our leaders on matters of common concern.

It is only natural that given the friendly state of our

relations, there should be a continuing dialogue between our two countries at the highest levels.

May I now request you all to raise your glasses and join me in a toast to the health of His Excellency Mochtar Kusumaatmadja, and for the progress and prosperity of the people of India and Indonesia and for the continued friendship and good relation between our two countries.

DONESIA INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date :** Jan 18, 1985

## Volume No

1995

MEXICO

President Giani Zail Singh Holds Banquet in Honour of Mexican President

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 29, 1985 of the speech by the President, Giani Zail Singh at a banquet held by him in honour of H.E. Mr. Miguel De La Madrid Hurtado, President of the United Mexican States here tonight (New Delhi, January 29, 1985):

On behalf of the Government and the people of India, I extend to you, Mr. President, and the distinguished members of your party, a most cordial welcome to India. Our pleasure is all the more because India is the first country you are visiting in Asia. This underscores the traditional bonds of friendship and affinity between our two countries as well as the mutual desire to give our relations further depth and dimension. Mexico may be situated half the world away from India, but in our hearts and mind we hold your country as our distant neighbour and close friend.

Your visit to India has coincided with a very significant declaration which India and Mexico have signed at the level of Heads of State and Government along with  
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Argentina, Tanzania, Sweden and Greece. India and Mexico have consistently worked together in the international fora for promoting global disarmament and to accelerate the progress towards development of the developing countries in all the continents and regions of the world. At a time when dialogue on arms control is being resumed, the six-power initiative represents the timely voice of the peoples of all the regions and

continents of the world. This needs to be heard, respected and acted upon.

#### DISARMAMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

For the developing world representing the overwhelming mass of humanity inhabiting the continents of Asia, Africa and Latin America, who are in search of a new international economic order, there is the inextricable link between disarmament and development, and the imperative need of channelising more resources for the cause of development. Along with resumption of dialogue on disarmament it is essential to resume North-South dialogue with fresh vigour, renewed political will and commitment. The developing countries do not seek generosity or charity but the creation of opportunities through which they could bring to their people the benefits of resource development and economic advancement and at the same time contribute to the healthy growth of world trade and global interdependence. The Non-Aligned Movement of which India has the privilege to be the Chairman has already taken initiatives for the restructuring of the international economic and financial structures in order to root out the elements of growing instability in the global economic system.

#### JOINT ECONOMIC COMMISSION

Mr. President, I cherish very happy memories of my visit to your country last year and the fruitful exchange of views with you on global, regional as well as bilateral matters. I am glad to see that since then the Indo-Mexican Joint Economic Commission has met and worthwhile fields have been identified for industrial collaboration and promotion of trade exchanges. Your visit to India is also being followed, I am told, by a delegation of leading businessmen and industrialists from Mexico next month. I am confident that your visit to India and our talks will give further impetus to this most welcome trend of further cementing our political relations and consolidating and diversifying our cultural and economic exchanges.

#### ELECTIONS

In India we have just gone through our 8th National Elections which have shown once again that the roots of democracy are deep in our country as they are in your and so is the tradition of political stability and continuity. A few months ago, we lost our beloved leader Indira Gandhi who sacrificed her life so that we could live as a secular and sovereign Republic and safeguard our unity and integrity. The ideals of Mahatma Gandhi, the vision of Jawaharlal Nehru and the path charted out by Indira Gandhi will be the beacon stars in guiding the new Government towards consolidating the foundations for an India of the 21st century.

Non-Alignment which has emerged as a major dynamic force in

international relations has been the bedrock of India's foreign policy ever since independence. The world is passing through difficult times and the fabric of peace and detente is fragile, disturbed now and then by conflicts here and there and an ever-escalating arms race. In our part of the world, it has been our consistent endeavour to build bridges of friendship and durable cooperation with all our neighbours and we have time and again rejected any effort - overt or covert - from outside for meddling in our affairs. We, therefore, appreciate your concern at the situation around you in Central America and have all along wholeheartedly supported your effort reflected in the Contadora initiative for a peaceful settlement without outside intervention. The dangers emanating from the failure or even weakening of such constructive initiatives are only too easy to contemplate. The Non-Aligned Movement stands solidly behind the Contadora group in their patient and valiant efforts despite setbacks, obstacles, delays and at times frustrating experiences.

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## WORLD PEACE

India and Mexico are two developing countries dedicated to the common cause of preserving world peace, accelerating the pace towards the establishment of a new international economic order and bringing about meaningful disarmament. We are both committed to securing for our people a better quality of life and an ever-increasing standard of living within a democratic framework. We in India are appreciative of the imaginative way in which you are tackling the problems arising out of the crushing burden of external debt, inflation and the rising cost of living. Despite constraints of resource, we are also forging ahead with our development plans inspired by the goal of self-reliance. Similarities in our outlook, attitudes and developmental aspirations open the door for worthwhile South-South cooperation.

We have full confidence that bilateral relations between our two countries will continue to develop in various fields. You can also rest assured of our commitment to strengthen our mutual cooperation in promoting international understanding and peace. We are ready to explore new avenues to promote our relations in economic, commercial, scientific, cultural and other spheres. Your visit to our country is all too brief but I hope you will have an opportunity to have a glimpse of our country and its people. I wish you a very pleasant stay in India.

Ladies and gentlemen, may I now request you all to join me in a toast to the ever-lasting friendship and ever-expanding vistas of cooperation between India and Mexico, to the health and happiness of His Excellency Mr. Miguel De La Madrid Hurtado, President of the United Mexican States, and to the cause of development, disarmament and world peace which both our Governments and people so ardently aspire and endeavour for.

**Date :** Jan 29, 1985

## Volume No

1995

MEXICO

Text of Mexican President's Speech

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi of the speech by His Excellency Mr. Miguel de la Madrid Hurtado, President of the United Mexican States at a banquet held in his honour by the President, Giani Zail Singh here tonight (New Delhi, Jan 29, 1985):

For me it is most gratifying to make this state visit to India, a country to which the people and the government of Mexico have been joined by heartfelt friendship from the very beginning of its life as an independent nation. The generous tokens of hospitality that my entourage and I have received reflect those feelings of mutual esteem that link our two nations.

### DIVERSE CULTURES

On arriving in India from the so-called New World one is led to recall the age-old migrations that originated here, and the unique nature of the many diverse cultures whose genius has left its impressive traces in Shrirangam as in Tajin, in Monte Alban as in Chidambaram.

To arrive in India is to be amazed at the vigour of an exemplary people, and the value and importance of its culture. Their indomitable building of the nation and their sense of history are immediate and palpable realities. The nation's diverse aspects bring to mind the past struggle for freedom and independence and the present unremitting efforts to achieve development and social welfare.

It is impossible not to remember with deep feeling the great builders of India, major figures of our era in history. Tomorrow will mark the thirty-seventh anniversary of the death of Mahatma Gandhi, of whom Indira Gandhi said: "The way each person understands Gandhi is a measure of his own growth as a human being.... Decades will pass before we are

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able to fully appreciate the scope of his work". Today we sense the work of the Mahatma in the marvellous heritage he left to India and the developing world. It is present in the unwavering zeal for independence and freedom, in the destruction of barriers raised by the discrimination, in the commitment to non-violence and peaceful methods of resolving conflicts and in unshakeable resistance to aggression and impositions.

#### FIRST CITIZEN OF MODERN WORLD

The work of the Mahatma was to go on growing in contemporary India and in its infrastructure of progress. In the early years of independence, the outstanding figure was to be Jawaharlal Nehru, whom someone called "the first citizen of the modern world".

In a tragic turn of events, the world was stunned three months ago by the assassination of Indira Gandhi. Her disappearance obliged the people of India to show their fortitude in the face of adversity. We have been witnesses to the exemplary reaffirmation of Indian society and the democratic traditions of its people, who have decided irrevocably in favour of national unity and the preservation of institutions. Today we pay a tribute of admiration to Indira Gandhi, that great stateswoman who gave impulse to the progress of her people and to the worthiest causes of the developing world. Her leadership magnified India's international action, placing it invariably on the side of world peace and cooperation. To us she bequeathed clear initiatives that we must now take up again with renewed determination. One of them, also assumed by the chief executives of Argentina, Greece, Mexico, Sweden and Tanzania in May 1984, has brought us together here in New Delhi for what has been a meeting of hope, working for world peace and security. Thus, the task that we have undertaken corresponds to the most legitimate aspirations of our peoples - and of all peoples - who yearn to live free from the threat of annihilation and to develop their potential for a full and decent life. Both the critical world political situation and the severe deterioration of the world economy and finances demand new and resolute efforts from all governments and nations.

#### PROTECTIONIST MEASURES

The world economic crisis continues to be an agonizing daily reality for the developing countries. The economic reactivation that some industrialized countries experienced in the past two years seems to be weakening before reaching the developing economies. This is occurring because the advanced countries have continued to apply restrictive policies and protectionist measures; because the volume of international financing for development has shrunk; because debt servicing has absorbed disproportionate amounts of funds that might well have been earmarked for production and economic growth, and because of the

obvious erosion in systems of international cooperation.

These things have made it difficult to pursue the national policies of adjustment and economic reordering with which developing countries responded to the internal and external causes of the crisis; they have limited their effectiveness and substantially increased their cost.

#### DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

The developing world cannot resign itself to the prospect of continuing stagnation, inflation, unemployment and inequality. The regression has been of such magnitude that many countries will have to devote the rest of this decade merely to regaining the levels of production and income that they had attained four or more years ago.

Mexico recognizes that overcoming its crisis requires, above all, a reordering of its domestic economy and the qualitative transformation of its development strategy. We are not evading our own responsibility. My people are making every effort to recover their capacity for development and to put it on a sounder and more equitable footing.

For the efforts of developing countries to be effective, however, the active cooperation of the world community is urgently

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needed, both respond to the present grave situation and to transform the system of world economic relations into one of cooperation. In this sense, the role of world trade as the driving force of economic growth must be restored. That entails dismantling the protectionist arsenal erected by the developed countries during the crisis, as well as refraining from the application of new restrictive measures against exports of developing countries such as the so-called voluntary restrictions and the demands for reciprocity. Our nations consider it unacceptable to condition trade relations to the treatment accorded to private foreign capital.

#### PRICES OF BASIC COMMODITIES

It is also urgent to stabilize real prices of basic commodities. Their cumulative decline in recent years has had much to do with the insufficiency of foreign exchange income, and has consequently affected the capacity to pay and to import the inputs needed for the development of our economies.

The problem of indebtedness also demands concerted solutions arrived at by all the interested parties - Governments of debtor and creditor countries, international financing organisations and the world banking community.

A direct political dialogue should be established between debtor

and creditor countries that will make it possible to discuss the broadest aspects of the problem and to create a framework of joint responsibilities to resolve it. To be sure, the most pressing problems of the foreign indebtedness of some countries like Mexico have been overcome through emergency support and the restructuring of the conditions of payment of the debt. We appreciate international cooperation in this aspect, but it is still necessary to make further progress in this regard.

## INTEREST RATES

The decline in interest rates in some financial centers during the second half of 1984 is still insufficient. In real terms, interest rates are still much higher than those that prevailed in the Periods of economic expansion of the post-war era. It is urgent to work for substantially lower interest rates than those currently in effect, rates that will take into account the capacity to pay of the debtor countries and not just the short-term objectives of those countries in which the operations of the financial centers are based.

The indebtedness crisis brought about a virtual suspension of the flow of financing for development, while simultaneously making the conditions of such financing more severe.

## LATIN AMERICA

This fact, linked to the growing debt servicing requirements, caused many developing countries, such as those of Latin America, to become net exporters of financial resources. This paradoxical situation is untenable. The access of developing countries to international financial markets must be restored under conditions more in keeping with their capacity to pay. Furthermore, it is essential to stabilize the international oil market in order to be able to forecast trends and avoid abrupt fluctuations that are harmful to all countries. Just as in the 1970's there is a demand today for effective dialogue between exporting and consumer countries.

Finally, in yesterday's meeting we emphasized the incompatibility of the arms race with a sustained recovery and expansion of the world economy. There is a paramount need to turn the abundant resources that are presently being devoted to a menacing build-up of destructive arsenals to more productive ends.

It will not be possible to accomplish the above actions if the stagnation of economic negotiations between the industrialized North and the developing South continues to prevail. Mexico will continue together with India and other committed countries, to make every effort to vigorize multilateral forums for negotiation. Mexico does not expect such global economic negotiation to lead to a sudden and radical transformation of the world eco-

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conomic order; what we are seeking is a strategy for dialogue and negotiation that will encompass the most important topics and gradually establish a system of international cooperation that is of equal benefit to all.

The world crisis has left its mark on the development of economic relations between Mexico and India. Although from the outset the bonds between our countries were solidly established by our cultural and historical affinities, with the passing of time they have had to confront the barriers imposed by geographical distance and relative unfamiliarity with opportunities for cooperation. Thus, until recently, exchanges in the various fields have been restricted and irregular.

#### REGIONAL TIES

Nevertheless, economic adversity and the recognition of our potentials are incentives for strengthening cooperation among developing countries. This has certainly been Latin America's experience recently: the crisis has given rise to new encounters and solidarity and has been paralleled by the strengthening of democracy and its institutional nature. Today we Mexicans affirm the value of our regional ties, but we also recognize the value of diversifying our exchanges with countries in other latitudes.

#### MEXICO AND INDIA

Today Mexico and India are joining wills to promote realistic, persevering and effective effort to make full use of their complementary capacity with a view to creating a more productive relationship for the benefit of the people of both countries. The first, and indeed very important, steps have been taken. The role of Mexico in India's development is increasing, especially in the petroleum sector. Similar opportunities are arising for India to participate in Mexico's economic efforts.

Mr. President, your visit to Mexico in 1984 not only served to update the excellent political dialogue between our Governments and constituted a pleasing chapter in the annals of Indo-Mexican relations, but also gave rise to very concrete action towards economic and cultural cooperation. Proof of this is found in the satisfactory conclusions reached by the first meeting of the Joint Committee for Economic, Trade and Scientific-Technical Cooperation, held in Mexico last September in accordance with the talks we held at the time. The meeting identified new opportunities for trade and discussed projects for industrial cooperation and the transfer of technology; the participation of national companies in bids tendered in both countries was also recommended. In general, the bases for the future development of broad and diversified economic relations were redefined.

The coming inauguration of an office of the Mexican Foreign Trade Institute in this capital and the visit, at the beginning of next spring of an economic mission made up of Mexican businessmen from the public and private sectors, will give added impetus to cooperation between the two countries.

The promotion of new and more frequent cultural exchanges between Mexico and India should be an essential component of our ties and a privileged vehicle for mutual knowledge and friendship.

We have already approved an ambitious three-year programme for 1985-1987 which among other events, will bring an exhibition of Olmec art to India, and will also offer Mexicans an opportunity to appreciate some beautiful samples of Indian sculpture.

Mr. President, Mr. Prime Minister, in repeating to Your Excellencies, in my own name and on behalf of the members of my party, our gratitude for the fraternal welcome you have given us, I hereby propose a toast to the continued progress and Wellbeing of the Republic of India.

I would also like to propose a toast to the health and personal well-being of His Excellency, President Giani Zail Singh; to the success of the high responsibilities that  
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the Indian people have conferred on his Excellency, Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi; and to a future filled with opportunities and accomplishment in the bonds of friendship and cooperation between India and Mexico.

XICO INDIA SPAIN USA IRAN OMAN ARGENTINA GREECE SWEDEN TANZANIA

**Date :** Jan 29, 1985

## Volume No

1995

MEXICO

India and Mexico Sign Cultural Exchange Programme

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 30, 1985 on the signing of the cultural exchange programme between India and Mexico:

India and Mexico signed a cultural exchange programme in New

Delhi today envisaging strengthening of friendly relations between the two countries through cooperation and exchanges in the field of education, art and culture, child welfare, youth activities and mass media. The agreement on behalf of India was signed by the Minister of State, Departments of Culture and Personnel and Administrative Reforms, Shri K. P. Singh Deo and by H.E. Shri Bernardo Sepulveda Amor, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Mexico.

The programme provides exchange of academics, scholars, teachers and experts in different aspects of education, exchange of anthropologists, historians, archaeologists and museologists, dance/music ensembles and soloists, writers and other specialists in the fields of art and culture etc. India will continue to provide two visiting professors for teaching Hindi and Sanskrit Indology at the El Colegio de Mexico; participation in each other's conferences, book fairs, cultural festivals and film festivals; exchange Of information, books, publications and microfilms in the field of education, art and culture, exchange of cassettes and discs of music and dance and exchange of radio and T.V. programmes and colour documentaries; organisation of joint seminars/symposia, research projects, preparation of Hindi-Spanish and Spanish-Hindi dictionaries, conversational guides and applied grammer, translation and publication of each other's literary works, the possibility of study by an Indian expert of Mayan and Aztee art and civilization, etc.

The programme also envisages providing of facilities to scholars visiting each other's country for pursuing their field of specialisation and award of scholarships. It is also proposed to broadcast programmes on each other's National Days and organise film weeks of each other's films. Another highlight of the programme is the proposal to organise cultural week of India in Mexico and cultural week of Mexico in India.

The Mexican side has agreed to send to India an "Exhibition of Olmec Art". In return India will send an exhibition of Indian Sculpture.

The programme covers the three year period, 1985-1987.

XICO INDIA USA

**Date :** Jan 30, 1985

**Volume No**

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1995

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Presentation to Kreisky

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The following is the text of the Presidential Address at the presentation to Bruno Kreisky of the Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding on Jan 11, 1985 in New Delhi:

Chairman and Members of the Jury for the Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International 'Understanding, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, it gives me great pleasure to be here today P-rid to associate myself with this important function to honour Dr. Bruno Kreisky with the 1983 Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding. A former Federal Chan-  
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cellor of Austria, Dr. Kreisky is an outstanding statesman, socialist and humanist and has immensely contributed to international understanding. The Award is intended not only to perpetuate the hallowed memory of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, the first Prime Minister of Free India, but also symbolises the high ideals of Freedom, Justice, World Peace, International Understanding and Universal Brotherhood, for which Jawaharlal Nehru stood and strove throughout his life.

Long years ago, Jawaharlal Nehru had observed: "I believe that the vast majority of the people in every country hunger for peace, but fear of others often clouds their minds and makes them act in a different way. We must shed this fear and hatred, and try to cultivate the climate of peace. Out of war or threat of war or continuous preparation for war, no peace can emerge." Dr. Kreisky, born to wealth in imperial Austria and witness to the worst horrors of Racism, Fascism and War early in his youth, has dedicated his entire life and striven for Freedom, Social Equality and Justice, National Independence, International Cooperation, Disarmament and World Peace.

#### POLITICAL SCENE IN EUROPE

As Secretary of State, Foreign Minister, Federal Chancellor and Chairman of the Austrian Socialist Party, Dr. Kreisky has not only influenced events in Austria, but also left an indelible impact on the international political scene in Europe and the world at large. Some of his principal achievements were in the context of the crisis in the Middle East and North-South Economic issues. Dr. Kreisky has showed, in both these spheres, great political foresight, wisdom and vision.

As early as in the late fifties, Dr. Kreisky recognized the importance of the newly emergent countries of Asia and Africa. He sought close ties with them. This resulted ultimately in Austria obtaining a 'Guest' status in the Non-aligned Movement. It was

Austria in fact which paved the way for other 'Neutral' countries of Europe securing a similar status in Nonaligned Movement.

#### NORTH-SOUTH SUMMIT

Firmly convinced that Development Aid is not charity but mutually beneficial to the rich and poor countries alike, Dr. Kreisky took the initiative in organizing 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 organizing 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 inter-dependent and cooperative world.

Dr. Kreisky has, time and again, forcefully rejected the theory and practice of 'Politics of Power'. 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 acknowledged that it was on Nehru's advice that he established the Vienna Institute for Development issues. His views on Disarmament and Detente and International Economic Cooperation, owe much to the influence of Nehru. Though outside the Non-aligned fold, he has showed deep understanding and sympathy for the philosophy of nonalignment and has helped to explain it to the Western world.

A friend and admirer of Jawaharlal Nehru, Dr. Kreisky became a supporter and then a firm collaborator and comrade of Indira Gandhi. Much the same way as in the case of Indira Gandhi, Dr. Kreisky's commitment to forging world peace has been unswerving.

It is with great pleasure that I now confer the 1983 Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding on Dr. Bruno Kreisky.  
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DIA AUSTRIA USA PERU MEXICO

**Date** : Jan 11, 1985

**Volume No**

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1995

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## NEHRU AWARD

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### Acceptance Address

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The following is the text of the Acceptance Address by Dr. Bruno Kreisky of the Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding at the presentation in New Delhi on Jan 11, 1985:

In October 1959, when Nehru inaugurated the construction of a dam, a worker walked upto him and said: "Here you have lighted a lamp". Nehru was deeply touched and I quote his reply: "Do we, in the course of our lives, light lamps or candles that exist?"

In India in his time innumerable lamps had been lit, but the field was vast and great parts of it were still in darkness. The simple reply is so characteristic of Nehru's life and virtue. One of the most remarkable liberation processes of modern history has taken place in India, prepared by Mahatma Gandhi and brought into being by Jawaharlal Nehru.

### MODERN HISTORY

In comparison with the great revolutions of modern history, India's liberation from the chains of colonialism happened in a remarkably peaceful way: certainly it was the result of fights that had lasted for years, but they were much less bloody than those of the peoples of the French empire. Definitely, and this seems particularly noteworthy to me, it was a revolution of global historical consequence, that did not result in a gruesome dictatorship. Thus I would like to express my sincere congratulations to the newly elected Prime Minister, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, and wish him every success for the difficult task ahead of him.

Jawaharlal Nehru's achievements and ideas continue to bear fruits not only for the Indian people, but far across the borders of the sub-continent. It was thought for a long time that the British empire could only be dissolved in the course of bloody combats.

### GROUND FOR DEMOCRACY

Though Nehru was often critical of it one has to point out the important role the British Labour Party has played, which certainly contributed immensely to make these fears not come true. In addition, Nehru had set the ground for a democracy of a special character: a democracy, which has time and again proven its inner power and stability. It is often the arrogance of many a one in western democracies, which makes them overlook that in their own countries the process of democratization was realized through conflicts and reforms that took centuries. In this respect one also overlooks, and this is of pressing importance at the present time, that this democratization process had developed

differently in the European democracies and the United States of America: The history of democracy is different in Great Britain, in Switzerland and in France. The most tragic event in the modern history of democracy is the case of Germany. Democracy suffered an interruption through the twelve years of Hitler's dictatorship. During this period the most gruesome genocide of modern history took place, together with the process of expelling the intellectuals; to make reference to this seems to be a primary duty on this very day that is marked by Nehru.

Now a word about Nehru's significance for the world. I do this as someone who was able to follow his activities since the International Congress Against Oppression and Imperialism, which was held in Brussels in February 1927.

This Congress was chaired by a representative of the Labour Party. Also participating was George Lansbury, about whom it is reported that in the only room he had, there was a small statue of Karl Marx and on the wall he had a picture of Jesus Christ. The actual organizer was the German communist Willi Munzenburg.

As much as one had put up with the support of the Soviet Union and inter  
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national communism, it was Nehru in particular, who prevented the worldwide movement against imperialism from becoming a field manoeuvre for world communism. At that time in the student group that I led, I myself, then a young socialist, was more familiar with the names of Nehru, Senghor and Sokarno than I was with the names of the leading European Social Democrats - so much were we fascinated by their fight against imperialism. And during the subsequent years in which I had closely followed Nehru's fate I was always proud and happy about his ever new contributions to the ideology of modern socialism. He was connected with the internationalism of democratic socialism, which was the only international movement not directed centrally. Certainly, he considered his prime interest to be the national liberation of his people.

#### MEETING WITH NEHRU

I was extremely lucky to meet with Nehru many times. And it was Nehru who, by Austrian request, approached the Soviet leaders in 1953 with the idea of neutrality for Austria. Two years later, the Austrian State Treaty was actually signed.

I very well remember the General Assembly of the United Nations at which there was international participation of a level never seen before: from Fidel Castro to Khrushchev, from Nehru to Kennedy -and I had the honour to be invited to a grand dinner that Nehru hosted for those heads of states and leaders of government's who were present.

Later I met Nehru again on the occasion of his visit to Vienna and at a conference of Indian Ambassadors which took place in Austria and on several other occasions. The last time we met was in New Delhi where he paid me the particular honour of visiting the Austrian Embassy, and although the ailment already imprinted his countenance, he delivered a speech, which will forever remain in my memory. At that time he revealed his lucid grasp of Austro-Marxist theory - an exposition I have never heard repeated since that day. It was Nehru who urged me to study the issue of development aid with particular interest, which finally led to the creation of the 'Vienna Institute for Development' in the Governing Body of which India was represented by Governor B. K. Nehru, who, since then, has played an important and decisive role. It was Nehru who pointed out to me the geopolitical importance of the development problem and since then I have been unflinchingly active in his spirit. Nowadays, I am especially devoted to this issue and I have become an advocate for a Global Development Policy.

The simple worker, who said that Nehru had lit a lamp, in fact talked about this. Since I have followed Nehru's path over so many decades, I may say that he could well be compared with Lynkeus, the classic hero, whose penetrating glance made him look through everything even into the bowels of the earth.

I still cannot believe that my great friend, Indira Gandhi, is no longer with us: and deep consternation continues amongst all of her friends of this planet about her no longer being alive. By an overwhelming majority, the people of India have decided that her political heritage be carried on by her son, Rajiv Gandhi. During the last decades India has played an important role in world politics and has got to continue to do this in the interest of peace and social justice, All of us who stand for these aims cannot renounce her participation.

#### IMPORTANT PROBLEMS

Important problems are before us and we do not have much time to solve them. First and foremost it is now time to prevent the world from the most dreadful catastrophe of a new war, a war that would wipe out all life on our earth. Should this happen, there would be no responsibilities left for us, and what an American scientist recently said would come true: "The surviving will envy the dead." And in order to succeed in avoiding this war it will have to be our most important goal to find a new International Economic Order. Starting with the establishment of a new relationship between the countries of the affluent

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societies, as Kenneth Galbraith once called them, and the almost developed and the developing countries in a dual way.

This will require a very differentiated policy, because it will have to be a different one vis-a-vis those countries which have already passed the threshold to an industrial society from those that were thrown back in their development before 1977. A key problem the countries of the affluent societies will have to struggle with, the solving of which necessitates major solutions and modern economic ideas, is the foreseeable confrontation with an enormous unemployment crisis, which they have not been in a position to overcome yet. Current prosperity will not lead to a real reduction of unemployment either.

#### GLOBAL DETENTE

And finally, we will have to find a way towards a global detente by means of confidence building measures. Other major tasks are imposed on us with great urgency: for instance, to find a balance between economy and ecology; or, to give you another example, democratic socialism will have to find a new identification in the immediate future in order to avoid the danger of being weakened by other movements, thus being no longer able to continue to play its role in the world's democracies as it has done in the past.

So you see there remains a lot to be done for those of us who are concerned about the future. These are all issues of pressing importance and for someone who is as old as I am, it is sad to realize that one is given nothing but limited time to contribute to solving these problems, as I was used to for more than half a century. And so I would like to thank you for having invited me, for letting me be with you and for giving me the opportunity to meet, for the first time, the new Prime Minister and to exchange ideas with him. I know that many friends of mine, amongst them leading statesmen in the world, are waiting to receive the report on my visit here.

In all modesty I can only say that I accept this Award with deep emotion and I promise that during the years I may still be granted I will continue to be active in the spirit of Nehru and the ideas that have shown me the way for more than half a century.

DIA FRANCE USA SWITZERLAND GERMANY BELGIUM AUSTRIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date :** Jan 11, 1985

**Volume No**

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1995

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Vice-President's Address

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The following is the text of the Vice-President's Address at the Posthumous presentation to Smt. Indira Gandhi of the Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding in New Delhi on Jan 28, 1985;

Rashtrapatiji, Pradhanmantriji, Excellencies, Members of the Jury, Ladies and Gentlemen, we have assembled here today for a historic and solemn ceremony, unique in the annals of free India since the mid-1960s. The Jury for the Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding has unanimously decided to confer this Award for 1984 posthumously on Smt. Indira Gandhi, an outstanding leader not only of India but of the entire world. In doing so we are in reality honouring the Award as much as we are honouring her. Many honours have been bestowed on Indira Gandhi during her life-time. Many more will be conferred on her when the country and the world realise fully her priceless contribution to peace and stability and to the welfare of the underprivileged sections of humanity. The presence of the galaxy of Heads of Government and State flanking me on the podium is the affirmation of our tribute to her, a testimony of our love and respect for her. We are deeply moved and greatly honoured that the Jawaharlal Nehru Laureate, Dr. Julius Nyerere, as well as Dr. Raul Alfonsin, Miguel De La Madrid, Olof Palme and Andreas Papandreou, are with us. We do not find words  
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to adequately thank them for gracing the occasion.

As you are aware, the Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding was instituted by the Government of India in 1965 as a tribute to the life and work of Jawaharlal Nehru in the cause of world peace and international understanding for over half-a-century. The Award is given annually to distinguished and exceptional individuals who have contributed significantly to the promotion of the ideals Jawaharlal Nehru lived and worked for. So far the Award has been conferred on nineteen eminent people from many walks of life and parts of the world. all of them by their dedicated efforts, acute insights and practical work have made outstanding contributions to international understanding and world peace. The Jury for the Award is appointed by the President of India and is administered by the Indian Council for Cultural Relations. In my dual capacity as Chairman of the Jury and President of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations, it is an honour and a privilege for me to welcome all of you, Rashtrapatiji, Pradhanmantriji, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen.

You will recall that in her keynote address at the Non-aligned

Summit in this very Hall in March 1983, Indira Gandhi had stated:

"Nationalism does not detach us from our common humanity. Our world is small but it has room for all of us to live 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 basic ideal, the consuming passion which motivated her. For her, Freedom, Peace and Prosperity were indivisible, because the entire humanity is one family. Wherever and whenever freedom was curtailed, religious fanaticism, racial arrogance or economic exploitation distorted human welfare, social injustice prevailed, cultural heritage trampled, nature's resources despoiled, or spectre of a nuclear annihilation raised, Indira Gandhi was there to fight against it as an intrepid warrior, even from her young days. Whosoever needed sympathy, understanding, compassion, protection, counsel, conciliation and support, Indira Gandhi was there with a helping hand, wise as a sage and gentle as a mother. As an Elder statesman, with her bonds of friendship with many world leaders from the developing and the developed countries, and also with those of the National Liberation movements, she greatly helped to defuse a crisis. Her rapport with leading intellectuals and cultural personalities of the world was a potent asset in fostering the ideals of peace and universal brotherhood.

By her exceptional personal and leadership qualities, and her unmatched contributions to National Independence, Unity and Progress, and to the promotion of International Peace, Friendship, Cooperation, Disarmament and Universal Brotherhood, Indira Gandhi most eminently merited the Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding for 1984.

May I now request the Rashtrapatiji, to kindly deliver the Presidential Address and make the formal presentation of the Award to Shri Rajiv Gandhi, the illustrious son of Indira Gandhi.

A INDIA SPAIN

**Date** : Jan 28, 1985

## Volume No

1995

NEHRU AWARD

Award to Smt. Indira Gandhi

The following is the text of the Presidential Address at the posthumous presentation to Smt. Indira Gandhi of the Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding in New Delhi on Jan 28, 1985:

Uprashtrapatiji, Pradhanmantriji, Excellencies, Members of the Jury, Ladies  
<pg-32>

and Gentlemen, it gives me great pleasure to be here today amidst this most distinguished gathering from all over the world, on this very special occasion when the Jawaharlal Nehru Award is to be posthumously awarded to our much loved, widely renowned and deeply mourned late Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi. This Award was instituted to honour and commemorate the memory of Jawaharlal Nehru, who throughout his life stood and laboured for freedom, justice and peace at home and abroad. More than anyone else his daughter Indira Gandhi imbibed his ideals and followed in his footsteps in more ways than one. How poignant and touching are the words he penned to her when she was a mere child of 10 years: "I am afraid I can only tell you very little in these letters of mine. But that little, I hope, will interest you and make you think of the world as a whole, and of other peoples in it as our brothers and sisters." The record of her life and strivings clearly show the full extent to which the father's vision became the view-point of the daughter and gave breadth to her opinions and sympathies, and depth to her interests and perception. It has been my good fortune and privilege to be intimately associated with Jawaharlal Nehru and Indira Gandhi for over four decades.

#### BIG THINGS OF LIFE

Jawaharlal Nehru once said, "If we aim at the big things of life, if we dream of India as a great nation giving her age-old message of peace and freedom to others, then we have to be big ourselves and be worthy children of Mother India." This is the great challenge and responsibility which all of us Indians are ever to be alive to. Indira Gandhi showed us how to meet these challenges and responsibilities, with devotion, hard work, confidence in ourselves and a humane and peaceful approach to the problems of India and the world.

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 co-operation and cultural exchange.

## NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT

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 roles she constantly strove for political and economic justice for developing countries and disarmament and peace in the world. Among her last major international initiatives was the six-nation appeal which she alongwith Your Excellencies the distinguished Heads of State and Government, made to the nuclear powers in May 1984, for nuclear disarmament. It is most appropriate therefore that you Excellencies are holding a meeting on this initiative, on this very day, in this very building which has echoed her calls and yearnings for a world with less poverty and hate and more brotherhood and peace.

It is an exciting and crucial juncture in India's history. AS the International Year of the Youth dawned, a youthful and dynamic Prime Minister, elected to office by the largest majority in India's history, has taken office. There is much expectation and high hopes in the performance of the new Government. I have no doubt these hopes and expectations would be substantially fulfilled. Shri Rajiv Gandhi has inherited the outstanding qualities of his distinguished forebears and predecessors in office. In receiving, on behalf of his mother Shrimati Indira Gandhi, the Award named after his grandfather Jawaharlal Nehru, he is also symbolically receiving once again, the mantle of a great and proud family tradition, in the service

<pg-33>  
of the nation and the international community.

It is with great pleasure, that I now confer the 1984 Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding, posthumously, on Indira Priyadarshini Gandhi.

JAI HIND.

A INDIA

**Date** : Jan 28, 1985

**Volume No**

1995

NEHRU AWARD

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## Citation

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The following is the citation of the Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding at the posthumous presentation to Indira Gandhi on Jan 28, 1985 in New Delhi:

"Each country has its own heritage and distinct personality which it naturally wishes to develop in its own way. But we must also bear in mind our own community of interest and take initiatives for working together among ourselves and with other communities in order to make a richer contribution towards the evolution of a world more livable for all and of a social order more in consonance with the yearnings of modern man."

These words of Indira Gandhi embody her vision. Either we coexist or we co-perish. Jawaharlal Nehru had been deeply imbued with the same idea and conviction.

Being the only child of Jawaharlal Nehru she was born famous. But it is by what she achieved that she is placed in the ranks of the greatest, not only of India, but of the world. In her generation of world leaders, she was amongst the tallest

Her death was in balance with her life. She lived with courage and died without fear. She died at the hands of the very men she trusted.

When so towering and loved a leader is suddenly removed, for hundreds of millions there is sorrow and grief. Her whole life was dedicated to serve India and humankind, to bring cheer and light to the poor and neglected, to advance the frontiers of world peace, disarmament and development.

As Prime Minister of India for close to sixteen years, Indira Gandhi provided outstanding leadership, stable government and vital stimulus for impressive economic, scientific and cultural progress to the country. Internationally she gave vigorous support to liberal causes, anti-apartheid struggles, peace and disarmament. She was deeply dedicated to the promotion of international understanding through mutual consultation, economic co-operation and cultural exchange. Her friendship and rapport with world leaders and leading intellectuals and cultural personalities she utilised to nurture the ideals of peace and universal brotherhood.

She was deeply concerned about human environment. She believed that the present and future welfare of humanity can be assured only if today's humans are considerate to what nature has bequeathed to us. Modern man must re-establish an unbroken link with nature and life. He must learn to invoke the knowledge of things and to recognise, as did the ancients in India centuries ago, that one can take from the earth and the atmosphere only so

much as one puts back into them. She believed passionately in the equality of all human beings. This meant not only respect for human rights, but also the light of every country and every people to determine the path they choose for themselves.

For Indira Gandhi nuclear annihilation was the greatest, most immediate threat which mankind faced and the Non-aligned Movement the greatest peace movement of all time. As chairperson of the Nonaligned Movement, she was the inspiration and spokesman of the non-aligned countries, and the link between them and the developed countries. Hers was not the shrill voice of confrontation, but a humane  
<pg-34>

and civilised voice gently awakening the world conscience to the need for changing the outmoded structures of economic and political relationship. This change, she believed, would come, and that it can come only through dialogue. Each country, however powerful, has more to gain by accommodation and co-operation, than by withdrawal or adoption of policies, to maintain merely the solidarity of the strong.

In conferring the Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding on Indira Gandhi we are honouring today two great and kindred personalities, who dedicated their lives to India's and humankind's destiny.

A INDIA

**Date :** Jan 28, 1985

## Volume No

1995

NEHRU AWARD

Indira Gandhi's Mission

The following are the remarks by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, while accepting the Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding, conferred posthumously on Shrimati Indira Gandhi, in New Delhi, on Jan 28, 1985:

It is appropriate that this function is being held when leaders from every continent have gathered here to appeal for peace in the world. This was an appeal that Indiraji initiated in May last year. She had organised this meeting today. Unfortunately, she is not with us to participate in it. But her message of peace, her

message going deeper than material values, will be carried throughout the world by others. She looked at any problem with depth and humaneness. She was never satisfied with just the material ends. She wanted to go deeper and to see how humankind would benefit.

Peace and disarmament are not new to India. Non-violence was propagated by the Lord Buddha many centuries ago, followed by the Emperor Ashok, and much more recently by Gandhiji and by Panditji. That message of non-violence, which 'is the basis of disarmament, has not changed. Gandhiji described it very well when he said that non-violence was not just 'not fighting', but 'not even thinking of retaliating', 'not even thinking of violence'. Only then would you really be nonviolent. The whole world must aim at this today, where the terrible weapons of destruction that we have built can wipe us off with the malfunction of a small component costing may be a few paise or a few cents.

Indiraji raised her voice against this destruction. She raised her voice not just for India, her voice was for the backward, the deprived, the depressed, all over the world. She fought for the rights of humankind everywhere. She was devoted to two causes throughout her life - India's freedom struggle and India's development, and the Non-Aligned Movement. They are not really that separate, when you look at them.

The Non-Aligned Movement was a logical development of India's freedom movement. India's freedom movement showed the way to the rest of the colonised world half a century ago. We set a trend and it led to a new freedom for many people in the world. Non-Alignment has tried to establish that freedom in the face of neo-colonialism and neo-imperialism. The struggle must go on.

All her life Indira Gandhi fought for what she thought was right. She stood for her principles and on her ideology and nothing and no one was able to shift her from that path.

She believed that the Earth belonged to all of us, not to any great power or any group of powers, and it is our equal right to live on this Earth. She fought for a just economic order between the richer countries and the poorer countries.

She worked for the best utilisation of our resources. She worked for the protection of our environment. She fought for a harmony between man and nature knowing that we cannot fight nature, know

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ing that if we try to fight nature we are the ones who will lose.

For India she had a very special love, not just for modern India, for the India she was building, but also for Indian traditions, Indian culture. She cherished Indian spirituality. And in

modernising India she struggled to preserve the great values of our country.

She fought for truth and justice; she fought with courage. Her favourite song was Rabindranath Tagore's 'Ekla Chalo Re', which says that no matter what odds are against you, no matter what you have to face, no matter that nobody else is willing to walk with you, if you are right you must walk alone.

Sir, it is an honour for me to receive this prize on Indiraji's behalf. The cheque that you have given, I shall put into the Indira Gandhi Memorial Trust and we shall see that it goes towards propagating her ideals and presenting her view to the world.

A INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date :** Jan 28, 1985

## Volume No

1995

NEPAL

Seventeen Industries Identified for Indo-Nepalese Joint Ventures

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 29, 1985 on Indo-Nepalese joint ventures:

Seventeen industries have been identified for possible Indo-Nepalese collaboration with emphasis on the Nepalese domestic resources base. These industries are textile mills, water turbines, electrical motors, calcium carbide, industrial lime, herbal medicines, spices, dairy products, etc.

An Indian trade delegation comprising representatives from the Commerce Ministry, Ministries of External Affairs, Finance and Industry held talks with their counterparts in Nepal recently and made joint recommendations for promoting joint ventures between the two countries. Both sides also made recommendation for waiving of proforma formalities of 66 items of Nepalese origin for preferential entry into India.

The Indian side has suggested that a branch of an Indian bank should be opened at Nepal so that availability of finance for Indian entrepreneurs may be augmented. On a reciprocal basis, a branch of a Nepalese bank could be opened at Calcutta for similar facilities to joint venture investors. Both sides also

recommended that bilateral agreement to avoid double taxation should also be signed. Recommendations were also made regarding liberalisation of procedures for grant of newsprint licences and for simplification of procedures for importing technical and managerial personnel into Nepal for these joint ventures.

The recommendations will be considered by the Inter-Governmental Committee which is expected to meet shortly at New Delhi.

At present Indian entrepreneurs have entered into collaboration with their Nepalese trading partners in setting up ten joint ventures so far. These ventures are in the areas of hotel industries, breweries, dry batteries, mini cement plant, manufacture of paints and enamels, cigarettes and exploration of minerals, etc. There is at present an annual trade turn-over of Rs. 140 crores between India and Nepal.

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PAL USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC INDIA MALI RUSSIA

**Date :** Jan 29, 1985

## Volume No

1995

NON-ALIGNMENT

NAM Declaration of Cooperation in Standardisation

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 31, 1985 on the NAM declaration of cooperation in standardisation:

A two-day meeting of Experts of Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) in the sphere of Standardisation, Measurement and Quality Control (SMQC) concluded its deliberations today. The meeting was organised by the Indian Standards Institution (ISI). The meeting preceded a week-long deliberation of Coordinating Countries and four Functional Groups. The meeting of Experts Group was inaugurated by the Union Minister for Food & Civil Supplies, Rao Birendra Singh yesterday.

Briefing the press, Shri B. K. Sinha, Director General of ISI and leader of the Indian delegation said here today that India had assumed the responsibilities of Chairmanship of the Coordinating countries and of the Expert Group of NAM for the next two years. India had now to take the required initiatives to carry the movement forward in this sphere, he added.

These meetings were attended by about 40 delegates from 25 NAM and other developing countries. The main achievement of these meetings was development of a time frame for effective implementation of the Action Programme of Cooperation. Some of the important recommendations of the meetings in this sphere are:

Data base would be built for centralized information network for an effective exchange of technical informations amongst NAM countries. An international training centre would be set up to impart training in SMQC to personnel of NAM countries. To provide wider accessibility of the training facilities, the Centre may organise training programmes in different regions, to utilize resource facilities available within member countries of the region. Deputation of experts would be arranged to NAM member countries for establishing and strengthening their infrastructural facilities in this sphere. Mechanisms for harmonizing procedures, technical regulations and standards for smooth flow of trade and transactions amongst the NAM countries would be laid down. Possibilities of creating a special fund of NAM in this sphere for implementing the Programme of cooperation would be explored. More reliance would be placed on contributions by NAM members themselves.

Mr. Sinha further said that these meetings had provided a useful opportunity to delegates from abroad to see at first hand India's activities and experience in the field of SMQC. India had renewed its commitment to support cooperation programmes with NAM and other developing countries. As Chairman of the Experts Group and Coordinating Countries it would have to make vigorous efforts for achieving progress in the implementation of the action programme. All these efforts would help in improving its friendly relations with NAM and other developing countries in technical, economic and industrial spheres.

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DIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC USA

**Date :** Jan 31, 1985

## Volume No

1995

ROMANIA

Rs. 500 Crores Indo-Romanian Trade Protocol for 1985 Signed

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

on Jan 03, 1985 on signing of the Indo-Romanian trade protocol for 1985:

The annual trade protocol for 1985 between India and Romania which was signed in Bucharest recently envisages a bilateral trade turn-over of about Rs. 500 crores. During 1985 India and Romania will exchange trade worth Rs. 250 crores each. This indicates an increase of about 36 per cent above the previous year's planned turn-over of Rs. 366 crores.

For the first time, India will export wheat worth Rs. 27.50 crores to Romania. India's export basket for the current year will have increased quantities of a number of commodities like iron ore and concentrates, soyabean meal and extractions, chemicals and agricultural products. Export of textiles to Romania will be up by 30 per cent, chemicals and allied products by 37 per cent, minerals and ores by 12 per cent and engineering goods by 10 per cent.

The main items of import from Romania will include machinery equipment and spare parts, urea, newsprint and cement.

The Indian side which was headed by Shri A. S. Chatha, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Commerce, held discussions on matters relating to flow of trade with Romania. Both sides felt that more aggressive marketing efforts should be made to promote exports.

AN ROMANIA INDIA USA

**Date :** Jan 03, 1985

## Volume No

1995

SARC

Shri Romesh Bhandari Inaugurates SARC Technical Committee

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 07, 1985 on the inauguration of the SARC technical committee on sports, arts and culture:

Inaugurating the technical committee meeting on sports, arts and culture of the South Asia Regional Cooperation Committee here today, Shri Romesh Bhandari, Secretary, in the Ministry of External Affairs said;

Let me welcome all our neighbours to this second technical committee meeting on sports, arts and culture. I am indeed very

happy to see all of you here. Unfortunately, the weather conditions have not permitted two of our neighbours

- Sri Lanka and Maldives - to be here with us this morning. Apparently, their aircraft are still hovering over Palam Airport, hoping to land by mid-day. They would, therefore, be with all of you for deliberations this afternoon and tomorrow. Nevertheless, in spite of their absence, we are going ahead with the inauguration of this meeting as the time available to you is rather limited.

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## SECOND MEETING

This is the second meeting of this technical committee. The technical committee was formed as a result of meeting of our representatives of the South Asian Regional Cooperation. This concept, this idea of neighbours getting together to cooperate with each other is a new concept which originated by a proposal made by President Zia Ur-Rahman. Since the proposal was made four years ago, considerable progress has been made. There have been nine areas which have been identified for cooperation. Technical committees have held two meetings each. Foreign Secretaries have met on a number of occasions. Foreign Ministers had met once. This year Foreign Secretaries would be meeting in February, followed later by a meeting at Foreign Ministers level culminating in a Summit.

Before I make specific reference to the importance, needs and relevance of cooperation within our region, perhaps I may make a few observations regarding the international environment. Whatever we do in smaller groups had to be related to and emerge out of what happens internationally. The climate at the moment is far from congenial. In various regions of the world we see areas of hostilities and tension. If you look at it from the economic point of view, almost all countries among the developing countries are under the grip of economic crises which have been unprecedented. In fact, we are living in a unique era itself and, therefore, past history has little relevance. Everything is new. Therefore, there are areas of tension on the one hand and, on the other, internal problems in the developing countries which in themselves pose a great danger and threat to peace and stability. Arms race continues unabated and the accumulation of means of destruction have reached such dimensions that any type of conflagration would never be contained and those who are innocent, those who are not involved, those who have nothing to do with events would also get engulfed and consumed. As such there is a growing awareness amongst all leaders that an approach of hostility or confrontation will have to be changed into one of cooperation.

Today, while you all gather here to talk on matters relating to sports, arts and culture, representatives of the two super powers

are meeting in Geneva. They would be discussing the most crucial issue of disarmament and threat to peace as a result of nuclear weapons. In other areas also, representatives of different countries are getting together to try and see how we can promote greater understanding and cooperation. Therefore, it is in the very fitness of the global atmosphere and the types of changes in today world that have taken place since the Second World War politically, economically, technically, scientifically that countries in our region should get together.

## SPECIAL FEATURES

The South Asian region in its own way is very very unique. It has its own special features and characteristics which, I think, I will be correct in saying, do not exist anywhere else. To begin with, we all have a common heritage and past. The major common factor in most of us is that we had been under British colonial rule. In spite of our own local languages, we also speak one language, English. All of us have similarities in our legislative as well as judicial and administrative arrangements. More than anything else, our cultures, our religion, our ways of living have really intermingled over the centuries. We also have some of the adverse ones - we have suspicions, we have distrust, we have our own complexes. All these to a large extent, have inhibited cooperation. When we talk in terms of getting together and working together, it is within the context of both the positive and negative factors. Higher responsibility devolves on representatives of our countries to view cooperation within the region in a wider framework and in the context of larger interests. Nothing could be more explicit than the approach of our Government in regard to cooperation amongst each other than what the Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi said in his address to the Nation just two

<pg-39>

days ago. We underlined that our relations, our cooperation with our neighbours have to be based on mutual respect, sovereign equality and friendship. These are just a few words but really they tell a lot. Our countries are diverse. There is a great deal of diversity between ourselves and amongst ourselves. Yet, there is so much in common and if we are to share it and if we are to build upon it and if we tap the type of potential that exists, it can only be on the basis of these fundamental concepts of mutual respect, sovereignty, equality and friendship. Until we are able to shed feelings that either we are going to be exploited or we are going to exploit, that either we are going to pay out or to have large beneficiaries, nothing that is going to be built will either endure or indeed be feasible, unless it is on the basis of equality and mutuality of benefit. We will not get anywhere at all.

Representatives of our countries Will be meeting at Foreign Secretary level again next month. This is your second meeting.

Naturally your scope is not the type of scope the Foreign Secretary level will have. Your scope is limited to the three areas which I have mentioned - sports, arts and culture. These are very important because these are fields which go down to the people's level. Whatever Governments may wish, I think our Governments are and indeed have to be sensitive and take into account what the people think, what the people want, how the people feel for each other. Therefore, in these areas of sports, arts and culture if we are able to do something specific; permit contact, inter-exchange, inter-mingling amongst ourselves, a very major contribution would have been made by the members of SARC in achieving the larger and wider objective that our leaders have in mind. With these few remarks, I inaugurate the meetings.

ALY INDIA MALDIVES SRI LANKA USA PERU SWITZERLAND

**Date :** Jan 07, 1985

## Volume No

1995

SOVIET UNION

Indo-Soviet Working Group Meeting on Power

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 30, 1985 on the Indo-Soviet Working Group meeting on power:

The fourth meeting of the Indo-Soviet working group on power concluded here today with the signing of a protocol between the two countries. Shri S. Venkitaramanan, Secretary, Department of Power, signed on behalf of the Government of India and Mr. N. A. Lopatin, Deputy Minister, Energy and Electrification of the USSR signed for his Government.

The working group reviewed the progress made in the implementation of the programme of cooperation between the USSR and India in the field of power and in the construction of the Vindhachal thermal power station consisting of six units of 210 MW each and the associated 400 KV transmission lines. The working group also reviewed the cooperation in the field of maintenance and repair of power equipment of Soviet designs, installed at the power stations in India and supply of spares from the USSR and the manufacture of such spares in India. A contract has been concluded between the two sides for training of Indian specialists in the USSR in the field of hydro power, barehand techniques in live-line maintenance of transmission lines and on-

the-job training at  
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load despatch centres in the USSR. Soviet-Indian cooperation in the setting up of a heavy power equipment repair shop by the National Projects Construction Corporation at Nagpur was also discussed in the meeting.

The Indo-Soviet working group on power was set up in January, 1981, within the frame-work of the Inter-Governmental Indo-Soviet Commission on Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation. The working group reviewed the on-going as well as future cooperation in the field of power. The working group meets once in a year alternately in Moscow and New Delhi. Three meetings of the working group have been held so far. The fourth meeting was held in New Delhi from January 25 to 30, 1985.

The Chairman of the Indian side is Shri S. Venkitaramanan, Secretary (Power). The Soviet delegation to the fourth meeting was headed by Mr. N. A. Lopatin, Deputy Minister for Energy and Electrification.

DIA USA RUSSIA

**Date :** Jan 30, 1985

## Volume No

1995

SWITZERLAND

Indo-Swiss Aid Agreement Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 11, 1985 on the signing of an Indo-Swiss aid agreement:

The Government of India and the Government of Switzerland signed an Swiss agreement here today regarding, assistance amounting to Sw. Fr. 40 million (Rs. 19.32 crores).

The agreement was signed by Shri J. S. Baijal, Additional Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance and H.E. Mr. Jean Cuendet, Ambassador of Switzerland to India on behalf of their respective Governments.

Under the agreement the said financial assistance will flow through National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development for financing the rural development operations in the context of the

integrated development programme of the Government of India over a period of 2 years.

Though not a member of the Aid India Consortium, Switzerland has been giving economic assistance to India since 1960. The total assistance given so far by way of credits and grants is of the order of Swiss Fr. 400 million for different projects. Besides, Switzerland has given technical assistance to several projects in the fields of cattle breeding, rural development and technical education. The important Indo-Swiss technical assistance projects include cattle breeding and fodder development projects in Kerala, Punjab and Andhra Pradesh, centre for electronics, design and technology at the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, biochemical engineering research centre attached to the Indian Institute of Technology, New Delhi, international school of milling technology at the central food technological research Institute, Mysore, inter-state tasar silk project and bidar integrated rural development project.

The overall objective of the project is to help raise the standard of living of the Poorer sections of the people. The Swiss assistance is fourth in the series of such assistance. With this the Swiss assistance for NAFARD goes up to 135 million S.Fr.  
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ITZERLAND INDIA

**Date :** Jan 11, 1985

## February

### Volume No

1995

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UTAN CHINA INDIA NORWAY SLOVAKIA JAPAN POLAND USA SWEDEN THAILAND

**Date :** Feb 01, 1985

## Volume No

1995

BHUTAN

Giani Zail Singh Holds Banquet in Honour of King of Bhutan

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Feb 01, 1985 of the speech by the President of India, Giani Zail Singh, at a banquet held by him in honour of His Majesty Jigme Singye Wangchuck, King of Bhutan here tonight (February 1, 1985, New Delhi):

It is with the greatest pleasure that we welcome you and the members of your delegation to India. It is entirely appropriate and fitting that your Majesty, the Druk Gyalpo, should be one of our first guests following our recent General Elections and the installation of the new Government under Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi.

### EXCHANGE OF VIEWS

This visit of your Majesty, so timely as it is, will doubtless enable the leaders of both countries to reaffirm our mutual friends-hip and to exchange views on bilateral and international matters, in the same tradition of warmth, sincerity, and understanding that has characterised the relations existing between our countries. Geography and history, culture and our common belief in the compassionate and Eternal Buddha, have made us neighbours, partners and friends.

At this moment we cannot but sorely miss our late Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi, who like her father Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, loved Bhutan and who enjoyed a mutual friendship with both your Majesty and the late King your father. The special observances shown by your Majesty's Government to honour the memory of Smt. Indira Gandhi have touched the people of India greatly.

Our region in South Asia, and the world at large, continue to pass through difficult times. The harmony of opinions and perceptions which exists between us on regional and international issues enables us to consult and cooperate closely. In India, we are determined to combat divisive and destabilising forces, and to strengthen and consolidate our unity and development. It is a matter of great satisfaction that we have the sympathy and understanding of the Royal Bhutan Government,

Your Majesty, we have watched with admiration the impressive strides made by Bhutan under your Majesty's enlightened leadership. The projects, small and big, implemented by your Majesty's Government will bring progress and prosperity to Bhutan. We regard your country's progress and prosperity as a source of strength to India too. We take pride in our participation in Bhutan's many-sided development, and assure your Majesty of our continued support in this endeavour.

We have also seen with pleasure, your Majesty, how the genius of the Bhutanese people has been able to reconcile the old with the new, tradition with change, and cultural values with progress. We pay tribute to the people of Bhutan, who, under your Majesty's leadership, are achieving this rare synthesis.

I had earlier referred to your Majesty's present visit as a manifestation of our close links and common heritage. It is from this inheritance that we shall continue to seek the inspiration to guide us in our common path ahead.

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Your Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, I request you to join me in a toast to the good health and happiness of his Majesty King Jigme Singye Wangchuk, Druk Gyalpo, the progress and prosperity of the friendly Bhutanese people, and to everlasting friendship between India and Bhutan.

UTAN INDIA UNITED KINGDOM USA

**Date :** Feb 01, 1985

## Volume No

1995

BHUTAN

King of Bhutan's Speech

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Feb 11, 1985 of the speech by His Majesty Jigme Singye Wangchuk at a banquet held in his honour by the President Giani Zail Singh, here tonight (New Delhi, February 11, 1985):

I am very happy to be in New Delhi again, among my Indian friends. The warmth with which I have been received today, as always, is indicative of the extremely close and happy relationship that exists between our two neighbouring countries.

Our friendship is not new. It dates back to the days of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, independent India's first Prime Minister. Pandit Nehru's epic journey on horse and yak across the Chumbi Valley of Bhutan in 1958, was the turning point in the history of Bhutan. As result of this visit, Bhutan opened its doors to the outside world after several centuries of self-imposed isolation and embarked on a process of rapid socio-economic development with generous financial and technical assistance from India.

#### BONDS OF FRIENDSHIP

The bonds of friendship, understanding, trust and cooperation between India and Bhutan was further strengthened as a result of the close friendship that developed between Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi and my late father. Mrs. Gandhi's love for Bhutan and value of our friendship found expression in the many personal gestures of warmth, goodwill and support that she always showed for the people of Bhutan. Indeed, under her dynamic and visionary leadership of India, Indo-Bhutan relations assumed new dimensions and soared to greater heights.

The great tragedy that has befallen India and shocked the entire world, has also left the people of Bhutan with a sense of irreparable loss. We remember Mrs. Gandhi with deep affection, admiration and respect, not only as a distinguished statesman and leader of the Non-Aligned Movement, but as a genuine friend and well wisher of Bhutan. I would like to pay tribute today, to the memory of this great and noble daughter of India who served the people of India and humanity with such unwavering zeal, selflessness and courage.

The mantle of leadership of the great Indian nation has now fallen on the shoulders of Prime Minister Mr. Rajiv Gandhi. Having had the privilege of knowing him personally for many years, I stand convinced that the people of India have been most judicious in the unprecedented manner in which they have given Mr. Rajiv Gandhi and his party, a clear mandate for leadership. I would also like to extend to him my heartfelt wishes for great success, and assure him and his Government the sincere support and cooperation of my Government and people.

I am most happy to say, that at no point of time in history, has the relationship between India and Bhutan ' been as good as it is today. There is complete understanding and trust on all issues of mutual concern and interest. Cooperation between the two countries which is already close, is further expanding in every field. There is mutual respect and goodwill between the people of our two countries. I look forward to working closely with Prime Minister, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, in strengthen-

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ing this harmonious and mutually beneficial relationship.

Excellencies and distinguished friends, may I now request you to join me in a toast to the good health and long life of His Excellency, President Zail Singh, to the peace, progress and prosperity of the people of India, and to everlasting friendship between India and Bhutan. Tashi Delek!

UTAN INDIA USA

**Date :** Feb 11, 1985

## Volume No

1995

BHUTAN

King of Bhutan Donates Rs. 5 lakhs for Buddhist Studies Chair

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Feb 02, 1985 on the donation of Rs. 5 lakhs for Buddhist studies by the King of Bhutan:

His Majesty Jigme Singye Wangchuck, King of Bhutan, who is currently on a State visit to India from February 1 to 4, 1985 presented an endowment cheque of Rs. 5 lakhs for establishing a chair for the study of Buddhist Studies at Nagarjuna University in Guntur district of Andhra Pradesh.

The endowment cheque was received by Dr. K. R. R. Mohan Rao, Vice-Chancellor, Nagarjuna University, from the King of Bhutan yesterday at a simple ceremony at Rashtrapati Bhavan. Among those present on the occasion were: Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, Minister for Defence, Shri G. Parthasarathi, Chairman, Policy Planning Committee of the Ministry of External Affairs, Shri A. N. Ram, Ambassador of India in Bhutan and Dr. K. S. Sachidananda Murthy, Honorary Director, Buddhist Studies Centre, Nagarjuna University.

Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, Minister for Defence, thanked the King of Bhutan for the endowment cheque and expressed his happiness 'over the dream fulfilled'. During his visit to India in March, 1982 the King of Bhutan had inaugurated a Centre for Buddhist Studies at Nagarjuna University. This was as a result of discussions held between the King of Bhutan and Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, then Minister for External Affairs, in Thimphu in June 1981 when it was decided that a chair for the study of Mahayana Buddhism be established.

The Vice-Chancellor of Nagarjuna University, Dr. Mohan Rao,

explained the progress made by the University to the King of Bhutan in the studies of Buddhism. The chair being established will focus attention on India-Bhutan cultural and religious exchanges and translation of old manuscripts. It would also carry out research on the works of Nagarjuna and Aryaveda and of Madhyamika and Vignanaveda and Mahayana Buddhist archives in Sanskrit, Tibetan, Bhutanese, Mongolian, Chinese and Japanese.

UTAN INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC JAPAN MONGOLIA

**Date :** Feb 02, 1985

## Volume No

1995

CHINA

India and China to Exchange Radio-TV Programmes

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Feb 11, 1985 on the Memorandum of Under-standing between India and China on the exchange of radio and TV programmes:

India and China have agreed to promote closer cooperation in the field of radio and television and to exchange radio and TV programmes

A Memorandum of Understanding to this effect has been signed between the two countries.

The Memorandum was signed by Shri S. S. Gill, Secretary, Ministry of In-  
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formation and Broadcasting on behalf of Government of India and by Mr. M. Qing Xiong, Vice Minister, Ministry of Radio and Television on behalf of the People's Republic of China yesterday evening.

The two countries have agreed in principle for the co-production of television documentaries and features to promote understanding between the peoples of their countries.

These co-productions will be on subjects relating to the traditional friendship and cultural links between the two countries such as, travels of Huen Tsiang.

According to the Memorandum of Understanding, the modalities and

technical details for exchange of programmes will be settled by mutual discussions.

The radio and TV organisations of the two countries will provide suitable programmes to celebrate each others' National Days. They will also encourage visits of teams of reporters from the radio and television organisations of the two countries on the basis of reciprocity.

INA INDIA USA

**Date :** Feb 11, 1985

## Volume No

1995

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Long-Term Trade Pact Between India and Czechoslovakia

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Feb 14, 1985 on the long-term trade protocol between India and Czechoslovakia:

A long-term trade protocol for the years 1986-89 was signed today between India and Czechoslovakia. The long-term trade plan which comes into effect from January 1-1986, provides the framework on the basis on which the future annual trade protocols between the two countries would be finalised.

The plan has a product-mix of both traditional and non-traditional commodities which are essential to the economies of the two countries. The Indian export list contains items like bulk tea, packaged tea, black pepper, cashew kernels, groundnut HPS (hand picked and selected), deoiled cakes, tobacco, mica, iron ore and iron ore concentrates, manganese ore, chrome ore, finished leather, shoe-uppers, cotton yam, cotton textiles and readymade garments, jute manufactures, textile machinery, machine tools, electronic equipment, xerographic equipment, miscellaneous engineering goods and handicrafts.

The Czechoslovak export basket includes items like fertilizers, rolled steel products, ball, roller and taper bearings, machine tools, diesel generating sets, seamless pipes, tubes and casings, printing machinery, textile machinery, TV picture tubes etc.

The protocol was signed by Mr. A. S. Chatha, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Commerce, on behalf of the Government of India, and

by Mr. J. Garcar, Director General, Ministry of Foreign Trade, on behalf of the Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic. Mr. Prem Kumar, Commerce Secretary, and H.E. Mr. Nehera, Ambassador of Czechoslovakia in India were also present at the signing ceremony.  
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Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Prem Kumar said that the basic objective of having the long-term trade plan was to have such trading arrangement on long-term basis, which would provide stability and orderly growth to bilateral trade.

RWAY SLOVAKIA INDIA ITALY RUSSIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date :** Feb 14, 1985

## Volume No

1995

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

1985 Indo-GDR Protocol for Rs. 362 Crores Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Feb 05, 1985 on the signing of the Indo GDR protocol for Rs. 3629 crores for 1985:

The Indo-GDR trade protocol for 1985 envisages a trade turnover of Rs. 362 crores with an equal share of Rs. 1.81 crores on either side.

India's exports to GDR in 1985 would mainly consist of agricultural products (Rs. 68.25 crores), leather and leather Products (Rs. 47.5 crores), textiles (Rs. 22 crores), minerals and ores (Rs. 18.35 crores), engineering goods (Rs. 12.3 crores), chemicals and allied products (Rs. 10.9 crores) and also certain miscellaneous items.

The export targets indicated in the trade protocol which was signed in Berlin recently, provide for a growth of about 9.1 per cent over the trade plan targets fixed for the previous year. Increased provisions have been made for export of items like tea, de-oiled cakes, shoe-uppers, castor oil and some engineering goods.

During the trade talks both sides agreed to strive for a higher level of trade turnover for the current year which would form the bench mark for bilateral trade during the next five year period.

During his stay at Berlin, Shri A. S. Chatha, who was the leader of the Indian delegation called on Mr. Galdt, Deputy Minister of Trade of GDR and reviewed the entire gamut of Indo-GDR trade relations.

DIA USA GERMANY

**Date :** Feb 05, 1985

## Volume No

1995

JAPAN

Fishing Machinery and Equipment Import from Japan

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Feb 21, 1985 on the import of fishing machinery and equipment from Japan:

Fishing equipment and machinery is to be imported from Japan beginning March this year under a contract signed recently between the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation and a Japanese company.

India will procure 19 net making machines from Japan on behalf of the  
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Governments of West Bengal, Orissa, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Gujarat.

The fishing equipment imported from Japan would be utilised by the Fishery Survey of India and Central Institute of Fisheries Nautical and Engineering Training.

The Government of Japan have granted 410 million yen for the Year 1984-85 towards the development of traditional fisheries sector in India. This amount is being utilised for imports of fishing net making machinery and fishing equipment from Japan under an agreement signed between the two Governments in November last year,

PAN INDIA

**Date :** Feb 21, 1985

# Volume No

1995

JAPAN

Japanese Grant Assistance to India

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Feb 22, 1985 on Japanese grant assistance to India:

Japanese grant aid agreement with India for debt relief and import of CT Scanners from Japan for cancer treatment has been signed here today. Japanese assistance will be of the order of Yen 1,773,860,000 (equivalent to Rs. 8.94 crores approximately) and grant aid for import of CT scanners for cancer research and treatment for Yen 500,000,000 (equivalent to Rs. 2.52 crores approximately).

The agreement was signed by Shri D. Chatterjee, Joint Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance and Air. Takumi Hosaki, Ambassador of Japan on behalf of their respective Governments.

The debt-relief grant aid is being extended by the Government of Japan annually since 1978-79 in terms of a UNCTAD Resolution on Debt-Relief Measure of the Trade and Development Board of UNCTAD. It will have the effect of reducing the interest paid by the Government of India to the Government of Japan on past loans to a rate of 3 per cent per annum. The grant is available for import of machinery components, spare parts etc. from Japan, all the developing countries and territories covered by the Statistical Report Directives of the DAC and all the member countries of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). The total of this debt-relief grant aid extended to India by the Government of Japan since 1978-79 has aggregated to Yen 15.043 Billion or Rs. 75.2 crores approximately.

The grant aid of Yen 500 million for cancer research and treatment will be used for import of CT scanners from Japan for installation in the various regional cancer research centres in the country.

PAN INDIA USA

**Date :** Feb 22, 1985

# Volume No

1995

POLAND

Dinner in Honour of Polish Premier - Prime Minister's Speech

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Feb 17, 1985 of the speech by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi at the dinner hosted by him tonight (February 11, 1985) in honour of General Wojciech Jaruzelski, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Polish People's Republic:

Excellencies, distinguished guests, it is a great pleasure to have in our midst His Excellency General Wojciech Jaruzelski,  
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Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Polish People's Republic, and members of his delegation. You come as friends, and the Government and people of India extend to you a most warm welcome.

Poland has made a distinctive contribution to human civilisation in the temporal and spiritual realms. It has produced poets, philosophers, astronomers and musicians of the highest eminence. Both our peoples have struggled heroically for national liberty and made innumerable sacrifices for freedom. The over-running of Poland by the fascists in 1939 created a profound impression on our own freedom struggle. The manner in which the constructive spirit of Poland rose phoenix-like out of the ashes of World War II has been eloquently described by Jawaharlal Nehru.

On the foundations of this fellow-feeling our two countries have built up a relationship of mutually beneficial cooperation. We have taken advantage of your know-how in mining and metallurgy and in various other areas of economic development. We have endeavoured to increase our trade. There is considerable interest in each other's art, music and literature. This cooperation has grown steadily in the last 20 years owing to the interest taken by the leaders of Poland and Shrimati Indira Gandhi.

The Poland-India Joint Commission for Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation, which met recently in Warsaw, drew up a positive balance sheet of the progress made and also indicated the lines of future development. Our own discussions today showed the vast potential there is for further expanding our trade and economic exchanges. We have both agreed that we should move forward to realise the potential.

## DEDICATION TO PEACE

Another cause which unites our two nations is our dedication to peace. Poland has suffered in war as few nations have. There are countless families in your country who have personal memories of the agony. India was the victim of another kind of war - colonialism, which too took a heavy toll of human life and pushed us back in the economic race. Today we are running to catch up with history and to shake off the consequences of subjection. Development can take a place only if there is peace. We seek peace not only with our neighbours but in every part of the globe.

The technology of modern warfare has underlined the indivisibility of peace. If there is a nuclear war, it will wipe out the distinction between participant and nonparticipant. Indeed it will wipe out the whole human race, possibly life itself. Hence the need for a world-wide movement for disarmament. There must be an immediate halt to the production and deployment of nuclear weaponry, leading eventually to complete disarmament, applying to both nuclear and conventional weapons. As long as the bomb exists, humankind lives on parole.

It is this profound anxiety and the desire to protect man's right to life which prompted the deliberations of the Seventh Summit of Non-Aligned Nations held in New Delhi under Shrimati Indira Gandhi's chairmanship to ask the nuclear-weapon powers to pull back from the brink. It was the same concern that underlay the appeal made last May by leaders of Argentina, Greece, Mexico, Sweden, Tanzania and India, to the powerful to undertake earnest efforts towards disarmament. We six met last month in Delhi. Welcoming the decision of the great powers to resume negotiations, we put forth two further steps as being of urgency: the prevention of an arms race in outer space and the conclusion of a comprehensive test ban treaty banning underground nuclear weapons tests. Our call has evoked a positive resonance from many parts of the world. We are glad that the Polish People's Republic and other socialist countries have welcomed it.

All of us are worried at the continuance of old conflicts and the emergence of new crises in different parts of the world. We must continue the efforts to bring the tragic conflict between Iran and Iraq to an

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end, to provide justice and dignity for the people of Palestine, as well to eradicate racial discrimination and oppression in South Africa. The famine that stalks many countries in Africa calls for prompt action by the world community.

## HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

In the region around India, tensions have increased because of

the induction of sophisticated armament and the building of bases. This militarisation will be a setback to development, which is the foremost need of our peoples. We should all work for the day when swords are beaten into ploughshares and the vast sums now going into the industries of destruction can be diverted into the redeeming arts of human development.

Poland and India have worked side by side to reduce international economic disparities. The participation of the President of Poland in the meeting of world leaders in New York in September, 1983 contributed to the efforts to bring the developed and developing countries. We appreciate Poland's efforts to promote cooperation between East and West. I am sure our two countries will never be found wanting in any call made on behalf of international harmony.

Prime Minister, I once again bid you and your colleagues a warm welcome and wish you a happy and fruitful stay in our midst.

May I request our guests to join me in a toast to the health of His Excellency General Wojciech Jaruzelski, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Polish People's Republic; to the health of the distinguished members of the Polish delegation; to friendship and cooperation between our two countries, and to world peace.

LAND INDIA USA ARGENTINA GREECE MEXICO SWEDEN TANZANIA IRAN IRAQ SOUTH AFRICA

**Date :** Feb 17, 1985

## Volume No

1995

POLAND

Text of Polish Prime Minister's Speech

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Feb 11, 1985 of the speech by the Prime Minister of Poland, H.E. General Wojciech Jaruzelski at a dinner hosted in his honour by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi here tonight (New Delhi, February 11, 1985):

I thank you most cordially for the kind words addressed to the people of Poland, to us - representatives of the Polish People's Republic. We are indeed touched by these expressions of recognition and sympathy. We fully reciprocate them.

We attach special significance to our talks with you, Mr. Prime Minister. This is so, due to the role India, that great country of global significance, plays on the international scene as well as to the importance that we in Poland assign to the bonds of friendship and cooperation between our two countries.

#### HOMAGE TO MEMORY OF SMT. GANDHI

It is with profound respect that we recall the eminent leaders of reborn India - Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru. May I once again, on behalf of the people of Poland, pay homage to the memory of Madame Indira Gandhi. We join you and the entire people of India in the sentiments of most profound sorrow. Contemporary world suffered a painful loss. An universally acclaimed leader, politician and champion of peace has passed away.

It is in your person, Mr. Prime Minister, that like millions of your own countrymen, we see a principled continuator of the grand task of developing India, strong and modern.

The heritage of your thousands-years-old civilization represents an invaluable component of all mankind's record of accomplishment. Beginning with the era of Mohenjodaro, India has made a most

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meaningful contribution to the treasury of world culture.

In Poland, your country has for long aroused keen interest. The first Polish book on India was published as early as in 1610. For over a century now Sanskrit studies have flourished in Poland. Indian motifs are found in numerous prominent works of Poland's national literature, music and arts. In the last four decades alone over half a thousand Polish titles have been published on your country, more than a half of them being books by Polish authors.

#### MUTUAL RELATIONS

Our mutual relations were further strengthened during World War II, when in the ranks of the anti-Hitler coalition we struggled together against the barbaric hordes of the Third Reich.

Painfully experienced as it was by the yoke of captivity, the Polish people could well understand the yearnings for freedom of your people. When in 1944 Poland entered the road of socialist construction, our support for your cause assumed new and direct forms, including those in the United Nations. We were staunch advocate of the liberation of India, the eradication of the infamy of colonialism. We remember, too, that your country was one of the first to recognize Poland's Western frontier.

Both respect and sympathy of Poles have invariably accompanied your struggles against the legacy of age-long bondage. By the

same token, we lend our solidarity to your efforts, so consistently pursued, with a view to consolidating India's cohesion, unity and integrity. It is only the backers of imperialism who can seek to undermine your historic rights and accomplishments.

It is our sincere wish for the friendship of our peoples so strongly-embedded in the past, for cooperation between our states to thrive today and in the days ahead.

Mr. Prime Minister, the respective histories of the peoples of India and Poland may have differed. Yet, the word "imperialism" has had the same ominous meaning for both you and us. It carries with it ruthless exploitation, pillage and war.

We well understand one another on major issues of our times. This has also been borne out by the course of our discussions today. We found that our views on most questions have either been identical or convergent. We mutually share the concern over world tensions. We concur that efforts have to be redoubled so as to reverse the dangerous tendencies, in order to build confidence in international relations, including also that in the economic sphere. In that respect a special role can be played by the United Nations, which will be marking its fortieth anniversary, this year.

#### HALT TO NUCLEAR ARMAMENTS

One of the most pressing tasks of the day is to bring nuclear armaments to a halt, all the more so, since we have witnessed lately highly disquieting tendencies. Humanity is faced with a threat of militarization of outer space. In a way, it boils down to one power intending to usurp for itself the ownership of outer space, just like in the past imperialism used to usurp the ownership of entire countries and continents. Poland, like India, is strongly in favour of outer space serving peaceful purposes only.

Attempts at destabilization - economic pressures, propaganda aggression, interference in the internal affairs of sovereign States, are part and parcel of the Policies of imperialism. India and Poland have more than once experienced their efforts.

In our view, the road to solving the presently accumulated problems and threats has been shown in the constructive proposals by the USSR as well as by Poland and other States of the Socialist community which take due account of the principles of equality and equal security.

It is with the utmost attention that we followed the recent meeting of the Foreign

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Ministers of the USSR and the United States, in Geneva. May the forthcoming negotiations yield results that are beneficial for peace.

#### CREATIVE FACTOR

My country lends its support to and holds in high esteem the movement of Non-Aligned States. Indeed, it constitutes a momentous and creative factor in shaping up modern international relations, in equitable cooperation, in constructively consolidating peaceful co-existence of States with different systems.

The capital of India, a country of great traditions of freedom-loving, is most appropriate a place to voice our solidarity with the national-liberation movements, with their struggle against the vestiges of colonialism and racism, including apartheid - the present day variety of the fascist contempt for man. The latter phenomenon is still practically backed by Governments otherwise ceaselessly lecturing others on democracy and human rights and, at the same time, trying to consign to oblivion the 25th anniversary, this year, of the United Nations Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

We are appreciative, indeed of the special role and the dedicated commitment of your country on the international scene.

The authority of India, its faithful adherence to the five principles of peaceful co-existence and especially its leading role in the movement of Non-Aligned States, represent a valuable accomplishment of contemporary world. It does serve a good cause.

#### INITIATIVE FOR DISARMAMENT

We offer our support to the initiatives of the six Heads of State or Government, meeting recently in New Delhi. Poland is prepared to offer its full cooperation for the sake of their implementation.

On several occasions, representatives of our two countries served jointly on International Commissions of Control and Supervision, with a view to maintaining and strengthening peace. I trust that the very same task will continue to guide Poland's and India's close and constructive collaboration.

Dear Mr. Prime Minister, we greatly appreciate your earnest and sincere interest in our affairs.

In the course of the four decades of its existence, People's Poland has gone through fundamental socio-political transformations. We have accomplished a historical advancement in social and economic development, in the material and cultural life of our people.

Ours was not an easy road. Poland had not thriven on somebody else's labour or on colonial exploitation. We, too, had to grapple with the heritage of subjugation and civilizational backwardness, with the dreadful effects of the destructive war and Nazi genocidal occupation.

Over the recent years we had to meet the challenge of serious threats. On the strength of our sovereign decisions and with means of our own, we put an end to anarchy, to a plot by extremist elements and to attempts at undermining the foundations of the Socialist State.

Normalization of Poland's social and political life, gradual control of economic difficulties, reforms designed to consolidate the nation and constantly develop Socialist democracy and the rule of law - this is an irreversible process. The growing popular acceptance of measures being pursued by our Party and the Government represents a reaffirmation of the correct path we have entered upon - that of the consolidation of the Polish People's Republic.

Our living conditions and the pace of overcoming our difficulties are largely determined though by economically acute consequences of restrictions, incompatible as they are with international law. Attempts at diktat and designs to destabilize People's Poland are doomed to fail. Like the people of India, we shall always firmly defend our dignity, independence and territorial integrity. May I, at this juncture, extend our gratitude to the Government and the people of India for  
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all their sentiments and friendly understanding of our difficult problems.

Poland is one of the components of the Warsaw Treaty and member of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance. Particularly close bonds of alliance link us with the Soviet Union, the mainstay of the progressive historical transformations of this century. We are consolidating our fraternal relations with the other Socialist States. These foundations of our policies are unshakeable. Attempts at overthrowing them stand no more chance than an attempt at restoring colonial administration in India.

Ladies and Gentlemen, relations between our two countries are based on the principles of friendship, equality and mutual advantage. They cover numerous areas - politics and economics, international affairs, science and culture.

We remain impressed at the extent of your progress - the promotion of education, science, technology, the entire national economy, including the remarkable ability of utilizing the famous "green revolution".

Among the developing countries, India is Poland's most important and reliable partner. Neither of our countries belongs to the world's "club of the rich". The record of our cooperation so far and considerable degree of complementarity of our respective economies make our partnership a lasting one, providing for promising prospects for the future.

#### SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

We are in agreement that time has come to raise Indian-Polish cooperation to a qualitatively higher level and give it a new Momentum in all areas. Traditional forms of trade do not seem to suffice any more, although we are also determined to expand them still further. New avenues open up for cooperation in production and scientific research. It is in our common interest to seek new contents and forms of our bilateral actions, based on long-term- and perspective planning.

Dear Mr. Prime Minister, dear Indian friends, once again, I wish to express MY immense satisfaction over the possibility of visiting your great and beautiful country. India invariably fascinates with its historic record of accomplishment and bold plans for the future. Meeting India imbues one with confidence in the future of your Homeland and about the prospects of its further progress and development.

We shall soon be leaving the hospitable New Delhi to make a tour of India. We are looking forward to the opportunity of visiting new industrial and cultural centres, to meeting people of this great country, where the yesterday, today and tomorrow blend together in their very unique way.

On behalf of the highest authorities of the Polish People's Republic, I wish to convey to the people of India a very warm wish for all its lofty aspirations to come true.

In availing myself of this opportunity, permit me to extend to you Mr. Prime Minister, my most heartfelt wishes for every success in your exalted and extremely responsible mission, which you have taken up at a moment so critical for India.

We look forward, Mr. Prime Minister to your visit in our country. We would like you to see for yourself that the people of Poland have deep respect and sympathy for the friendly people of India.

I am strongly persuaded that Poland and India will continue to harmoniously pursue the road of friendship and all round cooperation to the benefit of our two peoples and in the service of the great cause of peace and progress.

It is in this spirit that I propose to raise our glasses to the great people of India and the best of its future; to your good

health and well-being, Mr. Prime Minister; to the good health and the well-being of all, our Indian friends; to peace in the world.

Polish-Bharat dosti amar rahe!  
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LAND INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC SWITZERLAND MALI

**Date :** Feb 11, 1985

## Volume No

1995

POLAND

Indo-Polish Joint Press Release

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Feb 15, 1985 on the, Indo-Polish Joint press release:

At the invitation of the Prime Minister of the Republic of India, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, the Chairman of the Council of Ministers Of the Polish People's Republic, General of the Army Wojciech Jaruzelski, accompanied by a high level delegation, paid an official visit to the Republic of India from February 11 to 15, 1985.

The Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Polish People's Republic, General Wojciech Jaruzelski, held talks with the Prime Minister of India, Shri Rajiv Gandhi. He was also received by the President and Vice-President of the Republic of India. The talks and meetings were held in an atmosphere of cordiality and friendship. The exchange of views indicated a similarity or identity of approach on leading international issues.

The two Prime Ministers noted with satisfaction that the traditional friendship between the two countries had grown steadily over the years. They reaffirmed the mutual desire to further extend cooperation to mutual benefit.

### ECONOMIC EXCHANGES

Reviewing bilateral economic cooperation, the two Prime Ministers noted with satisfaction the healthy and fruitful development of economic exchanges. It was agreed that there is considerable scope for further growth to mutual advantage.

They emphasised the significant role of the Joint Commission for

Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation and noted that at the 9th session directions for future cooperation had been indicated.

The two sides stressed the need to diversify trade with a view to increasing turnover. In this connection they examined the possibility of concluding agreements on long term exchanges on the basis of proposals made at the 9th session of the Joint Commission. The possibilities of further industrial cooperation were also discussed.

During the visit an Agreement on Cooperation in Radio and Television was signed. It was noted that programmes of work for cooperation in Science and Technology and an Agreement on the Avoidance of Double Taxation were currently under discussion and would be signed as and when feasible.

The two sides expressed satisfaction at the implementation of the Cultural Exchange Programme and resolved to further develop cultural contacts between the two countries.

The two leaders voiced their serious concern at the persistence of dangerous tensions and conflicts in different parts of the world. They stressed the importance of putting an end to apartheid, racial discrimination and oppression, to the vestiges of colonialism and to interference in the internal affairs of other countries.

They stressed the urgent need for steps to check the nuclear arms race, and avert the growing danger of a global nuclear catastrophe. They underlined the necessity of halting the testing, production and deployment of nuclear weapons and their delivery systems the prevention of an arms race in outer space and the conclusion of a comprehensive test ban treaty. They urged that these steps be followed by reduction in nuclear weapons, eventually leading to their complete elimination. In this context, they drew attention to the Delhi Declaration of January 28, 1985.

They welcomed the decision by the USSR and USA to commence negotiations on space and nuclear arms. They expressed the hope that they would lead to positive results.

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## NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT

They informed each other of the latest developments in their own regions and of the initiatives taken by their respective countries.

The two leaders referred to the important role of the Non-Aligned Movement in the struggle for world peace, halting of the arms race and nuclear disarmament, and in promoting international

cooperation. Poland highly values the role played by India in its capacity as Chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement.

The two sides called for a strengthening of the United Nations and the multilateral process in the cause of peace and international cooperation.

Both sides underlined the importance of establishing a just and non-discriminatory international economic order. They called for reform of international economic institutions and welcomed the proposal for an International Conference on Money and Finance for Development.

It was noted with satisfaction that the visit of the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Polish People's Republic to India contributed to the growth of Indo-Polish friendship, and indicated directions for continuing cooperation.

General Wojciech Jaruzelski conveyed to the Prime Minister of the Republic of India, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, a cordial invitation to pay an official visit to Poland. The invitation was accepted with pleasure. General Jaruzelski also extended an invitation to the President of India to visit Poland. The invitation was accepted with pleasure.

LAND INDIA USA

**Date** : Feb 15, 1985

## Volume No

1995

POLAND

Indo-Polish Agreement on Radio and TV

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Feb 12, 1985 on the Indo-Polish agreement on radio and TV:

India and Poland have agreed to exchange television films, documentaries and short information films illustrating various aspects of life in India and Poland.

An agreement to this effect was signed here today.

The agreement was signed by Shri S. S. Gill, Secretary, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, on behalf of Government of India

and by Mr. Miroslaw Wojciechowski, Chairman of Polish State Committee for Radio and Television, on behalf of Polish Radio and Television.

The agreement aims at extending of mutual exchange of information, radio and television broadcasts presenting of both the countries.

Under the agreement, the two countries will exchange every quarter, recordings for a duration of 15 minutes, These broadcasts shall be made in form of reportings on social and cultural life in both the countries for information of their people. Their broadcasting organisations will also exchange scripts of radio plays.

On the occasion of National Days and National Memorial Days of the two countries, their radio and television organisations; shall broadcast special programmes. For this purpose, there shall be an exchange of radio and television material.

Polish Radio and Television shall make available to India every two months recordings of classical, folk and pop music, while India will reciprocate by providing them classical Indian music, Indian folk songs and other musical recordings.

The two countries will grant all possible technical assistance to each other's correspondents and reporters. They will also exchange members of staff on reciprocal basis in order to exchange experience, for consultation on cooperation and for training.

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LAND INDIA USA

**Date :** Feb 12, 1985

## Volume No

1995

SOVIET UNION

Cultural Exchange Programme between India and USSR Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Feb 16, 1985 on the signing of a cultural exchange programme between India and the Soviet Union:

India and the U.S.S.R. signed today a programme of cultural,

scientific and educational exchanges for the year 1985-86. Dr. (Mrs.) Kapila Vatsyayan, Additional Secretary, Department of Culture signed the agreement on behalf of the Government of India while H.E. Mr. Yuri A Kirichenko, Head of the Department of Cultural Relations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of U.S.S.R., signed the agreement on behalf of his country.

The programme envisages continued cooperation between the two countries in the field of education and science, art and culture, public health and social welfare, TV, radio and cinema and sports and physical education etc., more particularly through exchange of scholars, teachers, academics, social scientists, performing troupes, soloists, writers, artists, librarians, museologists, composers and specialists in various fields like archaeology, drama, etc; development of institutional links between universities and institutions of higher learning in specified fields especially Soviet and Indian studies etc. and institutional links between the museums, libraries, archives, etc; development of teaching of each other's language by way of providing teachers, literature and participation in language seminars, etc; exchange of literary, and exchange of literary, cultural and scientific material and publications, art reproductions etc; participation in each other's cultural events festivals, seminars, film fairs, book fairs, etc; and organisation of film weeks.

DIA USA

**Date :** Feb 16, 1985

## Volume No

1995

SOVIET UNION

Protocol of Cooperation in the Field of Medical Sciences and Public Health

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Feb 09, 1985 on the signing of a protocol of cooperation in the field of medical sciences and public health between India and the Soviet Union:

India and the Soviet Union signed here today a protocol signifying new areas of cooperation in the fields of medical sciences and public health. The new areas include liver cell transfusion therapy, traditional systems of medicine, occupational health and monitoring the health aspects of

environment. The two countries also agreed to exchange delegations and specific plans of cooperation during the years 1985 and 1986. The protocol was signed by the Soviet Deputy Health Minister, Dr. P. N. Burgasov for USSR and the Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Shri C. R. Vaidyanathan for India, on the conclusion of the second meeting of the Indo-Soviet Standing Committee on Cooperation which began on the 4th of this month.

After the signing ceremony, Dr. Burgasov expressed satisfaction that the protocol would establish further cooperation between the countries and said experts from both the countries should sit together immediately for implementing the programmes decided upon in the protocol. Shri Vaidyanathan said that the protocol was one more step towards intensifying collaboration between the two countries. Dr. Ramalingaswamy, Director-General of Indian Council of Medical Research, described the protocol as the harbinger for achieving concrete results.

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The six-day meeting reviewed the results of cooperation in the field during the years 1983 and 1984 and agreed to continue the cooperation in respect of communicable diseases, immunology and vaccine production, blood and blood products, ophthalmology, neurophysiology and oncology (medical science relating to tumors).

The two sides expressed satisfaction that the agreement of cooperation entered in 1979 for five years was extended for five more years till 1989. Both the sides were satisfied with the first Soviet-Indian symposium held in USSR in 1983 in which Soviet and Indian medical professionals took part. During 1983-84, the exchange of delegations between the two countries for undertaking various activities was satisfactorily carried out as agreed under the plan of cooperation.

The two sides further agreed to exchange medical professionals engaged in national and international medical scientific forums. They also agreed to identify more institutions for undertaking collaborative programmes for research in medical sciences and public health and in vaccine production.

DIA USA MALI CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date :** Feb 09, 1985

**Volume No**

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1995

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SWEDEN

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Swedish Assistance for TB Control Programme

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The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Feb 21, 1985 on the agreement between India and Sweden in TB control programme:

The Government of India and the Government of Sweden signed an agreement here today under which Sweden will continue its support to the Indian National Tuberculosis Control Programme by financing provision of equipment and drugs for operational activities during 1984-89. Swedish assistance will be of the order of Swedish Kroner 35 million (Rs. 4.94 crores approximately).

The agreement was signed by Shri D. Chatterjee, Joint Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance and H.E. Mr. A. Edelstam, Ambassador of Sweden, on behalf of their respective Governments.

The Swedish support for the TB Programme being executed and administered by World Health Organisation will be used for support to the National Tuberculosis Institute, Bangalore; laboratory culture equipment to tuberculosis training and demonstration centres; x-ray equipment to district tuberculosis centres, including spare parts and cameras; primary health centres microscopes, chemicals and stains; supply of drugs for short course chemotherapy treatment; health education material; miniature x-ray film rolls and monitoring and evaluation.

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EDEN INDIA USA

**Date :** Feb 21, 1985

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## Volume No

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1995

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THAILAND

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India to Export Wheat to Thailand

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

on Feb 13, 1985 on the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between India and Thailand:

A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between India and Thailand here today. The document which was signed by Mr. V. P. Singh, Minister for Commerce and Supply, and Mr. Kosol Krairiksh, Commerce Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand, envisages the setting up of a Joint Trade Committee (JTC) to accelerate the expansion and diversification of trade and to review the implementation of the trade agreement between the two countries.

The JTC will facilitate exchange of trade information, review development of current trade and identify areas of mutual interest for further cooperation. The JTC, which will meet every year will also recommend to each Government, specific measures for expansion and diversification of trade.

The signing ceremony was preceded by a meeting between the two Ministers. Both sides agreed on the desirability of having joint ventures. In this context, it was decided that an industrial delegation from India would visit Thailand in the near future in order to identify areas for joint ventures.

Mr. V. P. Singh spoke of the various incentives already available in the Free Trade Zones wherein such joint ventures units could operate freely for supplying products to ASEAN markets.

In response to India's offer of wheat, Mr. Krairiksh said that the Thai importing agencies would meet their counterparts in India and work out the quantity of wheat to be imported and other details directly.

Both sides agreed that trade between the two countries required to be boosted and said that each side would lend official support to private efforts in this direction.

Commenting on his visit to the Indian Engineering Trade Fair and other units producing machinery for heavy industry, the Thai Commerce Minister expressed his satisfaction at the progress made by India in this field. He invited Indian entrepreneurs to study the market for these items in Thailand.

In response to an offer of supply of minerals for industrial use in India Mr. Singh informed the Thai Minister that the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation (MMTC) would be in touch with the concerned Thai authorities to further discuss this proposal.

It was decided that the JTC would meet at New Delhi in December this year to review the trade status between the two countries.

Mr. P. A. Sangma, Minister of State for Commerce and Supply, Mr. Prem Kumar, Commerce Secretary, and other senior officials also participated in the discussions.

The Thai Minister was accompanied by Mr. P. Chindasilpa, Deputy Minister of Commerce of Thailand, Mr. V. Nivatvongs, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Commerce and other senior officials.  
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AILAND INDIA USA

**Date :** Feb 13, 1985

**March**

## Volume No

1995

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NMARK ITALY INDIA NEPAL OMAN POLAND THAILAND VIETNAM USA RUSSIA TURKEY

**Date :** Mar 01, 1985

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1995

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APARTHEID

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International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination--Prime Minister's Message

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The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Mar 22, 1985 of the message of the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi to the Chairman, Special Committee against Apartheid, on the occasion of the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, New York:

Racial discrimination is a continuing outrage against civilisation. It dehumanises both the victim and the oppressor and violates the cardinal principle of democratic equality.

This year's International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination occurs under the shadow of the fresh terror unleashed by South Africa. The recent killings at the town of Crossroad of innocent men, women and children, whose only crime was to have protested against forced removal from their homes, has sent shock waves all over the world.

Opposition to racial discrimination is fundamental to the Non-Aligned Movement. Successive summits have denounced the policies of the racist regime of South Africa and reiterated the solidarity of the Non-Aligned with the struggle of the South African people.

The tide of history cannot be indefinitely stemmed. The day is not far off when the South African people's struggle for racial equality will be crowned with success. Their endeavours have the support of freedom-loving people everywhere. India and the Non-Aligned Movement stand with them.

DIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC SOUTH AFRICA

**Date :** Mar 22, 1985

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## Volume No

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1995

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DENMARK

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Indo-Danish Aid Negotiations Conclude

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The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi  
On Mar 23, 1985 on Indo-Danish aid negotiations:

Denmark will provide a grant of Dkr 170 million (Rs. 187 million) in 1985 to finance expenditure on the on-going and new projects being implemented through Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA) assistance. In addition, DANIDA has indicated a commitment of Rs. 198 million for 1986, Rs. 220 million for 1987 and Rs. 242 million for 1988. This emerged from the agreed minutes of the annual Indo-Danish Aid talks signed here today by Mr. Kris Lund-Jenson, leader of the Danish delegation and Shri Lalit Mansingh, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Finance.  
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The DANIDA grants are used mainly for rural development projects with a focus on poverty alleviation. Increased commitment has been made this year particularly for rural water supply projects, health and family welfare, agriculture and rural development. In 1984, DANIDA grants were for Rs. 143 million.

The Danish Government have expressed their interest in extending assistance in new areas like protecting the environment and production of non-conventional energy. The Government of Denmark also agreed to earmark Rs. 187 million for loan which are available for large value projects involving Danish goods and services. The loans are interest free, and repayable over 35 years with 10 years' grace period. The new loan will cover supplies for the fertilizer plants at Aonla and Jagdishpur and for a coastal water research vessel to be acquired by the Department of Ocean Development.

Indo-Danish cooperation has extended over the past quarter century. Disbursements in previous years had exceeded plan figures considerably. Total disbursements on grants and loans during the calendar years 1980-84 had amounted to approximately Rs. 1300 million.

NMARK INDIA USA

**Date :** Mar 23, 1985

## Volume No

1995

DISARMAMENT

One Day Seminar on Non-Alignment and Disarmament -- Key NoteAddress by Shri Romesh Bhandari

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Mar 12, 1985 of the key note address by the Foreign Secretary, Shri Romesh Bhandari at the one day Seminar on Non-Alignment and Disarmament organised by the Indian Institute for Non-Aligned Studies in New Delhi on March 12,1985:

I deem it a privilege to address this seminar not only because of the wealth of talent which has gathered here but also because it addresses itself to the most crucial issue of our times - the question of disarmament. Human life and civilisation, today, confront the prospect of annihilation in a nuclear holocaust. It is estimated that there are now about 50,000 nuclear weapons with destructive power equivalent to a million Hiroshima bombs. Man has unleashed the awesome power of the atom and has thereby, become the instrument of his own potential destruction.

#### WORLD PEACE

Inter-related with the problem of disarmament is the question of building a better, more peaceful and more stable world. Both these questions - the problem of disarmament and world peace -- have been at the very centre of the concerns of the Non-Aligned Movement.

The post Second World War period was characterised by the freezing of the world into two antagonistic military and ideological alliances. The rivalries between these two alliance groups and their competition for spheres of influence around the globe created new tensions in regions far removed from Europe. Berlin, Korea, Suez, Lebanon and Congo - crisis followed crisis culminating in the eyeball to eyeball confrontation over the Cuban missile incident which brought the world to the very edge of a nuclear precipice.

For the newly liberated countries just emerging from the colonial yoke the pole-  
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mics of the East West confrontation and the icy winds of the cold war had no relevance. They did not want to inherit a rivalry or import antagonisms which were not intrinsically material to their own experience. They had to confront far more urgent problems of hunger, disease and poverty and would profit little by getting engaged in the sterile. debate of communism versus capitalism. They wanted to be free to absorb lessons from both systems. Above all they wanted peace and a stable global environment in order to go about the task of consolidating their newly gained independence through development and progress. They wished to do this without direction or interference from outside. Only their leaders could decide what was good for and in the interest of their people. This was only possible in the context their keeping away from power blocs, by strengthening their keeping away from power blocs, by strengthening their self-reliance, by minimising

their vulnerability to external levers and pressures. It was thus that Non-Alignment emerged as a constructive movement for the promotion of peace.

The Bandung Conference in 1955 symbolised the resurgence of Asia and Africa and the new spirit of nationalism. Those were stirring times. The Non-Aligned Movement had not as yet been formed but the ideals and principles which would form the foundations of the Movement had already crystallised a desire not to take sides between the East or West; a desire to judge every issue on merit; a desire to see a reduction of global tension.

#### BANDUNG CONFERENCE

The outlook of the Bandung Conference was also shaped by the dropping of the atom bomb on Hiroshima about a decade earlier. This first use of a nuclear device in War had fundamentally transformed the security of human existence. For the first time in history, some nations had at their command weapons which were not merely instruments of war but ones of mass destruction. The Conference declared that "disarmament and prohibition of the production, experimentation and use of nuclear and thermo-nuclear weapons as weapons of war " was "imperative to save mankind and civilisation from the fear and prospect of wholesale destruction.... All states should cooperate, especially through the UN, in bringing about reduction of armaments."

Here we have, already, the elements which were to characterise the position of the Non-Aligned Movement on the question of disarmament - namely the priority to be accorded to nuclear disarmament in order to safeguard the human species, the illegitimacy of using or threatening to use nuclear weapons, the responsibility of the world community for disarmament through the United Nations and the organic link between peace, disarmament and development. Even a cursory look at successive Non-Aligned declarations will help to underscore the tremendous importance of these three interlinked objectives of the Non-Aligned Movement.

#### NON-ALIGNED SUMMIT

The first Non-Aligned Summit which was held in Belgrade in 1961 was attended by 25 countries. The Summit declaration observed that "war has never threatened mankind with graver consequences than today" and that "war between peoples constitutes not only an anachronism but also a crime against humanity". The declaration asserted that "any attempt at imposing upon peoples one social or political system or another by force from outside is a direct threat to world peace". It postulated the principles of peaceful co-existence as the "only alternative to the cold war and to a possible general nuclear catastrophe". The declaration articulated the goal of general and complete disarmament which would include the total prohibition of the production, possession and utilisation of nuclear and thermo-nuclear arms,

bacteriological and chemical weapons".

The Non-Aligned leaders at Belgrade concluded their declaration with an appeal to the leaders of the USA and the USSR to resume negotiations for a peaceful settlement of any outstanding differences

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between them noting that "while decisions leading to war or peace at present rest with these Great Powers, the consequences affect the entire world. All nations and peoples have, therefore, an abiding concern and interest that the approaches and actions of the Great Powers should be such as to enable mankind to move forward towards peace and prosperity and not to doom and extinction".

#### CAIRO

The second Summit conference of the Non-Aligned in Cairo in 1964 emphasised "the paramount importance of disarmament as one of the basic problems of the contemporary world and stressed the necessity of reaching immediate and practical solutions which would free mankind from the danger of war and a sense of insecurity".

The conference urged the nuclear weapon powers to renew their efforts for the rapid conclusion of an agreement on general and complete disarmament. In addition it urged the conclusion of a comprehensive test ban treaty prohibiting underground weapon tests. As an interim measure it suggested the discontinuance of all nuclear tests pending the conclusion of such a treaty. The conference also underlined the necessity of concluding an international treaty prohibiting the utilisation of outer space for military purpose.

The Cairo declaration also reiterated the conviction of the Non-Aligned countries that the existence of military blocs and pacts was heightening global tension and spoke out against the maintenance of foreign military bases and the stationing of foreign troops on the territories of other countries because such bases were a means of pressurising nations and retarding their development.

#### LUSAKA CONFERENCE

The Lusaka conference in 1970 spelt out specific steps for nuclear disarmament. These included a cut-off in the production of fissionable materials for weapons purposes and its transfer to peaceful uses, a stoppage of the production of nuclear weapons, a comprehensive test ban and reduction and destruction of existing stockpiles of nuclear weapons.

#### COLOMBO SUMMIT

The Colombo summit of 1976 set out tasks for the holding of a special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament. The first special session of the General Assembly on disarmament which was convened in 1978 was primarily the result of the efforts of the Non-Aligned countries to impart a thrust and momentum to disarmament negotiations.

#### HAVANA

The Havana summit of 1979 called for the urgent implementation, within a specified time-frame of the programme of action, particularly of the nuclear disarmament measures, contained in the final document of the first special session on disarmament. It prepared the ground for the convening of the second special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament in 1982 and called upon the Non-Aligned countries to take an active part in the preparations for that Session.

#### NEW DELHI MESSAGE

I have made reference to declarations adopted by Non-Aligned Summits in the part on the issue of disarmament so that we can see in perspective what position was taken at the seventh Non-Aligned Summit in New Delhi. If we take a look at the New Delhi declaration in 1983, we notice a remarkable continuity. The New Delhi message identified "peaceful co-existence, independence, disarmament and development" as "the central issues of our time". It called for "an immediate halt to the drift towards nuclear conflict and urged the nuclear weapon powers to adopt urgent and practical measures for the prevention of nuclear war and to conclude an international convention to prohibit the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons in any circumstances". It called for a freeze on the development, production, stockpiling

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and deployment of nuclear weapons and the speedy finalisation of a comprehensive test ban treaty banning the testing of nuclear weapons in all environments.

In the assessment of the Non-Aligned countries the competition between the USA and the USSR for political and economic influence in the developing world has had a symbiotic relationship with the arms race. Underlying the quest for military superiority is the belief that such superiority will translate into effective political influence in diverse situations around the world. The quest for military superiority in its turn has stoked the fires of political confrontation. The Non-Aligned countries have, therefore, emphasised that any realistic programme for disarmament would have to be pursued on two planes -- the reduction of nuclear weapons and weapons of mass destruction and the evolution of a cooperative rather than conflictual international political system. They have further stressed the

responsibility of all countries, whether nuclear or nonnuclear for achieving these objectives not only because the outcome of disarmament negotiations affects all nations intimately but, also as countries which are not bound by the rigidities of bloc pressures can play a crucial role in creating a climate conducive to such negotiations.

The Non-Aligned movement has a universalistic approach to disarmament and has embraced the goal of general and complete disarmament as the ultimate objective of the disarmament effort. They realise, however, that such a goal cannot be achieved at once and have suggested moving forward in stages. The steps include:

1. Prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons under any circumstances;
2. Prohibition of nuclear weapons testing pending the conclusion of a comprehensive test ban;
3. Prevention of the proliferation of nuclear weapons both horizontally and vertically;
4. Halting of the nuclear arms race, reduction and final destruction of nuclear and thermo-nuclear arms;
5. Halting of the development of new weapons of mass destruction and extension of the arms race to new areas;
6. Prohibition of biological and chemical weapons and other weapons of mass destruction.

The Non-Aligned have also emphasised the need for the dissolution of foreign military bases and the fact that disarmament would release precious resources for developmental purposes.

## NEGOTIATIONS

Having briefly touched upon the contribution and outlook of Non-Aligned countries to disarmament, I would like to use this occasion to take stock of the present state of disarmament negotiations. The picture is dismal, indeed. Multilateral efforts at the conference on disarmament in Geneva to achieve nuclear disarmament have been virtually paralysed or stalemated while the bilateral negotiations between the two major nuclear powers have not only fallen victim to the vicissitudes of their relationship but have, till now, been aimed not so much at halting and reversing the nuclear arms race but at managing it through mutually agreed ceilings for various categories of weapons. Other nuclear weapon powers have not even expressed a willingness to engage in negotiations. Thus, despite the overwhelming desire of people to rid the world of the menace of nuclear weapons we find that those who possess such weapons continue to refine and

increase their nuclear arsenals. Even more amazing is that they do so on the ground that the balance of terror and nuclear deterrence have helped preserve peace. There is an inherent flaw in this logic which has been used to rationalise the accumulation of nuclear weaponry on the plea that each side would like to acquire sufficient nuclear might to deter its adversary from attacking. In the process, each side has sought to achieve nuclear superiority and the capacity to prevail in a nuclear

war. If we are to rid the world of nuclear weapons, therefore, we must start by rejecting these pernicious strategic doctrines which have led to the present situation. India has recently taken a major initiative towards this end by getting the United Nations to undertake a study on the concept of deterrence and its implications for the nuclear arms race.

The last few years have witnessed a new arms race between the two major nuclear powers - the USA and the USSR -- and the reverberations have been felt all over the globe, both politically and economically. Many of these developments are of an exceedingly destabilising character and gravely enhance the risk of nuclear war. With the latest series of missile deployments in Europe, the warning time between the launching of a missile and the time it takes to reach its target has been reduced to a few minutes. We shudder when we think of the terrible risk that this poses because it means that decision-makers would barely have time to consider whether to press the nuclear trigger. We may soon witness the phenomenon of "Launch-on-Warning" postures whereby computers would be assigned the awesome responsibility of deciding whether to respond to a nuclear attack. When we think of the well documented computer errors and false warnings, we realise the gravity of such a situation, for the slightest miscalculation could bring about the end of the world.

The latest scientific studies have revealed the absurdities of fighting a nuclear war because in such a war there would be no victor or vanquished. Apart from the well-known effects of blast, heat and radiation, even a limited nuclear exchange would cause an Arctic nuclear winter unleashing death and devastation around the world including the nation which initiated the nuclear exchange.

Then there is the frightening prospect of the extension of the arms race into outer space. Through the ages man has looked up to the skies and heavens and derived inspiration and comfort. If appropriate steps are not taken in the immediate future to prohibit space weapons the same skies would take on a predatory face threatening mankind with destruction. The antisatellite and anti-ballistic missile systems which are being developed and tested would not only aggravate the likelihood of a nuclear holocaust but would also result in a dangerous new arms race at

astronomical cost.

## PEACE MOVEMENTS

In this otherwise gloomy scenario there are some glimmerings of hope. First is the tremendous upsurge of public consciousness and the growth of peace movements in the nuclear weapon States themselves. Second is the decision of the USA and USSR to commence arms negotiations on a complex of issues concerning space and nuclear arms. We welcome these talks and we attach a special significance to the reiteration by the USA and USSR that the objective of these talks is to prevent an arms race in space and to terminate it on earth, ultimately to eliminate nuclear arms everywhere. We hope that in their negotiations the USA and USSR will seek to implement this objective.

It is against the background -- of the frustration of disarmament efforts and at the same time the growing public concern about nuclear weapons - that India recently held a Disarmament Summit on January 28 in which leaders of six countries representing people from all regions of the world participated. The declaration adopted by them on January 28 - the Delhi Declaration - called for an immediate halt to the testing, production and deployment of nuclear weapons and their delivery systems to be followed by reductions leading to the eventual elimination of nuclear weapons. It highlighted two steps as being particularly urgent - the prevention of an arms race in outer space by prohibiting the development, production, testing and deployment of space weapons and the conclusion of a comprehensive test ban treaty banning underground nuclear weapon tests.

The earlier statement of 22nd May, 1984 issued by the same leaders and our  
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late Prime Minister, Indira Gandhi, was endorsed by the Non-Aligned countries and the Delhi Declaration itself has, till now, received support from many countries all over the world. We hope that all the nuclear weapon powers will heed the message of the Delhi Summit and listen to the overwhelming voice of the majority of humanity by achieving concrete agreements in the near future to free mankind from the scourge of nuclear weapons and the threat of nuclear annihilation.

Today, the USA and USSR will begin arms negotiations in Geneva after a gap of more than a year during which negotiations remained suspended. We welcome the resumption of talks and the fact that the agenda for these talks will be "a complex of questions concerning space and nuclear arms of both strategic and intermediate range". We attach particular importance to the affirmation by both the USA and USSR that the objective of these negotiations is to "prevent an arms race in space and terminate it on earth ..... ultimately to eliminate nuclear arms

everywhere".

This is the first time since the Zorin McCloy statement of 1961 that the two major nuclear weapon powers have accepted that their efforts should be aimed at eliminating nuclear weapons rather than at limiting or controlling them. We hope that in their negotiations the USA and USSR will reach concrete agreements which will help to fulfil their proclaimed objectives.

The first conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned countries, which met in Belgrade in 1961, addressed an appeal to the leaders of the United States and the USSR. The appeal is, perhaps, even more relevant today when the potential for catastrophe and the means of destruction have both increased manifold. I would, therefore, like to end my talk with a quotation from that appeal, which we in the Non-Aligned would like again to address to the nuclear powers:

"At present, we find ourselves on the brink of this danger threatening the world and humanity. We are completely aware of the fact that Your Excellency, like all of us, wishes to prevent such an unfortunate development of the international situation which may not only destroy the hopes for prosperity of our peoples, but also endanger the very existence of mankind. It is our deep conviction that Your Excellency will do all that can be done in order to prevent a catastrophe.

"Bearing in mind the gravity of the present crisis which threatens the world and the imperative need to avoid developments which may accelerate this crisis, however, we are taking the liberty of appealing to the Great Powers to renew their negotiations, so as to remove the danger of war in the world and enable mankind to embark upon the road of- peace".

ALY INDIA USA JAPAN CONGO GERMANY KOREA LEBANON CUBA INDONESIA YUGOSLAVIA  
EGYPT ZAMBIA SRI LANKA PERU SWITZERLAND

**Date :** Mar 12, 1985

## Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

India's Relations with the Arab World

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Mar 12, 1985 of the text of the Third Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed

Memorial lecture on India's relations with the Arab World by the Foreign Secretary, Shri Romesh Bhandari, in New Delhi on March 12, 1985:

(Since Shri Bhandari was away to Moscow along with the Prime Minister the text of  
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the speech was read by Smt. Kumudesh Bhandari.)

Your Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, I consider it a privilege to address this distinguished gathering on the occasion of the Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed Memorial lecture.

The late Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed Saheb was one of the foremost national leaders in recent years. He served the country with honour and distinction in several fields and his memory lives with us. While as a civil servant I came into contact with him from time to time. I can claim a privileged relationship with him. Our association goes back to the early 50's when Fakhruddin Saheb came to New York as a member of the Indian delegation to the United Nations. I had the good fortune of being there. My wife and I had an opportunity of getting to know both Fakhruddin Saheb and Begum Abida very intimately. We have been the beneficiaries of their love and affection over the years.

As such, to be asked to deliver this Memorial lecture is a matter of very special fulfilment and satisfaction.

In choosing the subject of my lecture I wished not only to take into account the international cause to which the late Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed Saheb was dedicated, but one which is amongst the most important for us. This is the rationale behind my agreeing to speak to you on India's relations with the Arab world. The late President was a strong supporter of Indo-Arab relations. I know personally what a major role he played in cementing ties and fostering closer relations between us and the Arabs.

India's relations with the Arab world existed from times immemorial. Historians of ancient civilisation speak of the brilliant cultures of Mohenjodaro and Egypt. The ties between these regions may well have existed since the third millennium B.C. The Indus valley civilisation is believed to have developed trade with the Arab world. The Egyptians on the other hand had knowledge of Russia, Persia, Arabia, India and perhaps even China.

It is, therefore, not surprising that contacts may have developed between the two culture areas in the fields of religion and philosophy in the thousand years that elapsed between the days of the Buddha in India and Prophet Muhammad in the Arabian Peninsula. Ashoka the Great had sent missionaries to the Greek rulers of Syria, Macedonia, Epirus, Egypt and Cyrene. According

to chronicle the Dhamma, or the Law of Piety, was preached in the dominions of these rulers. Magasthenes records that there was a special department in the city of Pataliputra to handle foreign affairs and Ptolemy Philadelphus, King of Egypt, is reputed to have despatched an envoy named Dionysius to the court of the Mauryan emperors.

According to scholars, the period of direct and deeper cultural relations between the Arabs and the Indians began a century after the rise of Islam in Arabia. The process of exchange was reciprocal and included the dissemination and diffusion of the maximum amount of knowledge in the sciences and arts, religion and philosophy together with social and cultural ideas and values.

In the early years of the eighth century Sind and some parts of Punjab came under Arab influence. From these centres began a process of cultural diffusion that brought Arab thought and philosophy to the Indian people.

#### SOUTHERN INDIA

Arab traders came into cultural contacts with Southern India and they settled down in several places including Konkan, Malabar and in several coastal towns of Andhra Pradesh, Madras and Mysore. Gujarat and Kathiawar had large Arab communities and Eastern India, Bengal and Assam were visited by many Arab merchants and travellers.

In the field of science, a brilliant process of acculturation took place as early as the eighth century. The scientific exchanges included the fields of astronomy, mathematics, geography and medicine. Famous Indian works such as the Surya  
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Siddhanta, the Aryabhatiya of Aryabhata and the Khandakhadyaka of Brahmagupta became known to the Arabs. Al Biruni visited India at a time of cultural effervescence in India as well as the Arab world. Al Idrisi charted out maps of the Indian peninsula and Charaka and Susruta were studied by Arab hakims in the Arabic language.

#### SUFI AND BHAKTI THOUGHT

In early and medieval India, we developed Sufi and Bhakti thought as a result of the influence of Islamic ideas in the fields of religion and philosophy. The great savant and founder of the Sikh religion, Guru Nanak, is reputed to have made a pilgrimage to the Holy cities of Mecca and Medina as well as Baghdad. Islamic jurisprudence was studied and developed in our country.

A rich synthesis emerged as a result of the influence of Islam on Indian culture and of the excellence of Indian knowledge in areas

of astronomy, mathematics and medicine and its contribution in the development of research in these areas in famous Arab centres such as the Mustansirriya university in Baghdad.

The modern period of world history brought sharply into focus the relationship between India and the Arab world. The industrial revolution in Europe gave rise to the modern phase of imperialism. The conflicting interests of European Powers and the search for a place under the sun resulted in the colonial occupation of India as well as large parts of the Arab world.

## SUEZ CANAL

India was the brightest jewel in the British crown and the imperial power jealously guarded its prized possession. The route to India lay through the Middle East, especially after the opening of the Suez Canal in the latter half of the nineteenth century. Protection of the route to India was a strategic concern to Britain and was one of the primary reasons for the pursuit of her interests in the region.

At the same time, the decline of Ottoman Turkey attracted the attention of the major European Powers. After the 1870's the weakened Ottoman Empire faced revolt in its territories. In order to prevent the other powers from gaining ascendancy in the region, Britain sought to encourage the emergence of Arab nationalism.

Sharif Hussain of Mecca raised the banner of Arab Revolt. The British who wanted Arab help in the war against the Ottomans gave them to understand that Britain was willing to grant independence to the Arabs in Syria, Lebanon, Palestine, Iraq and the Arabian Peninsula in return for Arab support against the Turks. Following the war, however, Britain instead of granting independence obtained the Mandate for Palestine from the League of Nations.

## PALESTINE

The Indian National Congress viewed the Mandate as being a new form of colonialism. Writing in 'Young India' Mahatma Gandhi stated:

"The most thorny part of the question is, therefore, Palestine. Britain has made promise to the Zionists. The latter have, naturally, a sacred sentiment about the place. The Jews, it is contended, must remain a homeless wandering race unless they have obtained possession of Palestine. I do not propose to examine the soundness or otherwise of the doctrine underlying the proposition. All I contend is that they cannot possess Palestine through a trick or a moral breach. Palestine was not a stake in the war."

Gandhi viewed the problem of Palestine from the viewpoint of the

entire Islamic world, including the Indian Muslims. He wrote that:

"The Muslims claim Palestine as an integral part of the Zazirat-ul-Arab. They are bound to retain its custody, as an injunction of the Prophet. But that does not mean that the Jews and the Christians cannot freely go to Palestine, or even reside there and own property. What non-Muslims cannot do is to acquire sovereign jurisdiction. The Jews cannot receive sover-  
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eign rights in a place which has been held for centuries by Muslim powers by right of religious conquest. The Muslim soldiers did not shed their blood in the late war for the purpose of surrendering Palestine out of Muslim control. I would like my Jewish friends to impartially consider the position of the seventy million Muslims of India. As a free nation, can they tolerate what they must regard as treacherous disposal of their sacred possession?"

The leaders of the Indian National Movement fully appreciated that the cause of justice lay with the Arab people Of Palestine. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru wrote in the 'Glimpses of World History':

'Adjoining Syria is Palestine, for which the British Government holds a mandate from the League of Nations .... the people inhabiting it are predominantly Muslim Arabs, and they demand freedom and unity with their fellow - Arabs of Syria. But British policy has created a special minority problem here - that of the Jews - and the Jews side with the British and oppose the freedom of Palestine, as they fear that this would mean Arab rule. The two pull different ways and conflicts necessarily occur. On the Arab side are numbers, on the other side great financial resources and the world-wide Organisation of Jewry. So England pits Jewish religious nationalism against Arab nationalism, and makes it appear that her presence is necessary to act as an arbitrator and to keep the peace between the two.

Panditji made the position clear:

'Palestine is essentially an Arab country and must remain so, and the Arabs must not be crushed and suppressed in their own homelands.'

The Indian attitude towards the Palestine Question was strongly influenced by ties between the Indian National Congress and the rising tide of Arab nationalism. During the 1930's and 1940's recognition of the basis of the Jewish claim for a separate State was contrary to the objectives of the Indian National Congress in its struggle against imperialism. The Jewish argument rested on their claim to be a separate entity and hence entitled to independence and a separate State. The political implications of this would have been the partition of Palestine. In supporting

the Arabs and treating the Jewish problem as a minority question the Indian National Congress was given expression to when in a resolution adopted at its fiftysecond session in March 1939 it stated that:

'The Congress trusts that the Arabs and Jews will endeavour to find a basis for direct cooperation with a view to establishing an independent democratic State in Palestine. . . .'

In November 1936 the British Government appointed a Commission under Lord Peel to study the situation in Palestine. Its report published in 1937 recommended the partition of Palestine.

The Indian National Congress passed several resolutions which emphasised the need to put an end to the injustice being done to the Arabs and called for the right of Arabs to a homeland in Palestine. The Working Committee of the Indian National Congress in 1936 sent its 'greetings to the Arabs of Palestine in their struggle for independence'. The All India Congress Committee meeting in October 1937 protested against 'the reign of terror that is being established in Palestine by British imperialism with a view to coerce the Arabs into accepting the proposed position of Palestine and assure them of the solidarity of the Indian people with them in their struggle for national freedom'.

. At its Haripura session, the Indian National Congress in the resolution on Palestine condemned the decision of Great Britain as a Mandatory Power to bring about partition of Palestine in the teeth of the opposition of the Arabs .... the Congress holds that the proper method of solving the problem is by amicable settlement between themselves....'

With the approach of World War II the British sought Arab support in the struggle against the Nazis. In a White  
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Paper published in 1939 the British Government gave up the proposal for the partition of Palestine and envisaged the establishment within ten years of an independent Palestine State. The White Paper was, however, opposed by both Jews and Arabs. By the start of World War II the Jews discerned a shift in British policy on Palestine and sought to build support in America. With the Nazi persecution of European Jews in the War there began considerable Jewish immigration into Palestine, Gandhiji wrote:

U.N. COMMITTEE ON PALESTINE

'But, in my opinion, they have erred grievously in seeking to impose themselves on Palestine with the aid of America and Britain and now with the aid of naked terrorism.'

This brings us to India's stand on the vexed question of the

partition of Palestine. On 2 April, 1947 the British Government requested that a special session of the United Nations General Assembly be called for the purpose of constituting a sub-committee to submit proposals on the Palestine Question at the regular session of the General Assembly. The General Assembly adopted a resolution constituting a Sub-Committee consisting of eleven members including India and excluding the permanent members of the Security Council.

The report of the United Nations Special Committee on Palestine contained a majority proposal to divide Palestine into an Arab State, a Jewish State and the City of Jerusalem with the Holy City to be eventually treated as a trust territory. The minority plan proposed by India, Iran and Yugoslavia called for an independent Federal State comprising an Arab State and a Jewish State with Jerusalem as the Capital. There was to be a single Palestine nationality and citizenship. The Federal Government was to have powers in relation to defence, foreign affairs, immigration and currency, while the constituent units were to enjoy full local self-government. The General Assembly adopted the majority plan submitted by UNSCOP for partition with economic union by a vote of thirty-three in favour, thirteen against and ten abstentions. India voted against the plan along with the Arabs and certain other countries.

Unfortunately, the tragedy of Palestine continues. The attitudes of our leaders, before Independence, as I have quoted earlier, became the policies of independent India. We have, therefore, been consistent and unwavering regardless of whether the Arab world was poor or rich, united or divided. This will remain our policy and our unflinching support will continue until the injustices on the Arab people have been removed, their lands vacated and the Palestinians have an Independent homeland of their own.

I would now like to dwell upon India's contemporary relations and exchanges with the Arab world. First and foremost these are derived from a policy of peace and friendship based upon the principle of reciprocity and complementarity of interests. What is the content and nature of this relationship? I shall attempt to elaborate.

The Arab world lies just across the shores of our homeland. The waters of the Arabian Sea mingle with the vastness of the Indian Ocean. Our sailors and navigators sail their boats to Arab shores laden with merchandise for our neighbours. Our cultural ties are rich and close, Islam is today the faith of over a hundred and twenty million of our countrymen who bow their heads in prayer to the Holy Kaaba. The Muezzin calls from the minarets of the Jama Masjid and our Imams lead the Namaz in the vastness of the congregations all over the country. Our relations are therefore political, social, economic and cultural.

## ECONOMIC RELATIONS

India's commercial and economic relations with the Arab world, and in particular the Gulf, can be broadly classified into four categories: i) exports; ii) contracts; iii) manpower exports; and iv) investment. It is indeed a vital question as to how our links in these four areas can be further  
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strengthened, Let us consider them one by one.

EXPORTS: There is a pessimistic view that our exports to the Gulf are bound to be affected adversely in the coming years due to the declining oil revenues of these countries. This widely held viewpoint need not be accepted. This is for the following reasons:

i) despite a substantial fall in revenues, Kuwait's imports in 1982 were more than in 1981; Omani imports for 1984 have been higher than its imports in 1983 and there has been an increase in Omani oil revenues last year as compared to the previous year. Some of the biggest GCC countries like Saudi Arabia and Kuwait have managed to maintain or even slightly increase the level of governmental expenditure by drawing through their substantial reserves which now reach 1250 billion.

ii) Gulf countries so far have been purchasing the latest goods available in the market irrespective of the price. Due to the squeeze on their resources, they might turn to countries like India in preference to the West. They are realising that they have been taken for a ride in many cases. They have been exploited. The presentation of Indian products may not be as good, but Indian goods are today as good in content and performance. This realisation is now creeping in. and

iii) slow-down in economic activity, even if it takes place in the Gulf, would first effect the import of industrial goods. Our exports largely consist of food-stuffs like fresh vegetables, fresh meat, frozen meat, live animals, tea, etc. and such exports for obvious reasons would not at all be affected by a reduction in Gulf oil revenues.

On the basis of all this, one can perhaps predict that our exports to the Gulf may register an increase, though a small one during the coming years. This raises the question as to how do we go on promoting our exports.

The composition of our exports to the Gulf region is basically traditional. A group of 10-15 commodities accounts for more than 80-85% of our exports to this region. Our first task would be to identify these commodities and precisely define the problems which are standing in the way of the growth of their export. We can also analyse the Gulf's import trade to know whether

commodities now being exported by some other countries can be exported by us and if this is not happening what are the reasons behind this.

It would be appropriate also to find out the extent to which Government agencies can help to promote our exports to the Gulf. Most of our exports to the Gulf are made by private companies in India (with some exceptions like STC) and the purchasers in the Gulf countries are again private companies. Unless prices of our products become more competitive, their quality improves and our exporters are able to compete with exports from other countries in all respects, the level of our exports to the Gulf would not rise substantially. Contracts: During the 1970s, Indian firms were remarkably successful in the Gulf region and secured a number of prestigious contracts which included

i) Construction of the Sultan of Oman's palace in Muscat by Shapoorji and Palonjee.

ii) Civil construction of an oil refinery in the UAE.

iii) Construction of an entirely new township in Kuwait by the EPI.

During the last 3-4 years, on the other hand, our firms have been almost edged out of the Gulf markets. Why is this so? It is mainly attributable to the vast expansion of local companies in the Gulf countries. These local companies in the Gulf are staffed exclusively by expatriates (except a few posts at the top) and therefore the labour costs of local companies are no higher than the labour costs of companies from developing countries. Further, the Gulf governments follow a very systematic and well-thought out policy of giving maximum possible contracts to the local companies.

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This naturally greatly reduces the scope for foreign companies, International tenders are now invited when high technology is needed or the project is huge and cannot be handled except by an international company. Our companies, for obvious reasons, cannot compete very well with international giants in projects falling in the above two categories. This is the main reason why the performance of our companies in the Gulf during the last 3-4 years has been so poor.

There appears to be two possible ways of tackling this problem. One: the formation of joint ventures. A joint venture in the Gulf is treated on par with a local company and is eligible for participating in all tenders. In Saudi Arabia, especially, there are numerous joint ventures; unfortunately there are very few joint ventures with Indian companies. If more Indian companies enter successful joint ventures in Saudi Arabia, it would undoubtedly help them to secure a larger share of contracts

there. Two: most foreign companies which get primary contracts sub-contract on a large basis. Our companies should try to enter into arrangements with major international firms for obtaining sub-contracts in the Gulf. Foreign companies which are aware of the capabilities of Indian companies may be more willing to sub-contract to an Indian company known to them than to a local company.

## MANPOWER EXPORTS

MANPOWER EXPORTS: There are at present about an estimated 750,000 of our nationals in the Gulf distributed among the GCC countries. Oman 150,000; UAE 200,000; Kuwait 140,000 Bahrain 40,000; Qatar 50,000; Saudi Arabia 250,000. As I said these are estimates. I have no doubt that their actual numbers are much larger.

Despite the shrinkage of oil revenues during the last 3-4 years, the number of Indian workers in all the Gulf countries has risen significantly, especially in Oman and Saudi Arabia.

Considering declining stagnating oil revenues, one wonders whether this trend would continue. It should be stressed here that despite falling oil revenues, the richer GCC countries, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, have maintained the level of governmental expenditure by drawing on their reserves. There is no reason to assume that this would not continue, especially considering that viewed in the long term perspective oil revenues are likely to rise during the coming years.

## GRADUAL RISE

It is also argued that most of the developmental projects in the Gulf are over and this would greatly restrict the scope for employment of fresh migrant labour. Here again one should remember that Gulf countries are planning to execute many new ambitious ventures and, therefore, there is no reason to assume that there would be a drastic decrease in the number of foreign workers needed in the Gulf. The size of the foreign labour force in the Gulf might now increase gradually as against the rapid increase witnessed during the 1970s.

How does India maintain its share of the Gulf labour market or attempt to increase it? It is essential for us to adopt labour policies (immigration rules, minimum wages etc.) so that our workers are not at a disadvantage as compared to the workers coming from other developing countries like Pakistan, Bangladesh, the Philippines, China, etc. We tend at present to fix our minimum wages without paying due attention to the minimum wages being fixed by other countries and this adversely affects the interests of our workers.

INVESTMENT: Though, our rules were liberalised in 1981, investment from the Gulf countries at the governmental level in

India is nil. As regards private Arab capital, a Bahrain-based investment firm has invested more than \$ 200 million in a UP-based fertilizer complex. Otherwise, we have not attracted Gulf capital.

This is not surprising when one remembers, that government reserves from the Gulf countries have been mainly invested in Western Europe and the USA and a very small percentage has been utilised

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even in the Arab world. Gulf governments do not use their capital to promote new industrial development even in the developed world and one cannot in all reasonableness expect them to do so in India.

However, there are two areas in which the Gulf might find it of interest to invest in India. They are: i) oil exploration and production of oil and other oil derivatives; ii) real estate like hotels, tourist resorts etc. The Kuwait Oil Corporation about 2-3 years ago acquired the Santa Fe Corporation of the USA at a cost of \$ 2.1 billion and KOC had financial participation in a number of oil companies belonging to various countries. It recently entered into an agreement with China for oil exploration there. They might be interested in participating with the ONGC for oil exploration in India. The purchase of hotelstourist resorts etc. is a favourite mode of investment for the Gulf governments, especially Kuwait. The possibility of developing a tourist resort in India with the help of Gulf capital could be explored. These are only indicative suggestions that should be developed.

## BONDS AND LINKS

I have attempted in my lecture to cover contents, relations and exchanges with the Arabs from the dark recesses of history up to the present times. I tried to convey what has gone on for over 4000 years or more in a matter of just 40 minutes. What I have said can thus not be more than a flashing glimpse of our association, bonds and links. Yet these should convey to you even remotely how our relations have developed over the years how they encompass all aspects of national life in India and the world. We have constant political, economic and cultural interaction. It is to our mutual benefit to take determined steps to augment the great potential that still exists for even closer and more meaningful relationship. We are living in a new era in a rapidly changing world. Our geographical situations, however, are unchangeable. Only waters separate us from being neighbours. The geographical proximity is, however, underpinned by our historical links. Our internal developments have been different. Our resources and capabilities are not the same. Today, we have great complementarities which would enable us to interact with each other on the basis of equality and brotherhood. In brief, the prospects are excellent. Our past relations have ensured that we

do not need to get to know each other before we deal with each other. With determination and our unique historical backdrop, I have no doubt that our common aspirations, hopes and objectives will be realised.

DIA ITALY RUSSIA USA EGYPT CHINA MACEDONIA SYRIA IRAQ OMAN TURKEY LEBANON ISRAEL IRAN YUGOSLAVIA KUWAIT SAUDI ARABIA UNITED ARAB EMIRATES BAHRAIN QATAR BANGLADESH PAKISTAN PHILIPPINES

**Date :** Mar 12, 1985

## Volume No

1995

NEPAL

Prime Minister Lokendra Bahadur Chand of Nepal had come to India to represent his country at the funeral of Smt. Indira Gandhi in November, 1984 and not as published on page 333 in the November 1984 issue of "Foreign Affairs Record". The inadvertent error is regretted.  
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PAL INDIA

**Date :** Mar 12, 1985

## Volume No

1995

OMAN

Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement Limited, to Aircraft Profits between India and Oman

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Mar 28, 1985 on the double taxation avoidance agreement between India and Oman:

The Government of India have entered into an agreement with the Government of the Sultanate of Oman for the avoidance of double taxation of income derived from international air transport. The

agreement has been notified in the Gazette of India Extraordinary dated March 27, 1985. Under the agreement, income derived by the designated enterprise of one country engaged in international air traffic will be exempt from tax in the other country. The provisions of the agreement would apply retrospectively in respect of the earnings of the airlines of the two countries from January 1, 1971. The assessments in respect of the period prior to January 1, 1971 would not be reopened.

AN INDIA

**Date :** Mar 28, 1985

## Volume No

1995

POLAND

Indo-Polish Work Programme on Atomic Energy

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Mar 05, 1985 on Indo-Polish work programme on atomic energy:

India and Poland today signed the second work programme under the Indo-Polish Agreement for cooperation in peaceful uses of atomic energy.

The Protocol embodying the work programme was signed by Dr. Raja Ramanna, Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission, on behalf of India, and H. E. Mr. Ryszard Fijalkowski, Polish Ambassador in India, on behalf of Poland.

The work programme is for cooperation during 1985 and 1986 in nuclear physics, plasma physics, radiological protection and nuclear safety.

LAND INDIA USA

**Date :** Mar 05, 1985

## Volume No

1995

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Shri G. Parthasarathy Hosts Dinner in Honour of Thailand Foreign Minister

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The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Mar 21, 1985 of the speech by the Chairman of Me Policy Planning Committee of the Ministry of External Affairs, Shri G. Parthasarathy, at a dinner hosted by him in honour of His Excellency Air Chief Marshal Siddhi Savetsila, Minister of Foreign Affairs of

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Thailand, in New Delhi on March 21, 1985:

It is a matter of great pleasure for me to welcome Your Excellency, Air Chief Marshal Siddhi Savetsila, Madame Savetsila and members of the Thai delegation. I hope your stay in India, brief though it is, will be enjoyable and fruitful.

Your Excellency, after the meeting here, your programme would take you to Agra, which depicts the architectural glory of Mughal India. This is but appropriate, for many traditions of religion, culture, language and arts have blended together in India over the centuries. There are many customs and values which we have in common. The legacy of Lord Buddha, who showed mankind the 8-fold path for attaining salvation, represents, above all, the shared cultural heritage between India and Thailand. Lord Buddha's teachings urged mankind to follow a life of spiritual enlightenment, love and selfless service. The eternal appeal of his message is remembered even today for the deep effect it had on Emperor Ashoka by converting him from the path of war to the cause of peace. Today, it is incumbent on us, the inheritors of this legacy, to preserve and practice Lord Buddha's teachings of non-violence and peace.

#### BILATERAL TRADE

Our common heritage, therefore, constitutes a firm basis upon which Thailand and India can build further to their mutual advantage. In the modern world, economic cooperation and trade is often taken as an index of bilateral relations. I am, therefore, glad to note that our bilateral trade has doubled in the last five years. The visit last month by your distinguished colleague, the Commerce Minister, was particularly welcome for the promise it held out of consolidating our bilateral commercial and economic relations. I hope that the objective of setting up joint ventures, as envisaged in the Memorandum of Understanding concluded between our two countries, will be realised in adequate measure. Your Excellency also would be signing tomorrow with our Finance Minister a Convention on the Avoidance of Double Taxation. Our Government views this as an important agreement which would facilitate and further bilateral economic and

commercial relations.

## CIVIL AVIATION

There are also a number of other areas which hold promise for bilateral cooperation in the years ahead. In the field of civil aviation, an agreement was reached only recently in Bangkok, whereby Indian Airlines will operate a bi-weekly service to Bangkok. Science and technology, fisheries and, need I add, culture, are other areas where the interaction between our two countries can be much more fruitful.

We had today a wide ranging exchange of views on a number of international issues on which there was an identity or similarity of approach. We had also discussed the situation in South-East Asia, a matter of particular international concern in recent years. These discussions were useful, even if our perceptions are different. India is firmly committed to a peaceful solution of the problems in that region in accordance with the Non-Aligned Summit Declaration of March 1983. We believe that the States in the region themselves ought to undertake a dialogue, which would lead to deescalation of tension and the establishment of durable peace and stability in the area. This can obviously be facilitated by the elimination of the involvement of all foreign forces and threats of intervention in the region by outside powers. There is a real danger of tensions originating in the region escalating over a wider area. The de-escalation of tension is therefore the first priority. A comprehensive political solution is a necessary precondition for the rapid economic and social development of the region to which, we believe, all of us are equally committed.

May I now request you to raise your glasses and join me in conveying my best wishes for the personal well-being and good health of our distinguished guests, for the prosperity of the people of Thailand, and the further strengthening of Indo-Thai cooperation in all fields.

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AILAND INDIA USA

**Date :** Mar 21, 1985

**Volume No**

1995

THAILAND

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## Text of Thailand Foreign Minister's Speech

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The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Mar 21, 1985 of the speech by Air Chief Marshal Siddhi Savetsila, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Thailand at a dinner hosted in his honour by the Chairman of the Policy Planning Committee of the Ministry of External Affairs, Shri G. Parthasarathy in New Delhi on March 21, 1985:

I would like, on behalf of my delegation, to express our deep appreciation to the Government of India for the warm hospitality which has been accorded to us since our arrival in New Delhi. May I also thank you, Your Excellency, for the kind words you have just extended to me and my wife.

My visit to India is a natural consequence arising out of the present state of relationship between India and Thailand. I bring with me the goodwill of the Thai people and the desire of the Royal Thai Government to enhance the ancient bonds of friendship and to further strengthen them to our mutual benefit.

The relationship between India and Thailand is deeply rooted in history. The great Indian civilization is a major influence on the Thai way of life. Hinduism provides the basis for the spiritual life of the Thai people. The religion of the majority of the Thai people is the teachings of Lord Buddha who attained enlightenment and Nirvana on Indian soil. Many Muslims in Thailand came originally from India, from where they took their colourful way of life to add to the variety of Thai culture already enriched by earlier Indian spiritual values.

Thailand's respect for Indian values extends also to modern times. The doctrine of Pancha Sila expounded by India's great statesman, Jawaharlal Nehru, is the fundamental norm which governs the conduct of international relations in the world today. Thailand always adheres to and works towards the upholding of that sacred principle. Lasting peace can never be found in any region where Pancha Sila is not observed.

Consistent with the sacred principle of Pancha Sila, Thailand, along with the overwhelming majority of the international community cannot accept the violation of the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Kampuchea. We believe that a lasting peace can be established in South-East Asia only with the total withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea and the restoration of the right of self-determination to all the Kampuchean people. As a matter of principle, we support the inalienable right of the legitimate Government of Democratic Kampuchea, led by Prince Norodom Sihanouk, a founding member of the Non-Aligned Movement to resist the occupation of Kampuchea by Vietnam. Their struggle against all odds for the independence of their country deserves the support of all peace-loving nations and peoples throughout the world.

Your Excellency, India and Thailand are both developing countries. India has played an important role in leading the developing world in the struggle for more just and equitable North-South relations. Thailand supports the endeavours of India in this regard and wishes to work closely with India in the international community. As a fellow Non-Permanent Member of the United Nations Security Council from Asia, Thailand looks forward to cooperating with India on all issues affecting international peace and development in the world body.

The ultimate objectives for our neighbouring regions are identical. Thailand and the ASEAN countries wish Southeast Asia to be a zone of peace, freedom and neutrality. As an organization for regional economic, social and cultural cooperation, ASEAN looks to other regional groupings of developing countries for mutual South-South support. The success of the South Asian Regional Cooperation will surely provide India and Thailand with another chan-

nel of cooperation which could further benefit their respective peoples. Your Excellency, Shri G. Parthasarthy, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, on this happy occasion, may I invite you all to join me in a toast to the good health and success of Shri G. Parthasarathy and to the everlasting friendship between India and Thailand and between the Indian and the Thai peoples.

AILAND INDIA USA VIETNAM UNITED KINGDOM

**Date :** Mar 21, 1985

## Volume No

1995

THAILAND

India and Thailand Sign Agreement to Avoid Double Taxation

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Mar 22, 1985 on the signing of an agreement by India and Thailand to avoid double tax-

Convention for the avoidance of double taxation and prevention of fiscal evasion with respect to taxes on income between India and Thailand was signed here today. Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh, Union Finance Minister and Air Chief Marshal Siddhi Savetsila,

the visiting Thai Minister of Foreign Affairs, signed the agreement on behalf of their respective Governments.

After the convention comes into force, business profits of an enterprise of one country shall be taxable in the other country only if it maintains a permanent establishment in the latter country. Income from casual and stray business transactions would not be taxed in the country of source. It has also been provided that in the determination of profits of a permanent establishment, all reasonable expenses, where-ever incurred, would be allowed as deductions. Thus, Indian enterprises operating, in Thailand and having a permanent establishment there would be able to claim deduction for all expenses attributable to the permanent establishment, even if some of the expenses are incurred in India.

#### CREDIT METHOD

Under the convention, double taxation of income would be avoided by the credit method, according to which the country of residence will allow credit for the taxes paid in the country of source against its own taxes.

It has been agreed in the convention that aircraft profits would be completely exempt in the country of source and shall be taxable only by the country of residence of the enterprise. As regards shipping profits, tax chargeable in the country of source shall be reduced by an amount equal to fifty per cent thereof.

With regard to dividends, interest and royalties, primary right to tax these incomes has been given to the country of residence. Country of source would limit its tax on these incomes to certain specified percentages. In the case of income from interest and royalties, tax in the country of source will not exceed ten per cent and fifteen per cent of the gross amount of interest and royalties respectively. In the case of dividends, rate of tax in the country of source shall not exceed fifteen per cent of the gross amount of dividends if the recipient company owns at least ten percent of the voting shares of the company paying the dividends. If the recipient company owns at least 25 per cent of the voting shares of the company paying the dividends, rate of tax on dividend income in the country of source shall not exceed 20 per cent of such income on gross basis. In Thailand, the basis rate of tax on dividends, interest and royalties derived by a nonresident company is 25 per cent on gross basis. Therefore, the above limitations on the rates of tax in the country of source would be of considerable advantage to the Indian enterprises operating in Thailand.

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AILAND INDIA USA

**Date :** Mar 22, 1985

# Volume No

1995

## THAILAND

### Indian Airlines to Operate Air Services to Thailand

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Mar 11, 1985 on the operation of air services by Indian Airlines to Thailand:

An Indian delegation led by Dr. S. S. Sidhu, Secretary, Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation concluded a successful round of Air services talks with the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand during which it has been possible for the Indian delegation to obtain the acceptance of the designation of Indian Airlines as the second designated airline of the Government of India in addition to Air-India to operate Air services between India and Thailand. The talks were held in Thailand from March 6 to 8, 1985. The Thai delegation was led by Mr. Mom Luang Toengjan Kambhu, Permanent Secretary for Communications to the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand.

Air India operate three passenger services a week from Bombay to Bangkok as against the entitlement of eight services per week available under the Indo-Thai Air Services Agreement of 1969. This being a short-haul sector and Air India having no spare capacity, it was decided by the Department of Civil Aviation to designate Indian Airlines as the second designated airline of the Government of India for operating services between India and Thailand to enable it to operate two services per week between Calcutta and Bangkok. This decision was taken in order to make a greater utilisation of the rights available to the designated carriers of the Government of India to provide direct services for passengers from the eastern region of the country to Bangkok and to obtain an equitable share of the traffic between the two countries. A request to this effect was made to the Thai Government for obtaining their approval. This matter which has been pending for quite some time was successfully resolved during the talks from March 6 to 8, 1985. The Indian delegation obtained the acceptance of the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand to the designation of Indian Airlines as the second designated airline of the Government of India. The Government of the Kingdom of Thailand agreed to issue forthwith the appropriate operating authorisation to Indian Airlines to commence its operations at a very early date.

It will now be possible for the Indian Airlines to commence operations of twice weekly services from Calcutta to Bangkok and return from the 1st week of June, 1985. The successful conclusion of the talks is particularly relevant in view of the new policy of the Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation, to make an optimum utilisation of the aircraft capacities available with both the national carriers. Indian Airlines which runs most of the domestic services during the day hours has some spare capacity during the night hours and this spare capacity will be utilised for the operation of services to Bangkok. The Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation has already taken a decision which has been implemented that Air India will utilise its vacant seats on the domestic sectors on its international flights for domestic passengers.

The two delegations also discussed the matters in relation to other areas of civil aviation and agreed to explore the possibilities of close co-operation between the airport authorities of the two countries in the field of airport planning, designing, construction and consultancy services. The two delegations were also of the view that there was scope for developing co-operation between Civil Aviation Authorities of the two countries in regard to training of personnel, exchange of relevant information relating to technical matters etc.

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AILAND INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC USA

**Date :** Mar 11, 1985

## Volume No

1995

VIETNAM

Defence Minister Reiterates Indo-Vietnamese Friendship

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Mar 26, 1985 of the speech by Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, Defence Minister:

"Ten years ago, the people of India had responded to the emergence of your freedom with the call: Aapka naam, hamara naam, Vietnam" recalled the Defence Minister, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, here on Tuesday evening, while speaking at an official banquet hosted in the honour of Senior General H.E. Van Tien Dung, Minister of National Defence, Vietnam,

Reiterating the spirit of cooperation and friendship between India and Vietnam, Shri Rao traced the historical and cultural links between the two nations. He said that while both countries had been subjected to alien rule, this traumatic imprint had not scarred the national personality. "Instead, they have infused these (nations) with a vigour and resilience which may not seem so evident on the surface to a stranger. I have had the good fortune to visit Vietnam, to see etched on the smiling faces of your brave people the pride that belongs only to the free".

Highlighting the personal contribution of H.E. Van Tien Dung, Shri Narasimha Rao said: You were only eighteen when you joined your national revolutionary movement and in a space of a few eventful years you had suffered arrest and imprisonment and the passing of a sentence of death in absentia upon you. It is fitting that the first visit to India by a Defence Minister of Vietnam should bring to our country a person whose human qualities and intensity of personal experience reflect the vision of peace and national construction as much as the heroism and dedication so necessary for its preservation.

ETNAM INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC USA

**Date :** Mar 26, 1985

## Volume No

1995

SOVIET UNION

Prime Minister's Message to Soviet Leader

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Mar 14, 1985 of the message by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, sent to H.E. Mr. M. S. Gorbachev, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, as he was leaving USSR:

As I leave your country I convey once again to you and to the Soviet people sincere and heart-felt condolences from the Indian Government, the Indian people and on my behalf on the sad demise of the President K. U. Chernenko.

I was very happy to have had the opportunity to meet with you during my brief visit to the Soviet Union and look forward to greater exchange of views during our meeting later this year.

I am confident that the traditional relations of sincere

friendship and cooperation, which are a matter of great satisfaction for us, will continue to further develop.  
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DIA USA

**Date :** Mar 14, 1985

## Volume No

1995

SOVIET UNION

Three-Day State Mourning for USSR President

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Mar 11, 1985 on the occasion of the demise of Mr. K. U. Chernenko:

The Government of India profoundly regret to say that news has been received of the death of His Excellency K. U. Chernenko, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and President of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR.

It has been decided that as a mark of respect to the memory of the late His Excellency K. U. Chernenko, State mourning will be observed throughout India for three days from March 12 to 14, 1985.

During the period of State mourning, the national flag will be flown at half-mast throughout India on all Government buildings where it is flown regularly and there will be no official entertainment.

A INDIA

**Date :** Mar 11, 1985

## Volume No

1995

SOVIET UNION

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## Prime Minister Leaves for Moscow to Attend Funeral of PresidentChernenko

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The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Mar 12, 1985:

The Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, has left this afternoon for Moscow to attend the funeral of H.E. Mr. Konstantin U. Chernenko, President of U.S.S.R. The Prime Minister is accompanied by Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, Minister of Defence; Shri G. Parthasarathi, Chairman, Policy Planning Committee, Ministry of External Affairs; Shri K. Natwar Singh, Minister of State for Steel; Shri P. Shiv Shankar, Chairman, Friends of Soviet Union; Shri K. R. Ganesh, General Secretary, Friends of Soviet Union; Shri R. Bhandari, Foreign Secretary; Shri C. R. Gharekhan, Additional Secretary, Prime Minister's Office; and Shri K. Raghunath, Joint Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs.

SSIA INDIA USA

**Date :** Mar 12, 1985

## Volume No

1995

SOVIET UNION

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### Soviet Assistance for Bauxite-cum-Alumina Complex in AndhraPradesh

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The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Mar 12, 1985 on Soviet assistance for bauxite-cum-alumina complex in Andhra Pradesh:

The Soviet Union will assist India in setting up of a bauxite mine and alumina complex near Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh.

A decision to this effect was taken by the Indo-Soviet Working Group on Non-Ferrous Metallurgy which met in Moscow last week. The Indian delegation which comprised representatives of the Department of Mines, Ministries of External Affairs and Finance, National Aluminium Company and Bharat Aluminium. Company, was led by Shri B. K. Rao, Secretary, Department of Mines. The Soviet side was led by Mr. I. V. Prokopov, Deputy Minister for Non-Ferrous Metallurgy of USSR.

The Working Group, which identified a number of areas for

fruitful cooperation between the two countries in the field of non-ferrous metallurgy, signed a protocol at the end of the meeting setting out main conclusions of discussions.

The bauxite mine, which will have a production capacity of 2.3 million tonnes initially, will be set up on a priority basis  
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for export of bauxite to the USSR on compensation basis. The pricing formula will be worked out so as to ensure the economic viability of this export-oriented project. Experts from both sides will soon meet for evaluating the financial and economic aspects of the mine, besides formulating the programme of its construction.

The Soviet Union agreed to consider the Indian offer to export one million tonnes of bauxite, and two lakh tonnes of alumina from the National Aluminium company annually beginning from 1987. It will be sending its response to this offer shortly.

During its meeting, the Working Group discussed the question, of setting up of a Demonstration Unit for energy conservation at the Korba Alumina Plant with UNDP assistance and preparation of feasibility reports for Gallium production and special grade alumina production at Korba Aluminium Plant. It also considered the question of Soviet assistance in optimisation of anode paste production technology at Korba Aluminium Plant with a view to reduce power and cryolit consumption during electrolysis process.

A proposal for construction of an alumina-silicon alloys pilot plant at NALCO also came up for discussion. An Indian team of technical experts will shortly visit a commercial plant of this nature in the Soviet Union for assessment of the technoeconomic viability of the technology.

The Soviet Union will submit proposals for technical collaboration with the Bharat Gold Mines Ltd. on high speed shaft sinking and with the Mineral Exploration Corporation on high speed tunnelling and raising so as to utilise their technology for mine construction jobs.

The Working Group also discussed, among others, the programme of visits by Indian experts to the Soviet non-ferrous enterprises for gaining experience in the technology employed. It also reviewed the progress achieved in the working plans relating to sampling and beneficiation of Polymetallic ores and development of new flotation reagents,

DIA RUSSIA USA

**Date :** Mar 12, 1985

# Volume No

1995

SOVIET UNION

## New Thrust to Indo-Soviet Cooperation in Oil Exploration

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi On Mar 26, 1985 on Indo-Soviet cooperation in oil exploration:

India and the Soviet Union have agreed to give a new thrust to cooperation between the two countries in the field of oil exploration.

A protocol signed here today between India and the Soviet Union proposes to give some mutually agreed area in a basin to the Soviets for intensive integrated exploration.

The protocol was signed by Shri G. V. Ramakrishna, Secretary, Ministry of Petroleum, on behalf of the Indian side and by Mr. V. M. Yudin, Deputy Minister for Oil, USSR, on behalf of the Soviet side.

Under the new approach an agreed cooperation programme would be carried out for optimal exploration of the area by the Soviets with the help of their men and materials within a defined time frame.

It is expected that the expenditure for carrying out such programmes would be met out of the rouble credit.

The area to be taken up under this approach would be finalised within a month.

The Soviet delegation headed by Mr. Yudin arrived here for discussions on last Wednesday and talks with them were held in Delhi and Dehradun in terms of the long-term programmes of economic, trade, scientific and technical cooperation between the two countries.

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The progress of the Indo-Soviet cooperation in oil exploration was reviewed. It was noted that the geophysical surveys in West Bengal had progressed satisfactorily and the work of data processing interpretation was being undertaken simultaneously.

The two sides also reviewed the work of exploratory drilling in Bodra (West Bengal). The work of overhaul and downhole repair of wells in the western region was also reviewed. It was agreed to

continue the on-going activities and to suitably expand them in the field of repair of wells and data processing.

It was also decided to expand the programme of training Indian specialists in advance techniques in the Soviet Union.

A INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date :** Mar 26, 1985

## Volume No

1995

SOVIET UNION

India-USSR to Cooperate in TV and Radio Programmes

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Mar 29, 1985 on Indo-Soviet Cooperation in TV and radio programmes:

India and USSR will exchange television and radio programmes, which reflect rich cultures of the two countries. A programme to this effect was signed here today between the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting and the State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting of the USSR.

The programme was signed by Shri V. N. Gadgil, Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting on behalf of India and H.E. Mr. S. G. Lapin, Chairman of USSR State Committee on Television and Radio Broadcasting on behalf of USSR.

Under the programme both sides will continue to maintain and strive to increase the exchange of television and radio programmes reflecting various aspects of the lives of their peoples, their friendship and progress made by them.

The programmes to be exchanged will include TV newsreels, documentaries, TV films, programmes for children and youth, programmes on music, dance and other fine arts with appropriate covering texts.

The two countries will also exchange upto three-member delegations of their respective TV and radio organisations with a view to exchanging their experiences, to prepare programmes and to discuss issues of mutual cooperation.

They will extend organisational and technical assistance as may

be required by the visiting teams for production of programmes on subjects mutually agreed.

The two sides will exchange special programmes on the occasion of their respective National Days as well as materials on important events so that friendship between the two countries is further cemented.

DIA USA

**Date :** Mar 29, 1985

## Volume No

1995

TURKEY

India and Turkey Sign Cultural Exchange Programme

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Mar 02, 1985 on the cultural exchange programme between India and Turkey:

A programme of cultural, scientific and educational exchanges between India and the Republic of Turkey for the years 1985-87 was signed in New Delhi today. The agreement was signed by Shri K. D. Gupta, Joint Secretary, Department of Culture, on behalf of Government of India and Mr. Ergun Sav, Deputy Director General <pg-81>

for Cultural Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Turkey on behalf of his Government.

The programme envisages continued cooperation between the two countries in the fields of science and education, art and culture, youth and sports, radio and television etc., more particularly through exchange of academics, scholars, university teachers, historians, archaeologists, library and museum experts and performing troupes.

The programme also envisages the award of scholarships to each other's nationals, facilities for area studies programme and organisation of joint seminars.

The programme provides for establishment of a Chair of Turkish Studies in an Indian University, invitation to each other for participation in art festivals, book fairs, and film festivals, organisation of film weeks and conclusion of a protocol between

the radio and T.V. organisations in the two countries.

The programme also provides for extensive exchange of books, publications, journals in various fields, text books on history and geography and children's books, music cassettes and discs and exhibitions of folk arts and crafts etc.

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RKEY INDIA USA

**Date :** Mar 02, 1985

**April**

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1995

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GERIA CHINA INDIA GERMANY FINLAND KOREA MAURITIUS USA NAMIBIA NORWAY QATAR  
SRI LANKA SWEDEN

**Date :** Apr 01, 1985

## Volume No

1995

ALGERIA

### Indo-Algerian Cooperation in Higher Education

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Apr 18, 1985 on Indo-Algerian cooperation in higher education:

India and Algeria have agreed to cooperate in the field of higher education, particularly technical and architectural studies, and deputation of Indian teachers for teaching in Algerian institutions of higher education, mainly in the field of technology. Recruitment of Indian teachers for training Algerian students at the postgraduate level will also be considered.

The Indo-Algerian cooperation was discussed by the visiting Algerian delegation (16-18 April, 1985) led by Prof. Mustapha Boukari, Secretary General, Algerian Ministry of Higher Education. The Indian delegation was led by Prof. Yash Pal, Secretary, Department of Science and Technology. Shri Anand Sarup, Secretary, Ministry of Education, was also the member of the Indian delegation.

Attaching great importance to Indian participation in the establishment of science and technology educational infrastructure for 21st century, Algeria welcomed India's contribution in the training of a large number of cadres needed by Algeria as well as for setting up of the National Institute of Higher Education.

The Algerian side indicated that they would particularly welcome India's cooperation in the setting up of institutes of technology, besides provision and installation of equipment at the Institute of Higher Education.

For fulfilling these objectives, the focal point was identified as the Ministry of Education which will have at its disposal the inputs from other Indian agencies, namely, Department of Science and Technology, Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, and Educational Consultants India Ltd.

GERIA INDIA USA UNITED KINGDOM

**Date :** Apr 18, 1985

## Volume No

1995

CHINA

35th Anniversary of Diplomatic Relations between India and China

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Apr 01, 1985 on the occasion of the 35th anniversary of diplomatic relations between India and China:

The Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, has sent the following message to His Excellency, Mr. Zhao Ziyang, Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China, on the occasion of 35th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between India and China.

On behalf of the Government and people of India and on my own behalf, I  
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extend to you and through you to the Government and people of China felicitations and good wishes on the occasion of the 35th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between our two countries.

China and India are neighbours and both are developing countries with large population and great future potential. In the immense and varied tasks that we face there are many areas in which we can cooperate to the mutual benefit.

It is our earnest hope that through our joint efforts all outstanding problems between us can be solved consistent with the five principles of peaceful coexistence, thereby, enabling our two peoples to resume and consolidate their longstanding historical ties.

I take this opportunity, Excellency, to convey the assurances of my highest consideration.

In the message to the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, H.E. Mr. Zhao Ziyang, Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China, on the same occasion said:

On the occasion of the 35th anniversary of the establishment of Sino-Indian diplomatic relations, it is my pleasure to extend, on behalf of the Chinese Government and people, our warm congratulations and good wishes to Your Excellency and, through you, to the Indian Government and people.

China and India are friendly neighbours, and the friendship between the Chinese and Indian peoples is deep-rooted. India is one of the first countries to establish diplomatic relations with the People's Republic of China. The establishment of Sino-Indian diplomatic relations has opened a new chapter in the annals of Sino-Indian relations. The Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence initiated jointly by the late Premier Zhou Enlai and Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru have become not only a good foundation for the development of Sino-Indian friendly and good-neighbourly relations but also basic norms governing relations between States, thus playing a major role in the current international affairs.

I am pleased to note that in recent years marked improvement and progress have been made in the relations between our two countries thanks to our joint efforts. Both China and India are big countries in Asia and the world. For China and India to be friendly with each other not only conforms to the fundamental interests of our two peoples, but also is an important factor making for peace in Asia and the world. The Chinese Government and people attach great importance to friendly relations and cooperation with India and would like to work together with India towards restoring Sino-Indian relations to the level comparable to that of the 1950s.

I am deeply convinced that in the days to come, Sino-Indian relations in the political, economic, cultural and scientific and technological fields will steadily grow in strength, and the outstanding issues between our two countries are sure to be resolved.

May the Indian people achieve still greater successes on their road of advance! May the friendship between the Chinese and Indian peoples last forever.

INA INDIA USA

**Date :** Apr 01, 1985

# Volume No

1995

CHINA

Speech by Minister of State for External Affairs

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Apr 01, 1985 of the speech by the Minister of State for External Affairs, Shri Khurshed Alam Khan, at a dinner organised on the occasion of the 35th Anniversary of the  
<pg-84>

establishment of diplomatic relations between India and China here today (New Delhi, April 1, 1985):

It gives me great pleasure to welcome all those who have gathered here this evening on the occasion of the 35th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between India and China. This anniversary is a significant one in the bilateral relationship of our two countries. Together, India and China represent two-fifths of the population of our planet, and together we have shared common goals of economic progress and development for giving a better life to our peoples. Friendly contacts between our two countries span almost two millenia. It has been a creative and constructive interaction and our two civilizations have been mutually enriched thereby.

The 35 years that have passed since we established diplomatic relations represent an eventful period in the history of our two countries. Both of us had been newly liberated from a dark period of domination and exploitation by external forces. There were many who felt that the problems of economic backwardness and under-development which we faced then were insurmountable. We have disproved those prophets of doom by the substantial progress we have made in our agriculture and industry and in the overall development of our respective economies.

India was amongst the very first countries which recognised the newly established People's Republic of China in October, 1949. India also took the initiative to sponsor the entry of China into the UN and continued to work for this against great odds. Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru, was deeply convinced that the newly independent countries of Asia had a significant role to play in world and had placed great store on Sino-Indian Friendship and Cooperation. Accordingly,, during the better part of the 1950's, our two countries had enjoyed good and exemplary relations. That period also saw us jointly formulating the Five Principles of Peaceful Co-existence (Panchsheel), whose relevance has not

lessened or diminished with the passage of time.

As Your Excellency has pointed out, the tragic events of 1962 resulted in a serious set back to our relations. Notwithstanding this development, we in India continued to look towards the future with firm determination to try and resolve the differences which had arisen between us. The boundary question remains the crucial issue dividing us, and until there is a just and satisfactory solution to this question our efforts to achieve full normalisation of our relations will continue to be handicapped. The current ongoing dialogue in which we are engaged with China is based on our sincere desire to resolve the border issue between our two countries through negotiations. We have made known our desire to improve bilateral relations between India and China and to resolve all problems between us. I have no doubt that with sincerity and understanding we can achieve these goals.

India's efforts have been consistently directed towards the removal of international tensions and consolidation of world peace. Our role within the Non-Aligned Movement has kept this objective constantly in mind. China and India may have divergent social systems but, as Your Excellency has remarked, we have a common goal in maintaining world peace because only then can we ensure the necessary environment and conserve the necessary resources for further developing and modernizing our national economies. Our need for such a peaceful environment is both crucial and vital. It is in this spirit that I now request you all to join me in a toast to the further strengthening of India-China relations in a climate of peace and mutual understanding; to the prosperity of the People's Republic of China; to the health Of His Excellency President Li Xiannian; to the health of His Excellency Premier Zhao Ziyang; to the health of His Excellency the Chinese Ambassador and Madam, Pan Yifeng; to the health of all the Chinese friends who are present with us this evening.  
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INA INDIA USA MALI PERU

**Date :** Apr 01, 1985

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1995

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EUROPEAN MANAGEMENT FOUNDATION

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A Stabler and Economically Stronger India

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The following is the text of the address Of the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, to the Bound Table on India, organised by the European Management Foundation, in New Delhi, on Apr 15, 1985:

it is a pleasure for me to be here with you today. I should like to congratulate the European Management Foundation for organising this Round Table on India because today one of the most important things that we need is better understanding and this meeting builds that.

As Prof. Schwab has just said, we are all together on one earth moving in one direction. We must, in whatever we do, see that the primary goals remain in view. And there can be no other primary goals but those that are best for mankind, for its progress and upliftment of mankind, for the removal of poverty and backwardness. Whether we look at technology or the most advanced sciences, they are meaningless if they do not serve these causes.

In India today we are in a position from which we can move ahead fairly rapidly. At this Round Table, we would like not only you to understand India better, to understand our systems, our policies, our people, but also to learn from you and understand how we could do better, how we could move faster.

You will be mainly looking at our economy and the direction it is taking. I should like to just say a few words about it.

Our economy is based on Five Year Plans. We have just concluded the Sixth Plan from 1980 to 1985. The performance during this plan was highly satisfactory. Our average growth rate was a little over 5 per cent in GNP. The foodgrain output in 1979-80 was 109 million tonnes and this year we are likely to go over 150 million tonnes - almost a 40 per cent increase in five years. And unlike some other countries, there are many products which we don't count in our food output.

Our investment rate is high - 25 per cent and we have invested heavily in critical areas - agriculture, irrigation, energy, transport, communications. We expect returns in these areas. In spite of this high growth rate, we have managed to keep our inflation rate fairly low. Our balance of payments has been kept well under control. And we have not had some of the problems other developing countries have had. This would be commendable performance under any circumstances. But we have been able to achieve it when the world economy has been going through tremendous pressures and many developing countries, for that matter even some developed countries, have been put to severe difficulties. We have managed to avoid these difficulties and maintained a good rate of growth.

THE SEVENTH PLAN

During the past Five Year Plans we have established a strong foundation for growth. And it is this that we can take advantage of and build on today. The Seventh Plan, which will be ready in about six months time, will project the policies and strategies for the next five years. The broad-thrust areas are already clear and the details will be worked out very soon.

Our basic thrust is for growth with equity and social justice. The guiding principles of our development have not changed since our independence. We have adapted them to the technologies, to the development status of our country as we have moved along. We are planning for five per cent growth during this Plan. Our population growth needs decelerating and we are looking at this very very seriously.

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During the past Plans we have achieved a fair amount in equalising the various sections of our society. For example, the consumption rate of the poorest has increased while the consumption rate of the very rich has remained the same or declined very slightly. This shows that our policies for upliftment of the poor are working. Our policies for involving the maximum number in the development of India are, in fact, having effect.

#### AGRICULTURAL SECTOR

Agriculture is the bed-rock of our economy. Almost 70 per cent of our people live by agriculture. And this necessarily means that our industries must relate to the agricultural sector. We have progressed very rapidly in agriculture, as I have just said, but there is still very much to be done. In terms of crops and regions there is still a lot of disparity. Industrial growth must be parallel with agricultural growth for us to get maximum benefit from both sectors. Our basic policy for agricultural growth has been to stress irrigation, fertiliser and remunerative prices for agricultural produce. Through these three critical areas, we have managed to increase our agricultural production. While many other developing countries are succumbing to famine and drought, as we see in Africa today, India, due to its proper management, is able to send food to Africa today.

We have paid very special attention to the small farmers, the poor. Our rural development programmes and our antipoverty programmes have been effective. Today we are going to see how we can make them more efficient and more effective. To achieve these ends, we need a dynamic industry. And we have tried to develop this during the past plans.

#### SELF-RELIANCE AND PUBLIC SECTOR

One of our foremost targets has been self-reliance of the public sector. The public sector is the core of India's industrial

development and we use it as a tool for opening up backward and non-industrialised areas to industry and to development. Today our industry has a wide base. It extends from simple consumer products to very high technology areas like nuclear engineering, space and military technology.

We have a mixed economy. The public sector and the private sector function together for the maximum benefit of the country and for their own faster expansion. Both have grown and gained strength and the best companies in both spheres are equal to any in the world. The development role of our public sector has been very critical in the development of India. And we must keep this in mind when we criticise public sector enterprises for their inefficiency or their lower productivity, because we force them to go into areas where there is no industry, where there is no infrastructure, maybe no roads, no communications, no facilities. So we must keep this in mind before charging them with inefficiency or low productivity. But there are certain areas where we find weaknesses in our industrial system. The major weakness is our efficiency. Our industries are not as efficient as other industries in the world and certainly not as efficient as we would like them to be. Their productivity is low. Quality standards are not up to those in the rest of the world. The cost of production is still very high and in many areas there is technological stagnation. These are among the challenges we face today,

The steps that we have taken are just a few of those that we are about to take to invigorate our industry, to get a new thrust into our whole corporate sector. We have restructured the direct tax system to make it easier, smooth and more profitable to work more efficiently. We are in the process of looking at how to restructure our indirect tax system.

#### NEW IMPORT-EXPORT POLICY

We have introduced a new import-export policy. Government procedures and controls are being rationalised, so that there are fewer time delays. We are trying to have one window operations, as far as possible. We are basically opening up our industry to competitive pressures so that they may perform better. I am confident of the competence of our industry  
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and I know that it will respond positively and show a new dynamism. We recognise that we cannot do this entirely on our own. We shall need help from industries, from friends in other countries. We see this really as a support role for our own industries because self-reliance, self-sufficiency is one of our primary goals. We would like foreign business to help us in this goal, in building a new dynamic, self-reliant economy in our country. At this stage of our development, it is not feasible to open up our industries to free competition from all industries

abroad. It would not be fair to our industries, At the same time, we are, in certain areas, opening up to foreign competition so that our industries might face the pressure and perform under that pressure.

We look for self-reliance not autarchy. In India we today need to interact with the world market, with world industry and we realise that too much protection can be damaging to our industries. We look for improved technology, for domestic requirements, for better competitiveness, for better quality in our products, and above all, for a more efficient production process.

Foreign investment is strictly regulated by our laws. But once an investment is cleared, there are no further restrictions and the same laws apply to all companies - Indian or Foreign. We have introduced special terms for high-technology in special areas where we feel that we need more thrust. India offers a massive market of 750 million people. We have a growing percapita income and the strength of the market is much more than our statistics make us believe. We have seen, on various occasions when we have opened up various areas, that the roof has suddenly gone off the market. We offer political stability, consistent policies, a wide industrial base, a very large trained man-power, access to various markets and a very good past record of dealing with foreign companies. India looks ahead to not remaining a developing country. We are looking ahead to moving up, to moving ahead, challenging the developed economics in the coming years. We hope we will be able to work together for our mutual benefit.

I would like to thank you for giving me this opportunity to talk to you. I know you have got many questions, I shall give you that opportunity now.

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

QUESTION: One question you have partly already answered but nevertheless I would like to repeat it. What Mr. Prime Minister, do you consider to be the three most pressing economic problems of your Government? What specific actions and what time table do you have for bringing them under control?

PRIME MINISTER: The three, I think, would be: first, population, because anything we do is diluted by our population growth. The second has to be poverty and how to remove it. I suppose really that is where we come to our real problems, which is agricultural development, industrial development. We have tackled population control on a war-footing. Our population growth rate for the first time is below two per cent. And we hope to continue this trend to reduce our population growth and to make it manageable in the coming years. To really understand some of our social programmes, one must understand the poverty level in some of our areas. In the West, one talks of free enterprise, one talks of

allowing people to go ahead on their own steam, giving them the opportunity and let their initiatives take over. But when one looks at some areas in India, very large areas, one sees people at a poverty level where they do not have the capability to go ahead, even if they have the initiative.

And for this group we have very large anti-poverty programmes, which help them to come up above, just above, that level, so that they can then take off on their own steam. We have found these programmes very good, we have helped very large number of people. But whenever such programmes lift large people up above a certain level, immediately their aspirations and their demands go up even higher. So when we have these anti-poverty programmes, we have to match them with in

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frastructure development so that these people can then make full use of having been lifted up above the poverty levels. We have steadily been reducing the percentage of people below the poverty line since independence. This has been a tremendous achievement, if you match it with the population growth that has taken place. Our population is more than double what it was at the time of independence and the poverty levels have come down very gradually.

On agricultural and industrial development, I have already given you some idea of what we are going to do. We are now looking at how we can progress even faster. We are looking at how to select certain areas and concentrate in those directions and make our country equal in those areas to technology anywhere in the world. Once we have achieved that, we shall broaden those areas so that we can cover the full spectrum. This is roughly what we have in mind.

QUESTION: Mr. Prime Minister, you spoke already about the role of the public and the private sector. How do you see the role of the entrepreneur in the development of your country's economy? What could and what should be done to facilitate entrepreneurial activities?

PRIME MINISTER: The entrepreneur definitely carries very high priority with us. This can be seen from our tax laws, from our industrial licensing policies. And in the recent policies we have again given a special thrust and more benefits to entrepreneurs. A large section of our industry consists of small scale industries, which are really run by small entrepreneurs. We are trying to broaden this into the agricultural areas with rural industries, with agro-industries. And with very very small scale village industries. We feel that entrepreneurs are really the core of our future industries. And we must give them full scope to develop the entrepreneurship.

FOREIGN PARTICIPATION

QUESTION: My question is about the contribution of foreign business in achieving those objectives. Which areas would YOU single out to be particularly open for foreign collaboration?

PRIME MINISTER: This is a very difficult question, because there are so many areas that we have opened up. But without spending time on the non-essential areas, really the basic infrastructural areas are where we need most help, which is energy, whether it is power or fossil energy, communications and transport and agriculture, agricultural technology right from the development of the bio-technology required for seeds to other larger technologies required for maximum output in production. These are the really core areas where we look for more help, but of course, we are open across a very wide pan and I am sure you will know more about it in your discussions this afternoon, when you talk about specific subjects and specific areas of cooperation.

QUESTION: Mr. Prime Minister, I have a further related question which has to do with the issue of the consistency and continuity. And the question is: Can efficient transfer of technology take place in such a limited period of time as defined today?

PRIME MINISTER: Well, the short answer is, yes. We have seen that the Indian industrialist, the Indian mind, is very receptive to quick change, to absorbing technologies and, I think, you will also find this when you talk to our industrialists, when you talk to our people. We are able to absorb things much faster than many peoples of the world and use them productively, economically and, maybe sometimes in manners which other people could never have envisaged.

QUESTION: Mr. Prime Minister, the key factor for international competitiveness are industrial relations. What initiatives will you take in order to improve those relations?

PRIME MINISTER: On the whole, our industrial relations have been fairly good. But that doesn't mean that we can rest at that position. We are looking at various laws to see how we can make them better,  
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better for industry and better both for labour as well. We will have these ready shortly and you will see that there will be tremendous improvement in productivity and in work-out.

#### ASPIRATIONS OF YOUTH

QUESTION; Mr. Prime Minister, how do you define the aspirations of the young people in your country. To what extent do they identify themselves with the policies, the values which you represent?

PRIME MINISTER: The aspirations are very very high. What should I say how they look at our Government? I think the best answer is to see the result of the last election. They show the support that they have given to our Government. But there is one more thing I would like to add, which I should have said earlier. In the real problems that we are facing, I missed out one, which is education. Education really goes to the root of every process of development - even our family planning programme. We are looking at the whole gamut of our education system to see how we can change it and make it more dynamic and more productive for the youth of our country and make them come out with more initiative and more drive.

QUESTION: Mr. Prime Minister, a related question; how does your Government reconcile modernisation, and the materialism which goes with it, and the traditional values of society? Do you see here any contradiction and implications for the social and political stability of your country?

PRIME MINISTER: I don't see it as a danger to our political stability. We have demonstrated over the past 37 years since our independence that India is stable. We have had a number of major changes of Government. Our country has gone through times of very severe trauma but we have still come out every time stronger than we were before. Our democratic structure is now very deeply ingrained and I don't think there is any question of instability coming into it.

But the challenges are very real and we can see the tension between the new and the old strength of India, the spirituality, the inner strength that really defined India, that has kept India as India. In spite of many foreign conquests India has not changed, it is the conqueror that has become Indian. This strength we cannot afford to lose and we will not let it weaken. We have to blend this in with modern technology, hopefully, not with modern materialism but with Indian spirituality.

#### OFFICIAL PROCEDURES

QUESTION: Mr. Prime Minister, the mobilisation of human resources seems to be the key for progress. This concerns particularly human resources employed by the Government. Would you care to comment on those issues? And may I add another question which is similar? The world's mood is focussing on India to the excellent policy you are implementing. But there is a fear that in our daily context the changes which are announced by the Government are not going to come to action. Please comment on this.

PRIME MINISTER: Well, I shall start with the bureaucracy. I suppose we must start there because you will end there. Our bureaucracy is much maligned. It is true that sometimes they are too bureaucratic, sometimes they are entangled totally in their own red tape. But we must also see the positive side. They have

helped to keep India together, they have helped to keep India, united, they have helped to keep Indian democracy in a manner which many many other countries in the world would have liked to have seen in their countries. We just have to look around our neighbourhood to see the difference that there is in the systems. At the same time, we must make them more dynamic, more forward-looking, and we are doing this. I cannot claim that this is going to happen in a matter of days or weeks or months. This really goes down to the basic training that the bureaucracy is given in their training institutes and that is where we are starting. At the same time, we are seeing how to make it more dynamic at all levels and I think you can already see a difference. This will become more and better as time goes by.

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QUESTION: We have the admiration for Your policy but what will You do in order that it is implemented inside the Government hierarchy? -

PRIME MINISTER: Well, it will be implemented. We are already taking a lot of steps for it. And I think you too will see that the effects flow light down to the lowest level in a very short period of time.

#### REGIONAL PARTIES

QUESTION: Mr. Prime Minister, how do you see the political picture emerging in India in the next decade, also in the context of the host of regional parties?

PRIME MINISTER: Well, I have already answered part of that. The political system has been established for about 37 years now. It has proved its strength during the various periods of tension, trauma, hardship that our country has gone through. We have shown the world that the system is stronger than any pressure that can be put upon it. I don't see any change in this system coming about in the country. Regional parties have a role but by definition, they have a narrow outlook. And this is not good for the greater good of our country. We have now really only one effective regional party. And that too is looking towards a national outlook. We hope that they can have a national outlook. Of course, as a party, our party will be fighting them all the way but we would like more parties with a national outlook and I see that this is a tendency which is developing.

QUESTION: One question which is related to it. Previously all major decisions were taken by the Prime Minister and the Central Government. Now we understand decisions will be decentralised. When and how?

PRIME MINISTER: We have already decentralised substantially. We have pushed the decision making down to lower levels in almost every area. And this is not when but it is now.

## POWER AND ELECTRONICS

QUESTION: Mr. Prime Minister, We are very happy in India with your dynamic approach and practical budget and a very practical import-export policy. We more than congratulate you. We run a few industries in Karnataka. The electronic industry is feeling relieved today because of your very dynamic approach and constructive approach. What could you do to ease the power problem, It is only you who could do it.

PRIME MINISTER: Well, it is very difficult for me to talk about power problems in Karnataka specifically. As the hon'ble gentleman is aware, Karnataka is a State run by an opposition party and power is a State subject. It doesn't come under the Centre as such. But power is one of our major problems. But then isn't that an inherent problem of a developing country? Once we have enough energy, we have, by definition, got over the problems of development. And we are looking at this problem, we are trying to see how we can help from the Central sector. In fact, in this year's budget, power is the one sector which has had an increase in outlay when in almost every other sector we have had to cut back.

QUESTION: My question would be in the high technology and electronic sector. India will be competing in the world with exports from the Far-East. High effective duty rates provide no incentives for local component manufacturers to become efficient and their products to be cost competitive. Is the Government prepared to bring duty rate down progressively and expeditiously in order to encourage efficiency in the private sector?

PRIME MINISTER: Well, you have taken the one industry on which we have done tremendous work during the past few months. We have completely revised the whole electronics policy. We have revised the duty rates and the tax rates right from the starting point of raw-material and components to the finished products. And I am sure during your later discussions when you talk specifically about this area, you

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will find out how much we have done for electronics. And I would like to add that in electronics, specially in consumer electronics where the Far East is mostly competitive, our markets are not necessarily targeted to exports. We have a very very large market within India. And I think the best example of the size of our market can be demonstrated by the two months or three months of Customs relief we gave during the Asian Games for import of television sets. I am told that we mopped up almost every single television set that was available in the world right up to Los Angeles. I was told no sets were available. This is the strength of the consumer market in India and we do not only look outside, we also look at our own market.

QUESTION: We are very heartened that the Prime Minister started with the population problem. Related to that is the problem of the environment and ecology. And India has set a very good example already but the problem is so vast. It is linked with education also. It will be very interesting to request Prime Minister to please reassure us again on this subject.

PRIME MINISTER: We are fully aware of this problem and this is going to be one of our major thrust areas not only in locating industry, in licensing industry, in seeing that industry does not upset the ecology and local environment but also in our new education system. If it is ingrained into our people right from the earliest age, it will not be a problem at a later date. We are actively attacking those areas where it has already caused us problems, where it has already become serious. But the policy is really to see that we preserve our ecology, we don't damage it further. We repair it where we have already damaged it. Sometimes, this is a constraint to industrial growth. Sometimes, it is more expensive, but if we look at the longer-term picture, it is essential and it repays many times the investments that we put into it.

QUESTION: Mr. Prime Minister, I was very much impressed by your remark regarding the public sector and your reference to the private sector. One thought which has been worrying me a lot is that we have not exploited the joint sector to the extent we should. There is a certain amount of animus, whether you like it or not, between the two and there could be a great scope for both of them to come together. A small experiment was made years ago on Air India International. And that pattern could be repeated, where the private sector starts with 51 per cent and the Government puts in or contributes 49 per cent, with a proviso that the Government has the right at any time to take over two per cent automatically if the private sector has misbehaved or not performed well. That would take care of a number of capital-intensive industries, when today there is dearth of capital and the private sector will supplement the kind of entrepreneurship plus the efficiency that are put in. And between the two of them we have a scope which could be put into our Company Law Act as an instrument which we can show to the world that in a mixed economy both can progress together without any animus and competition between them, and India can profit a lot. I should like to know your reaction. Could we give greater momentum to a thought which is already there and we have already done that in the past? I should like to hear a little more about it.

PRIME MINISTER: I think this is an area that we must look into, and see how we can build this cooperation here, and we will be doing this.

It is not always that cooperation leads to better results. Sometimes a little bit of conflict is required to push people to

perform a little better. But we shall definitely look into this.

## VISION OF INDIA

QUESTION: Mr. Prime Minister, before concluding this session, I have still three very short questions left. The first one is: What concrete advice would you give to foreign businessmen here? The second one: What concrete advice would you give to the Indian businessmen here to tackle the medium-term future of the country? And the last question, maybe a little bit of <pg-92>

a private question - what key personal values strike you as a politician, as a human being, and as a leader of your country?

PRIME MINISTER: Very difficult to answer these questions in the time that is left. To answer the second question first: It's really a question of seeing where one wants India to go., When one goes around the country, meets the people, tries to understand their problems, their aspirations, then one realises the tremendous energies that are available, the tremendous potential that is there in our country. At the same time one sees the inability of a very large section of the people to make use of that because of their poverty level, because of their condition. We have to see how to bring them out of this. As I said earlier, without removing what is their intrinsic strength which is inherent depth, a spirituality, something much deeper than modern materialism or consumerism, a strength which will serve not only India but if we can project it positively, will definitely help the world to face the 21st century as we go into it. The values that India has built upon can really be summed up in what Gandhiji said many many years ago: 'Truth and Non-violence', amongst a lot of other things but the core would be truth and nonviolence. Truth in everything. If you translate truth into the world scenario, it really can be projected as being a true democracy where truth is allowed to come up to the surface, where every country is allowed to speak its mind freely. Non violence in a similar way is much deeper than what the West conceive as nonviolence. Gandhiji's description of nonviolence was not just that you do not hit back; it was that you do not even feel like hitting back. It is that conditioning which we require today, not only in India, we require it in the whole world, in a world where we are arming up to the teeth, we are only talking about annihilating the other party as a check for violence and we in India feel that this is a ridiculous state of affairs. If we have to progress, we must think positively and not negatively. We from India try to project this in our foreign policy and we have tried to build this into the non-aligned movement, both these things. In continuing this process we would like cooperation with others. We would not like to feel that we are being exploited or that we are exploiting anybody else. We stand for freedom in every sphere. And that is what we will be working towards, that is what we would like to see in the

cooperation between our industrialists and industrialists from other countries.

DIA USA LATVIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC MALI RUSSIA

**Date :** Apr 15, 1985

## Volume No

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 Apr 12, 1985 on the financial cooperation agreement signed between India and the Federal Republic of Germany:  
The Federal Republic of Germany will give a financial assistance of DM 390 million (Rs. 156 crores) to India according to the annual Indo-FRG Financial Cooperation Agreement for 1985-86 signed here today.

Dr. W. Ehmann, head of the German delegation signed on behalf of FRG and Shri M. S. Mukherjee, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Finance, on behalf of Government of India. The financial assistance will be used for commodity aid, import of capital goods, financial institutions (ICICI-IFCI) and for financing projects like the HBJ pipeline, Farakka H, Telco, MP rural water supply etc.  
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The agreement is an outcome of the negotiations that the eight-member delegation from the FRG had with its Indian counterpart in New Delhi in the last three days. Out of the DM 390 million, DM 360 million comprises of soft loans on IDA terms with a very high grant element of 82 per cent. The balance 30 million DM is a grant for technical assistance and would be used for financing projects such as tool rooms in Lucknow, Indore, Varanasi, Ahmedabad and Aurangabad, computer centre at IIT Madras, and hydraulic mining in the coal fields. Future cooperation with West Germany is expected in the areas of hydro-electric and thermal power generation, development of non-conventional energy sources, coal mining and washing and inland shipping.

The Federal Republic of Germany is one of the leading members of the Aid India Consortium that extend bilateral credit to India. It first pledged credit in 1958 and till 1984-85 it had pledged DM 9821.35 million (Rs. 4000 crores). This year's pledging will

thus take the total beyond the DM 10,000 million mark. This year's bilateral aid talks, incidentally, also mark the silver jubilee of such talks.

Among the prominent symbols of Indo-FRG cooperation are the Neyveli Lignite Corporation, the Korba, Ramagundam and Singrauli super thermal power projects, the oceanographic research vessel Sagar Kanya and the HUDCO housing schemes for the weaker sections of society.

RMANY INDIA UNITED KINGDOM USA

**Date :** Apr 12, 1985

## Volume No

1995

FINLAND

Wide Range of Commodities Identified, for Export - Indo-Finnish Trade Protocol Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Apr 23, 1985 on the signing of a trade protocol between India and Finland:

The protocol of the fifth session of the Indo-Finnish Joint Commission which was signed here today identifies products for special thrust for export to Finland from India. Among these are agricultural products, leather goods, engineering goods and electronic components. In the category of agricultural goods tea and coffee packed in suitable consumer bags will be launched under Indian brand names through leading wholesalers in Finland. Possibility of direct collaboration with wholesale importers will be explored by the Indian side with the assistance of the Finnish Foreign Trade Association (FFTA).

The protocol was signed by Mr. R. Dayal, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Commerce, and Mr. Mauno, Castren, Ambassador, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland, in the presence of Minister of State for Commerce, Mr. P. A. Sangma, and Mr. Jermu Laine, Minister for Foreign Trade of Finland.

Manufactured tobacco from India will also be imported into Finland for blending with other varieties to conform to local tastes. Commercial grade and B.P. grade castor oil and derivatives of castor oil, cashew and walnut kernels, animal feed stuffs as well as quality black pepper and cardamom have also been identified for inclusion in India's export basket to

Finland.

It was noted that India was the main supplier of cardamom to Finland until the last few years. However, Indian spices have registered an increase in Finnish markets during the last two years. Sustained  
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marketing will be undertaken to find an additional share in these markets. The Finnish side will also explore possibilities to obtain from India certain specified tools, sub-assemblies and semi-manufactures. An expert delegation will visit India in order to identify items in the machine tool industry which would be of interest to Finland.,

Indian home furnishings", floor coverings including hand-knitted carpets and chemicals have also been identified for export to Finland.

Items of import from Finland would include newsprint and items relating to forestry, as also pharmaceuticals, fertilizers, hot and cold steel coils and nonferrous products.

The Indian side took note of the possibilities of transfer of technology from Finland to the Indian fertilizer sector, specially for complex fertilizers. Both sides expressed interest in third country joint ventures in projects pertaining to soda boilers and plywood industry machines. Training programmes for training Indian paper technologists and joint R & D cooperation between the concerned research organisations in the two countries in the field of paper coating technology, specially photo sensitive paper and paper used for insulation purposes were also discussed.

Both sides recognised the advantage in identifying specific areas for joint collaboration in third country projects. These areas included setting up of pulp mills, concentrator, renovation of electricity network, grain silos and disposable medical products. It was agreed that FFTA would follow up specific proposals in these areas.

The FFTA in Finland and the Overseas Construction Council were identified as the focal points on the Finnish and Indian side, respectively, for cooperation observation in different projects.

FINLAND INDIA USA RUSSIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date** : Apr 23, 1985

**Volume No**

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

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Debate in the Lok Sabha on Demands for Grants of the Ministry of External-Affairs - Shri Khurshed Alam Khan's Intervention

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The following is the text of the Minister of State for External Affairs, Shri Khurshed Alam Khan's intervention in the debate in the Lok Sabha on demands for grants of the Ministry of External Affairs and reply by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, on Apr 09 and 10, 1985:

Mr. Speaker, Sir, since independence, the thrust of the foreign policy of India has been towards lowering of international tension, emphasis on disarmament and strengthening of world peace and friendship and cooperation between various nations for development. This policy has been appreciated at home and it has achieved prestige abroad. As Chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement, it has been our endeavour that the Movement plays an important and vital role in international affairs. To some extent, it has been our constant effort to restore to the Movement the role that its founding fathers had envisaged for it, especially in the fields of peace-making, disarmament, decolonisation and international economic issues.

Sir, not surprisingly most of the Members have spoken particularly about our neighbouring countries we appreciate what Hon. Member, Shri Swell has said. He put it so well yesterday when he said  
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India's place in the world must begin from the state of India's friendship with her neighbours. India's policy has been to seek friendship with her neighbours. India seeks to enhance regional co-operation. As another Hon. Member rightly quoted, this is the only region where an adequately strong institutional framework for regional cooperation does not exist and that is what we are remedying doing through our efforts made through SARC and other cooperation efforts with our neighbouring States.

#### NEIGHBOURING STATES

Now since the thrust of most of the Members was upon our neighbouring States, I would like to mention that our relations with our neighbours are linked geographically, historically and culturally and we value our links with our neighbours. It has been India's consistent effort to develop cordial relations with its neighbours to ensure peace and stability. Immediately on assuming office, the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi has reiterated this basic approach and principle of foreign policy

reflected by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and Shrimati Indira Gandhi. In the immediate neighbourhood of South Asia, India's policy is directed towards promoting mutual trust and extending cooperation. India is determined to resolve problems with the countries on the basis of mutual respect, sovereign equality and friendship. In pursuance of this policy our Foreign Secretary has been sent to most of these States to talk to various authorities and his counterparts in the countries. It is in our interests as well of the region that we work together and build up a relationship among the countries in South Asia based on equality, mutual respect, benefit and non-interference and non-intervention.

As regards Pakistan, about which a large number of Hon. Members have spoken, I would like to mention briefly that India desires cordial and cooperative relations with Pakistan on the basis of sovereignty, equality, non-interference and mutual benefit.

In his meeting with President Zia-ul-Haq recently in Moscow and, earlier in November, 1984 in New Delhi, our Prime Minister has reiterated our commitment to cordial and friendly relations on the basis of the Simla Accord.

Our desire is obvious from the fact that what India has offered to Pakistan during the last few months; the establishment of an Indo-Pakistan Joint Commission, a Treaty of Peace and Friendship, a proposal for a cultural agreement, signing of a tourism protocol, various proposals to facilitate travel between the two countries and a proposal for non-discrimination in trade facilities etc.

President Zia-ul-Haq has claimed often that a peace offensive has been launched in regard to India. But, Pakistan has always responded either negatively or restrictively to our offers and, therefore, we have to take his words at face value only when what he says is supported by his actions and deeds.

#### PAKISTAN ACTIONS

Pakistan's motives remain, to some extent, suspect in our view for certain reasons. Some of those reasons are: reaction to the developments in the Punjab, attempts to encourage communal and extremist and secessionist forces, distorted projection of incidents and happenings in India and Pakistan's approach to its ongoing nuclear programme. It is a fact and the President of Pakistan has alleged that Pakistan's nuclear scientist, Dr. Abdul Hyder Khan, has also recently claimed that Pakistan has achieved enrichment of uranium while, on the other hand, the President of Pakistan Zia-ul-Haq also says that this is so but not of weapons grade. We do not understand really what to take and what to reject and whether this enrichment which has been achieved is weapons grade or not.

## CASE AGAINST HIJACKERS

Pakistan's exploitation every now and then of the Kashmir issue and Pakistan's encouragement to hijackers is also deplorable. No doubt, we are happy that they have decided to conduct the hijackers' case and I hope they will expedite the case in <pg-96>

the same manner as they did in the case of their own hijackers.

Another problem that comes in the way of better relations with Pakistan is Pakistan acquiring enormous amounts of sophisticated and offensive weapons. It is a historical fact that whenever these weapons have been acquired by Pakistan on any Plea, under any conditions, our experience has been that these weapons have always been used against India and, therefore, what we have been telling Pakistan is that they can acquire weapons for their legitimate use, but the acquiring of weapons to this extent naturally creates suspicions in our mind.

## SRI LANKA

Several Members have referred to the visit of our Foreign Secretary to Pakistan and Sri Lanka. Here I would like to mention that, in the case of Sri Lanka there has been no secret understanding and there has been no secret pacts. In fact, it was denied by me on the floor of this House that even the communique which was issued by Sri Lanka was their statement and that it, was not a joint communique. Therefore, the question of our Foreign Secretary talking something with the President of Sri Lanka or the Foreign Secretary of Sri Lanka is only this much that he went there to create conditions conducive for better relations in the future, so that there may be more possibility of ensuring that there is a political settlement and that political settlement is arrived at in such a fashion which is acceptable to all the people concerned, both the Tamilians as well as other Sri Lankans. And that should be the end of this problem.

Another problem with Pakistan has been that Pakistan Government controlled media have been giving slanted news which has not been very conducive for improving the relations between the two countries. Similarly, as I mentioned, Pakistan's involvement in the Punjab affairs has been resented, and that has been one cause of problem between the two countries. Another thing is this. We quite appreciate that Pakistan must have their own defence and its requirement, but their responsible leaders have been making provocative statements in this behalf. Pakistan's defence budget increased three-fold since 1977, from Rs. 1,016 crores to Rs. 3,037 crores. This accounts for 54 per cent of the domestic budget and 60 per cent of her foreign exchange resources. All available evidence suggests that Pakistan has been relentlessly pursuing their nuclear weapons policy. As I said, that nuclear weapons policy is really not in the interest of this region. Here

I would like to mention that India remains committed to friendly relations between the two countries. There is one thing definitely, that we must be satisfied that Pakistan is sincere in its peace, what they call, 'peace offensive' and that their professions and their deeds should not have much difference.

## BANGLADESH

A number of Hon. Members have mentioned about Bangladesh. Our relations with Bangladesh have remained very cordial and stable for some time. However, some outstanding issues remain to be sorted out. These include the question of sharing of the Ganga Waters, the large scale infiltration of migrants into India, the settlement of claims of Indian nationals for their property, the settlement of the maritime boundary and the controversy over the Moore Island. These are some of the problems. But we have been talking to them and we hope that these will be sorted out in due course because we have suggested to them that, in order to increase the flow of Ganga waters at Farakka, they must provide a link canal from the Brahmaputra and in that way only they would be able to increase their water requirements.

Economic relations with Bangladesh have been growing over the years. Our trade has been increasing. But it is a fact that our trade with our neighbouring countries is 1.5 percent of our total foreign trade. There is scope for increasing this trade. Of course, more attention is being paid to this.

The credit line provided for Bangladesh has been utilised to some extent.

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They wanted the date to be extended and we have agreed to extend the date upto June, 1985.

## GRIEVANCES OF TAMILS IN SRI LANKA

Now the other important item which most of the Hon. Members have spoken about is that of Sri Lanka. The Tamils of Sri Lanka have felt discriminated and aggrieved by the laws enacted by the Sinhalese Government right from 1948. The main issues involved are citizenship rights, the status of the Tamil language, official recognition of Buddhism as the State religion, State-sponsored colonisation of Sinhalese in traditional areas of the Tamils, discrimination in employment, discrimination in education and inequality in industrial and economic development of the predominantly Tamil areas in the north.

The Tamil parties and groups consistently asked through constitutional means for the redressal of their grievances. But, unfortunately, as a result of the accumulated frustration they asked for a separate homeland in 1976. After the July 1983 violence discussions for a political settlement started in Sri

Lanka with the Tamil parties through the good offices of our late Prime Minister. The Tamil parties agreed to give up their demand for a separate homeland, at the same time, it was agreed that an All-Party Conference will be called and in this All-Party Conference, adequate legislation will be introduced by the Sri Lankan Government so that their grievances are redressed. An All-Party Conference was in fact convened and it continued to be in session from time to time for a period of almost over a year. But in December, 1984 unfortunately due to pressure from Sri Lankan hardliners and the Buddhist clergy, it was decided to disband this conference. This conference was disbanded without achieving anything and, therefore, the present situation has developed. Meanwhile, a large number of refugees have started coming into this country. The number of refugees is now more than 90,000. We have given shelter to these refugees but we have made it very clear to the Sri Lankan Government that these refugees will have to go back to Sri Lanka with honour and safety. We will ensure that these refugees go back as soon as a political solution is found. It has been made very clear to the Sri Lankan Government that there cannot be a military solution of this problem and they will have to find a solution which should be based on a political basis and which would be acceptable to all concerned including the Tamils of Sri Lanka.

No doubt the creation of a restricted zone and a surveillance zone have caused some problems and rather acute problems for the Sri Lankan Tamil fishermen and they have been deprived of their livelihood. This is a problem which they are facing and one of the reasons for the refugees coming to India from Sri Lanka is this economic reason also.

Here I would also like to mention that a number of Hon. Members have spoken about the security forces of Sri Lanka. We also feel that the security forces of Sri Lanka should be restrained and they should behave in a disciplined manner. We have no definite statistics, but it is reported that a large number of people have been killed in Sri Lanka. Similarly a large number of people have been imprisoned and unless conditions are created where the people can sit across the table and talk, it will not be possible to find a solution.

Sir, here I would like to mention what Prof. Madhu Dandavate has said. Even though sitting on the opposite side, he mentioned that army cannot solve this sort of problem and I think we are also of the same opinion that the army will not be able to solve this problem. This will have to be solved politically and as I said, it has to be solved in a manner, in a fashion that will be acceptable to all concerned including the Tamils of Sri Lanka as well as those Sri Lanka Tamils who are here in this country as refugees. They also should get the opportunity to go back to their country with honour and in safety.

WEST ASIA

About West Asia, I would like to say that our relations with the West Asian  
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countries are very cordial, very friendly and there is a lot of cooperation between West Asian countries and India. This cooperation is increasing from day to day. No doubt, the only problems that we envisage, or the problems that are there today, is the problem of the PLO and the Iran-Iraq war. Hon. Members are aware that the Prime Minister took a special interest when there was an escalation in the Iran-Iraq war and the result was that special emissaries were sent by the Prime Minister with a message suggesting that the escalation in Iran-Iraq war should be reduced by ensuring sectoral peace. Sectoral peace means that the civilian targets should not be bombed, to Shatt-i-Arab, and the Persian Gulf should be free for navigation, chemical weapons should not be used and such prisoners of war who were badly wounded or sick should be exchanged. After the emissaries went there, the Prime Minister also desired that I and the Foreign Secretary go to Iran and Iraq. We visited Iraq first and delivered the Prime Minister's message. The Iraqi President and leadership grateful to India because as a special case, India was taking such keen interest in ensuring that peace was restored in that region. So, Iraq's response was fairly positive. Similarly, when we went to Iran, Iran also appreciated the sincerity of India's move and initiative. But we find that there is still some area of disagreement between the two countries which we have not been able to bridge so far. But still, the matter has not been given up and we hope that this will be taken up again when the representatives of Iraq and Iran come to India at the time of the Non-Aligned Bureau's meeting, which will be held from 18th of this month. At that time it would be possible for us to take up this matter again. In the meanwhile, the Hon. Members must have seen that the Secretary General of the UN also visited Iran and Iraq and we are still awaiting news about the results of the Secretary General's visit. But we feel that, most probably, still an area of disagreement exists.

As far as PLO is concerned Hon. Members know that India's policy has throughout been one of supporting their cause, not because it is an Arab cause, but because it is a very genuine cause, and India's policy has been that all the Palestinians should go back to their homeland, and all the Arab lands which have been occupied by Israel should be vacated. Only then, lasting peace can be restored in this region. This is also one matter in which the late Prime Minister took a special interest.

Before the meeting of the 7th Non-Aligned Summit, a committee of four Foreign Ministers had been appointed, which included the then External Affairs Minister of India. They went to Iran and Iraq on several occasions and tried to ensure that peace was restored. But unfortunately, it was not possible to succeed, and the objective of peace was not achieved.

## CORDIAL RELATIONS WITH BHUTAN

There were a large number of cut motions on Bhutan. I would like to mention that our relations with Bhutan are most cordial. The King of Bhutan paid three visits to India since January 1984. The King, during his last visit i.e. in January 1985, said - and I quote:

"At no point of time in history have the relations between India and Bhutan been as good as today."

The Queen Mother also visited India in 1984. Our economic and commercial relations are improving. India met over 42% of Bhutan's expenditure in its 1984 budget, and that accounts for about Rs. 26.6 crores.

Similarly, outside the Plan, we provided assistance in power transmission, costing Rs. 5 crores, for urban development about Rs. 2 crores, for the Chukha hydel project Rs. 30 crores, for studies for cement projects Rs. 30 lakhs, for repairs of Zongs Rs. 2 crores and for the new Secretariat buildings Rs. 1 crore. All these were done in 1984-85.

Apart from this, a microwave link permitting Bhutan to have telephone connections with outside world has been completed at a cost of Rs. 3.4 crores. The Thimpu to Phuntsholing connection has

been provided at a cost of Rs. 2.5 crores.

The trade agreement signed in 1983 with Bhutan gives it facilities for third country trade. The agreement also provided for refund for excise duties on India's exports to Bhutan; and Indian exports to Bhutan aggregated to about Rs. 200 crores annually.

As regards cultural relations, two delegations of college students, professors and Lamas visited India during 1983-84. A CPWD delegation has been sent by India to examine the possibilities of setting up a sports centre and a community hall.

Bhutan has been given Rs. 5 crores for creating a Bhutanese Chair in the Nagar-junasagar University.

The Prime Minister has also indicated his intention to visit Bhutan shortly, and I hope this visit will materialize soon.

India has promised to extend all assistance to Bhutan in organizing their first international conference, viz. SARC Foreign Ministers' Conference.

The Plan subsidy for 1985-86 is Rs. 25 crores, i.e. about 33% of

its development expenditure.

Apart from this, India has agreed to an expenditure of Rs. 15 crores covering several projects, including a road from Highway 31-0 to Nanglam.

The hydel project costing about Rs. 220 crores will be commissioned in 1986. As regards the Indo-Bhutan boundary, there is no problem. We propose to conclude a civilian agreement also. We also propose to put up a broadcasting station of 50 KW in Bhutan. This is briefly what we have been doing in Bhutan; and I think this covers all the cut motions which were submitted about Bhutan.

#### RELATIONS WITH BURMA

I would like also to mention here that the Hon. Member, Shri Swell spoke about our relations with Burma. Our relations with Burma are cordial. In November 1984, Ne Win, Chairman of the Burma Socialist Programme Party came to India. Earlier, the Foreign Minister also visited India. In April 1984, a high-level commercial and economic delegation visited India from Burma. The delegation had fruitful discussions in the country; and we hope that a commercial credit of Rs. 10 crores will also be made available. The Burmese Trade Minister also visited India during trade fair in November 1984. Last year, we reached an agreement at technical level for delimitation of maritime boundary with Burma; and this has been done. So, I suppose, our relations with Burma are such that the Hon. Member, Mr. Swell cannot say that we have been treating them like a fire brigade.

SHRI G. G. SWELL: China is dominant in Burma.

SHRI KHURSHED ALAM KHAN: What we have been doing, as I said, is enough for them. Similarly apart from our traditional relations with Maldives, apart from what efforts we are making bilaterally to improve our relations with the neighbouring countries, the other ways and means are being found through SARC and this organisation is being utilized for improving the relations between the countries, particularly the neighbouring countries.

#### CLOSE COOPERATION AMONG SARC COUNTRIES

A number of items have been identified in which the close cooperation between SARC countries is envisaged. These items are agriculture, rural development, telecommunications, meteorology, health, population, postal service, transport, science and technology, sports and culture. In addition, the representatives of planning organisations hold periodical meetings. I am sure, with what the SARC have identified and the institutional arrangements which are being made, this will further improve relations between the South Asian countries; and that will be the time when we think of what some of the members have said about a

South Asian common market and other such facilities.  
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U.S. ARMS SUPPLY TO PAKISTAN

AN HON. MEMBER: What about USA?

SHRI KHURSHED ALAM KHAN: Our relations with them are very cordial.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: You drink to the health of your neighbour.

SHRI KHURSHED ALAM KHAN: I drink to your health. The only problem with USA has been that USA in 1981 concluded an agreement with Pakistan to supply military material including hardwares amounting to 3.2 billions. Actually, we have been telling Pakistan that Pakistan's legitimate requirement of armament can be met, but this quantity of weapons really is not required for Pakistan on the plea that Pakistan is afraid of the presence of the Russian troops in Afghanistan and this is needed for its own defence, because we have seen whenever supply of arms, massive supply of arms, particularly offensive type and most sophisticated type is made to Pakistan, these have been utilized against India.

But I am sure that the Prime Minister's visit in June to the U.S.A. will produce very good results. The Prime Minister is going there on the invitation of President Reagan. Apart from the bilateral and international affairs which will be discussed during this visit, the Prime Minister will also take the opportunity of inaugurating the Festival of India which has attracted a lot of attention in America.

A INDIA PAKISTAN RUSSIA SRI LANKA BANGLADESH IRAN IRAQ ISRAEL BHUTAN UNITED KINGDOM BURMA LATVIA CHINA MALDIVES AFGHANISTAN

**Date** : Apr 09, 1985

## Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's Speech

Mr. Speaker, Sir, India's foreign policy has been well established for over 37 years now. We are continuing along the same road. Under this foreign policy India has attained a certain

position in the world, a certain authority in the world. In a way, our foreign policy was not very different from the course of our independence struggle. It is a development of the same movement on a world-wide basis. We fought against imperialism, against colonialism, against racism, against any form of domination or discrimination. Today we still fight against these wherever they are on earth. Added to these, we have neo-colonialism and neo-imperialism which did not exist at that time. And if you really go down to the basis of our outlook on disarmament, are we not getting back to Gandhiji's ahimsa on a wider scale?

This foreign policy has helped India to gain a certain standing, but more than that it has set certain precedents in the world. It was this foreign policy that started off the Non-Aligned Movement which is today one of the largest movements in the world, and which, I am sure, that history will find, has been responsible for avoiding many tensions and may be even many wars. We shall continue along this road for peace, for disarmament, for a more just, social and economic order.

Most of the specific points, have been covered by the Hon. Minister of State, but I should like to go over some of the major areas of concern to the House and to the people of our country.

#### REGIONAL RELATIONS

We have been taking certain initiatives in our region. We feel that it is important that we develop the best possible relations with all the countries in our region keeping our own basic ideologies, our basic policies intact and not deviating from them. We are following this course. We have taken certain initiatives, with our Foreign Secretary going to these countries. And we hope these visits will help to develop better social and cultural relations between these countries and us. We have to see that the relations in our region grow deeper and that real cordiality is established in the region. It is not enough just Governments getting together and signing

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agreements or pacts. We need something much more long-lasting and deeper in the interests of all of us.

Our Foreign Secretary has recently returned from Pakistan. There has been some comment about his visit and what was spoken there and what was done. I think, a few things need to be clarified.

Discussions have been started. But I should like to make it very clear that the talks that we are referring to today are not talks on the 'no war' pact or on a peace agreement or at that level. We are talking of improving relationships, improving exchanges between our two peoples, improving the cordiality between the two countries, because that is what will improve the atmosphere which

can lead to a basis for a proper understanding between our two countries.

I have met President Zia on two occasions - once in Delhi in November and once in Moscow. On both occasions we had very cordial talks. President Zia was very forthright in what he wanted to do to improve relations between our countries. Unfortunately, after the first occasion we had the incident with the jathas visiting Nankana Saheb in Pakistan. After the second talk, we read an interview that he had given to a journal, which again, was totally contrary to what he had spoken about. This is just to bring these facts to your notice. We are worried about their feverish purchase of arms and weapons which we feel are well beyond their just requirements. Today we believe that the U.S.A. is spending the maximum amount it has ever spent since the Vietnam war drew to an end on armaments going to the Mujahideen in Afghanistan. And, as you know, these go through Pakistan. We cannot be fully sure of how much goes where. The sums involved are very very large.

We do not like what we see about their nuclear programme. We have still no indication that they are not making a bomb. We know that they are getting aircraft, they have got aircraft, which have the capability of carrying nuclear weapons. Just a few days ago, the President of Sri Lanka visited Pakistan. And we were disturbed that he should have brought up the Jammu and Kashmir issue while he was in Pakistan. Simultaneously there is a forum being set up in the United Kingdom which is also opening this issue. I wonder if these are a coincidence.

With Sri Lanka, many of our Members are very justly agitated. But we must keep one thing firmly in mind. Whatever be the conclusion of this ghastly period in Sri Lanka, it must be such that the Tamils will live in peace and harmony in Sri Lanka for the coming years. We must not look just to one or two years or five years. We must look much further ahead and see that the atmosphere is retrieved to an extent that the Tamils feel safe and confident to live in that country. Nothing that we do must make it such that it will make it difficult for the Tamils to live in Sri Lanka on a future date. Keeping this in mind, we are working towards a solution. We have had contact, on a number of occasions, with the President of Sri Lanka. We have had certain exchanges of communication and we feel that there is light at the end of the tunnel.

#### POLICY TOWARDS USSR AND USA

Our relations with the USSR and the USA will be more friendly, The USSR has been an old friend who has stood by us at times when we needed friends. We appreciate this and we shall keep this in mind. With the USA, we are trying to improve our friendship. We are trying to improve our relations. But there are a few points which do seem to stand in the way, One is, as I have already

said, the arms supply to Pakistan. The second is that we feel they are not taking enough action on Pakistan's nuclear programme. We feel that equipment is still coming from outside. We feel that technology is leaking and not enough is being done to control that. But we are looking forward to better cultural, better social and better trade relations, and on my visit there, I do hope to bring these points to their notice and we hope we will get a positive response.

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## SOLIDARITY WITH AFRICANS

The Non-Aligned Movement has been one of the largest peace movements that the earth has seen and we will be taking more steps to build on this. We are having a Ministerial level meeting on Namibia in Delhi. Next week which will be followed by a meeting later this year. We have helped the African countries which are suffering from tremendous famine and drought by sending them one lakh tonnes of wheat. This is really an example of where we can help them. We do not have to think back very far to find that India could have been in a very similar position. Merely 20-25 years ago, if we had a drought, we would have suffered in a similar manner. But today, because of our positive policies in developing self-sufficiency and developing ourselves, we are able to send grain to them. This is an area where South-South exchanges are really important because we are the ones who can show them how to rise above that level. And it is an example which is clear and visible to everybody in the world that when it comes to the crux, we have taken the correct path and the others who have got carried away by various theories and various smooth talk, have not been able to rise while India has.

Through NAM and on other platforms, we shall be taking up, whenever we can, the case for the South African people. It is one of the last vestiges of colonialism left in the world and truly, the whole of humanity should hang their heads in shame till we get rid of this.

## PROJECTING INDIA

We have taken initiatives to show the world what India really is, not what is perceived in the media, and to this end we held two years ago a festival in England and this year we are going to have a festival in the U.S.A. and a festival in France. This will bring home to the people of America and the people of Europe what India really is. We are not projecting just a modern technological India, we are also projecting our musicians, our dyers, our potters and our village people. We will be taking them to America, and to France and exposing them to the world and exposing the world to what really is the heart of India.

The Iraq-Iran war is really one of the most terrible wars after the First World War in the manner in which it is being fought. We

have taken various steps, as have many other people in the world, to try and bring this ghastly war to an end. Unfortunately no one is seeing an end to this war today. We shall still be working at this, to try - and bring peace in this region.

The PLO has fought a very brave struggle. We have stood by them in the past because we have felt that it has been their right to have a home land and we will stand by them in the future also.

#### EXTREMISTS ABROAD

Sir, last but not the least is the question of extremists and secessionists propagating the division of India from their bases in various countries. We have taken up this matter in earnest with those governments. We have applied pressure in whatever ways have been available to us. And we have got some responses. We are looking at this very seriously and we shall continue to do so. India's foreign policy over the years has proved that it was correct not only for India, but for the world, and we shall carry on building along the same lines. Thank you very Much,  
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DIA USA PAKISTAN RUSSIA VIETNAM AFGHANISTAN CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC SRI LANKA  
NAMIBIA SOUTH AFRICA FRANCE IRAN IRAQ

**Date :** Apr 09, 1985

## Volume No

1995

KOREA

Text of Shri Khurshed Alam Khan's Speech at Banquet for Foreign Minister

The following is the text of a Press release issued in New Delhi on Apr 11, 1985 of the speech by the Minister of State for External Affairs Shri Khurshed Alam Khan at a dinner hosted by him in honour of H.E. Mr. Kim Yong Nam, Vice Premier and Foreign Minister of Democratic People's Republic of Korea here today:

It gives me great pleasure to warmly welcome our distinguished guest, His Excellency Mr. Kim Yong Nam, Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the members of the DPRK delegation and our guests from the DPRK Embassy in New Delhi.

India and DPRK are both Non-Aligned countries. Although geographical distance separates us, the Korean people and the

Indian people have always maintained warm and friendly feelings for each other. We hope, Your Excellency, that your short stay amongst us will further enhance the friendship between our two countries. We hope too that though your visit is regrettably short, you will be able to see some parts of our country and enjoy its rich cultural heritage.

I trust that you have had a fruitful exchange of views with our leaders today, particularly with our Prime Minister. The discussions we had this morning and later in the afternoon have been useful and has provided us with an opportunity to understand each other's positions on various issues, both bilateral and international.

Our Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, soon after assuming office reiterated our commitment to the basic approach and principles of India's foreign policy. Our policy of friendship with all countries on the basis of reciprocity and mutual benefit, our commitment to Non-Alignment and the new international economic order based on justice, equality and mutual cooperation and our dedication to the cause of peace and development, is well-known to our friends and to the international community.

India has taken a number of initiatives as Chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement, to reduce regional and international tension, and played an active and significant role in important international fora on issues such as disarmament and peace, development and growth.

Excellency, I have no doubt that both our countries, conscious of the need for peace and development, would continue to cooperate with each other in the years to come.

The bilateral relations between India and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea have all along been friendly. We must now increase our efforts to increase the economic content of our relations through mutually beneficial cooperation in the fields of industry and commerce.

May I now request you all to raise your glasses to wish health and happiness to His Excellency President Kim Il Sung and to His Excellency Mr. Kim Yong Nam, for the progress and prosperity of the friendly people of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and for further strengthening of India-DPRK relations in all fields.

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REA INDIA USA

**Date :** Apr 11, 1985

# Volume No

1995

## MAURITIUS

### Dinner for mauritius Premier - Shri Rajiv Gandhi's Speech

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Apr 02, 1985 of the speech by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, at the dinner hosted on April 2, 1995 in honour of the Mauritius Prime Minister:

Prime Minister, Madam Jugnauth, Members of the Mauritian delegation, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you, Prime Minister, Madam Jugnauth and members of your delegation to India.

Mauritius and India are linked by ties of history and culture. The same ideals inspire us. The same ocean washes your coast and ours. In recent times, after the achievement of independence by both our countries, we have drawn even closer. In size we differ greatly but our problems and concerns are similar. Both our countries are multi-religious and multi-lingual. We are building modern societies based on equality and justice. We are dynamic democracies. We are engaged in shaking off economic backwardness and absorbing modern science and technology. Jawaharlal Nehru described the building up of a new India as a mighty adventure. We are glad to have shared our development experience with other countries and to have co-operated with you in your development.

#### GROWING CO-OPERATION

The growing co-operation between our two countries has been marked by an exchange of high-level visits between us. Shrimati Indira Gandhi had special affection for Mauritius, which she lovingly described as a 'great little country'. Last year our President visited your beautiful island and was moved by the spontaneous welcome. We recall the visits of Sir Seewoo-saugur Ramgoolam and of yourself and your colleagues.

#### PEACE AND STABILITY

Nation-building requires peace and stability. Unfortunately, the security environment around our two countries is deteriorating. The nuclear arms race is being rapidly escalated. This threatens the very survival of humankind. We must direct all our efforts towards the prevention of nuclear confrontation. The Joint Declaration on Nuclear Disarmament issued here in New Delhi in

January by leaders of six countries from various continents, reflects the anxiety of the world community.

The Indian Ocean, which has made us neighbours, has now become an area of intense rivalry among great powers. The deep desire of all of us to see the Indian Ocean truly become a Zone of Peace is far from realisation. We must, nevertheless, persevere with our endeavours and maintain our solidarity. In this context, I wish to reiterate the continuing support of India to the restitution of the Chagos Archipelago to Mauritius.

#### ECONOMIC CLIMATE

It is not only the security environment which has worsened. The economic climate is no less disquieting. If unchecked, this trend will lead to disaster for the poorer countries. Concessional assistance is being turned off. Many affluent countries, while praising competition and pressing their goods on us, are raising the wall of protectionism against our exports. The flow of technology which would enable us to compete in the international market is being blocked. In such a situation, it is of great importance that developing countries maintain their solidarity and continue to strive for collective self-reliance. South South cooperation, as it is called, is no less essential than North-South cooperation for

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building up a New International Economic Order based on justice and equality.

India has historically been associated with the Liberation Movements of Africa. Vestiges of colonialism and racism continue to disfigure Southern Africa, defying the will of the world community. We support the peoples of Southern Africa in their struggle for the attainment of their human and political rights. We shall also continue to give full support to SWAPO, the sole and legitimate representative of the people of Namibia, in their fight for freedom.

#### WEST ASIA

In West Asia, the tragic conflict between Iran and Iraq, two fellow Non-Aligned countries, has continued into its fifth year and intensified in the last few weeks. India cannot but be deeply concerned over this development. I have been personally in touch with the leaders of Iran and Iraq in an effort to bring about de-escalation of hostilities. I do hope that the two countries will heed the unanimous wish of the Non-Aligned Movement and the world community.

Another people who have been the victim of injustice for decades are the Palestinians. They must be enabled to re-return to their homeland. Israel must totally withdraw from all occupied

Palestinian and Arab territories.

I am glad that our bilateral relations are growing in all fields. We look forward to their being further strengthened in the coming years. We have watched with keen interest the courageous manner in which Mauritius, under your leadership, is tackling the problems of development and standing up to political and economic pressures.

I welcome you once again, Prime Minister, and your delegation. May I request all of you to join me in drinking a toast to the health and happiness of the Honourable Prime Minister and Madame Jugnauth and to the growing friendship between our two peoples?

URITIUS USA INDIA PERU NAMIBIA IRAN IRAQ ISRAEL

**Date :** Apr 02, 1985

## Volume No

1995

MAURITIUS

Speech by Mauritius Prime Minister

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Apr 02, 1985 of the speech by the Honourable Anerood Jugnauth, Prime Minister of Mauritius at a dinner hosted in his honour by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, here tonight (New Delhi, April 2, 1995):

I am indeed deeply touched, by the nice and sincere words about me and my country.

It gives me an immense pleasure to be in your midst tonight, in the historic city of New Delhi, in the land of ancestral India where the past and the present intermingle in complete harmony; where friendship and hospitality are legendary and where the values of morality and justice ride high above. I thank you very warmly for the invitation and friendly welcome extended to me and my delegation. To you, Mr. Prime Minister, and to the people of this ancient civilization, which is still aglow in all its splendour, I bring the greetings and warmest wishes of the Government and people of Mauritius.

India is not only the land of our ancestors or the glory of an ancient civilization. It is also a cradle of values which in their whole gave birth to the indomitable Indian spirit -a spirit

which has been so eloquently portrayed by Mahatma Gandhi, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and recently by one of her most illustrious daughters, the late Shrimati Indira Gandhi. Her name, Mr. Prime Minister, evokes fond memories. She was a true friend of the Third World, of the oppressed and the persecuted. She was indeed a stalwart of non-violence and a leader of great vision. We pay tribute to her qualities of head and heart, her wisdom, her compassion and above all her genuine friendship and 'love for Mauritius and its people.

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#### BULWARK OF DEMOCRACY

Mr. Prime Minister, your inheritance is rich and heavy and your task a difficult one. But then no great leader has ever gone along an easy path. You have within a short span of time shown your mettle and given a resounding lie to the enemies of peace and justice. India has again emerged in all her magnificence as the bulwark of democracy.

We applaud you for the bold changes and reforms you have brought about to improve the socio-economic fabric of your country. We salute your courage, judgement, integrity and dedication. Indeed, Mr. Prime Minister, you are a high flyer. With you in the cockpit, the passengers are safe and the flight smooth. The overwhelming mandate given to you and to your party is a living proof of the trust that India has placed in you. The continuity is assured for India does not imitate but is a model to others. India will continue to serve as a beacon light to nations the world over.

We, in Mauritius, are proud to have inherited a parcel of your cultural values an inheritance which has transcended colonial barriers and instilled in the people of multi-racial Mauritius a spirit of tolerance, understanding and respect for the dignity and worth of man. Mr. Prime Minister, I speak neither from false pride nor artful political flattery. Indeed we cherish this cultural heritage because the values that are inherent in it have helped us maintain and strengthen not only unity but a deep-seated respect for democratic institutions. I have no doubt in my mind that this cultural link is stronger than the excellent diplomatic relations which exist between our two countries. It is a link that encompasses the whole gamut of human emotions.

#### COMMON BELIEF

Mr. Prime Minister, we share with you and your great country a common belief in democratic principles and we have the same objectives and aspirations. We stand for peace and justice and for the eradication of political and social evils in all their various manifestation. International peace and security, social justice and equity are our ultimate goals.

## COMMITMENT To DISARMAMENT

India, we are happy to say, has and is still ceaselessly waging war against the scourges that threaten the very existence of mankind. The recent New Delhi Summit speaks highly of your commitment to general and complete disarmament. Your Government has played an active role, both at the United Nations and in the Non-Aligned Movement, to promote international peace and security in this inter-dependent world of ours where the instruments of war have far outpaced the instruments of peace.

The world today is going through a series of throes and convulsions. Peace has become more elusive than ever. Those who are in a position to halt this sad trend of affairs are wasting valuable resources in rekindling tension and conflict.

India has always stood for freedom. Indeed the battle cry against the forces of colonialism burst out from here long ago and set forth a blasting trail which brought in its wake the downfall of colonialism. Many of our sister nations across the world are free and independent today. However, there is still a great battleground for the defence and expansion of freedom. I refer here, Mr. Prime Minister, to certain parts of Asia, Latin America, Africa and the Middle East where the struggle against injustice, tyranny, exploitation, oppression and persecution continues unabated in spite of the arsenals deployed by the usurpers of freedom. Like you, we are committed to their total liberation and to the restoration of their sovereignty. We also firmly believe that freedom cannot be stilled.

Mr. Prime Minister, the cooperation which exists between our two countries is exemplary and gives credence to the much sought-after South-South cooperation. India has proved by deeds that she can offer genuine and selfless assistance in various fields for the realization of projects geared towards the social and economic development of Third World countries. We gratefully acknowledge your country's

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participation in our own programme of national reconstruction.

The visit of H.E. Giani Zail Singh, President of the Republic of India, will be forever be remembered.

We are also grateful to India for sending to Mauritius a highly distinguished delegation to participate actively in the celebrations of the 150th anniversary Of the coming of Indian immigrants and the abolition of . slavery.

## CHAMPION OF TWIN CAUSES

Mr. Prime Minister, may I once again say how much pleased I am to be here in a country which has always championed the twin causes

of peaceful coexistence and development. We have had a most stimulating exchange of views and it is my belief that such exchanges cannot but foster better understanding, friendship and trust. May I reiterate my invitation to you and Madame Sonia Gandhi to pay a State visit to Mauritius in the near future.

With these few words, I would like to ask you, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, to join me in a toast to the health and happiness of Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, Prime Minister of the Republic of India, Madame Sonia Gandhi, to the prosperity and welfare of the friendly and loving people of India and to the success of the President of the Non-Aligned Movement.

URITIUS USA INDIA

**Date :** Apr 02, 1985

## Volume No

1995

NAMIBIA

Support to Namibian Freedom

The following is the text of the speech Of the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, while inaugurating the Extraordinary Ministerial Meeting of Coordinating Bureau of Non-Aligned Countries on Namibia in New Delhi on Apr 19, 1985:

More than a hundred nations are represented here today with one purpose to express solidarity with Namibia, that brave nation yearning for freedom. It is a great cause that brings us together, for the call of freedom is ever exciting and ennobling. The people of India are proud to play host to this meeting. On behalf of them all, I offer you a warm welcome. We specially value the presence in our midst of Mr. Sam Nujoma, President of the South-West African People's Organisation and the true voice of Namibia. We greet him warmly.

India, may I say, has always felt close to Africa. For centuries ships plied between our coasts and built up links of commerce and culture. Colonialism, which was a curse on both of us, tied our political fates closer together. Mahatma Gandhi symbolised this connection. It was in the laboratory of South Africa that he forged that priceless political weapon, non-violent mass action, with which he later won freedom for India.

A few days from now, in Bandung a meeting is being held to mark

the 30th anniversary of the Afro-Asian Conference of 1955. What Jawaharlal Nehru had said at Bandung three decades ago rings in my ears today. "There will be no yesmen any longer in Asia and Africa", he declared. About Africa he said: "There is nothing more terrible than the infinite tragedy of Africa in the past few hundred years."

## COLONIALIST ATTITUDE

This tragedy continues. Even though country after country has won political  
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freedom in Africa since Bandung, the consequences of the brutal economic exploitation and the long suppression of the human spirit persist. The drought and famine, the suffering and death that afflict large parts of Africa today are not the result of the unkindness of weather alone or the incapacity of Governments, but the continuing consequences of the structural imbalances imposed by colonialism. They have been aggravated by the policies adopted by the powerful to prevent many newly freed countries from becoming economically viable. The colonialist attitude of plunder has not disappeared. If anything, there is new emphasis on grabbing strategic materials. Besides, in Namibia as well as South Africa, there is the direct affront of racism. For all of us of the Non-Aligned Movement, the historical battle against colonialism continues. Two years ago, in this very hall in the Seventh Non-Aligned Summit we declared its support for the Namibian people. We solemnly reaffirm it today.

It is now more than 100 years since imperialism first cast its covetous eyes on Namibia from across Luderitz Bay. Since the end of the First World War, South Africa has tried directly or indirectly to annex South West Africa and make it its fifth province. The ravages of 'Settler-colonialism' imposed by South Africa in the lands under its military occupation are there for all to see. For close to 70 years since its seizure of Namibia, South Africa has practised unabashed deception and illegality. These moves were exposed and castigated, first in the League of Nations, then at the United Nations, yet in clear violation of the mandate of the world community, the South African regime has fortified and militarised the territory. Today, the regime's military build-up in Namibia has reached a new peak where there is one soldier for every 12 Namibians, perhaps, a record in the history of colonialism. This military might is aimed at terrorising the Namibians into withdrawing their support to SWAPO and for aggressive strikes, against neighbouring states. How has a minority regime defied the world community for so long and with such impunity. Because of open and hidden abetment from others.

## POWER POLITICS

Some countries have sworn by racial equality with their left

hand, but with their light hand supported the Pretoria regime. It is their continuing collaboration in the political, economic, military and nuclear fields that has reinforced South African belligerence. The world organisation has repeatedly asked for a boycott of the minority, regime, but its wish has been repeatedly frustrated.. We are advised to be realistic and constructive-good sentiments applied to an undeserving purpose. The involvement of important transnational corporations in the economy of racist South Africa and in Namibia is sought to be justified on ground of benefits that accrue to the black populations there. In reality, the Africans are getting batons and bullets. The recent killings of innocent civilians in Uitenhage is another reminder that the racist rampage continues. Just a few years ago Namibia's progress towards independence appeared so sure. Today it has become a casualty to power politics and multinationals' profit. In the process, the very credibility of the institution that had guaranteed this independence, the U.N. Security Council, has come under question. The issue now is whether a wronged and dispossessed people will be supported or deserted by the world body. It is thus a challenge to the United Nations. Will the U.N., now in its 40th year, fulfil its moral and political obligations or will military and economic might prevail over right?

The responsibility of the United Nations for the independence of Namibia must once again be strongly affirmed. Proposals by South Africa to push the role of the United Nations to background must be resisted. This gathering of the Non-Aligned Movement proclaims that Namibian independence is the direct obligation of the United Nations. The Security Council must seek new ways to enforce Resolution 435 (1978). That Resolution remains the only acceptable basis for

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a peaceful settlement of the question of Namibia. We oppose any effort to by-pass the U.N. and promote spurious schemes of internal settlement.

#### A BRAZEN AFFRONT

The announcement of an interim Government in Namibia represents a brazen affront to the Namibian people, to SWAPO, indeed, to the entire international community. Is it mere coincidence that the South African authorities have been driven to take a step on the eve of the 25th anniversary of SWAPO which we are celebrating today in Delhi? The world can ill-afford to sit by the latest actions of the South African regime. History has proved time and again the futility of such efforts to defy the will of the people. I suggest that this meeting should send an urgent telegram to the President of the Security Council registering its strong, condemnation of the illegal act of the minority Pretoria Regime and calling upon the Council to meet urgently to reaffirm its commitment to an unqualified implementation of Resolution 435

of 1978. This is not a matter merely to be deplored but a question of the Council having to counter a challenge to its authority and credibility.

#### SWAPO's STRUGGLE

Through twenty-five years of travail and tribulation, SWAPO has spearheaded the struggle of the Namibian people. We salute SWAPO for the courage and single-mindedness of its brave warriors. Under Mr. Nujoma's inspiring leadership SWAPO has shown farsightedness, determination and resilience in its political and diplomatic responses. It has striven to promote a negotiated settlement of the Namibian question. This attitude has been in contrast to the duplicity and intrigue of the minority regime in South Africa. The latest turn in Pretoria's game is the attempt to set up a "transitional government", with a so-called 'Multi-Party Conference', indeed to fabricate possibilities of unilateral declaration of independence on the part of this puppet body. We must not let this pass.

SWAPO is the sole, authentic representative of the Namibian people. It must receive greater political support as well as more tangible material assistance in pursuing its struggle. Today we observe the 25th anniversary of the establishment of SWAPO. All of us must demonstrate our solidarity with SWAPO through concrete pledges of assistance to the Non-Aligned Solidarity Fund for the liberation of Namibia. India on its part will make a further contribution to the Fund. I am also glad to announce that the Government of India has decided to accord full diplomatic status to the SWAPO representative in New Delhi.

#### PROMOTING DISARMAMENT

Our meeting takes place at a time of great international anxieties. Of late, there have been some encouraging statements on the part of the major military powers seeking negotiations on the arms race. We welcome these moves. But we hope that it will not be a case 'of "one step forward, two steps backward"'. For we find that each word of peace is accompanied by two of menace. Meanwhile, research on new weapon systems continues, relentlessly. Death is pursued in the name of life. The happiness, in fact the very existence, of humanity is entrapped in the nose-cones of the frightful paraphernalia of destruction. This is what makes disarmament the great imperative of our day. That is why the Non-Aligned Movement lends its full backing to any initiative that promotes disarmament.

While the world as a whole has to be made safe for life, each region cries for peace and dignity. No meeting of Non-Aligned nations can remain silent to the sufferings of the Palestinian people and their righteous struggle for regaining their homeland. We declare anew our support for the PLO. There are tensions and conflicts in South-West Asia and South-East Asia. The tranquility

and independence of people in Central America continues to be imperilled. We reiterate our support to the endeavours of the Central American countries to pursue their social, economic and political progress without  
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interference and intervention. Another area of the world where the security environment has steadily deteriorated is the Indian Ocean region, where military buildup is being pushed ahead at a feverish pace. The Indian Ocean must be a zone of peace.

#### BEATS OF FREEDOM'S DRUM

Everything that affects peace, everything that abridges the freedom of nations, everything that aggravates international economic disparities is of concern to the Non-Aligned Movement. But the focus of today's meeting is on Namibia. It-, freedom, must be expedited. Years ago, at Lusaka, at the only Non-Aligned Summit to be held South of the Equator, Indira Gandhi had said that she could hear the heartbeats of Africa. The beats of freedom's drum in Namibia and South Africa reach us here in New Delhi and reverberate all over the world. We must at this meeting draw up a programme of action which will show the brave fighters of Namibia that the Non-Aligned Movement means business. I am sure you will want me to send back this message to our brothers and sisters of Namibia and South Africa: 'You are one of us. We are with you-today and always.'

I have great pleasure in inaugurating this meeting.

MIBIA INDIA USA SOUTH AFRICA INDONESIA ZAMBIA

**Date :** Apr 19, 1985

## Volume No

1995

NON-ALIGNMENT

Role of Women in Development

The following is the text of the inaugural address of the Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi, at the Conference of Non-Aligned and other Developing Countries on the Role of Women in Development, in New Delhi on Apr 10, 1985:

I should like first to welcome all of you to India, to Delhi, to this Non-Aligned Conference on Women.

The role of women is very crucial to the rate at which a country develops and in many ways is an indicator as to how well the country is developing.

The Non-Aligned Movement represents a very large majority of humanity on this earth. We have traditionally fought against imperialism, colonialism, racism, neo-imperialism, and neo-colonialism, and against all forms of discrimination and domination. We have fought for an equitable social and economic order. The fight for the rights of women is part of this larger fight.

Women are the social conscience of a country. They hold our societies together. In developing countries women have been active in all fields and they have risen to prominent places specially in the political field. Unfortunately, at the lower level we have not been able to give them enough freedom of movement, enough help to rise above the discriminations that had been built up over thousands of years of a male-dominated society.

Subjugation, whether it is of a country or of an individual, is very similar. And women have been depressed. This fight to bring women out, to bring them up in our society, is no different from the fight of the Non-Aligned to bring their countries up, to build them and to secure more opportunities.

#### EQUAL IN EVERY WAY

A society's progress can really be judged by how well half our society progresses. And if they are to progress fast, half the talent, half the energy cannot be ignored. Women must be allowed full freedom of action and movement. Women are equal in every way, whether in spiritual urges or in political ideals. Historically, in the matter of sacrifices, in heroism, there have been no differences just because of sex. Women have risen to the highest levels of sacrifice, the highest levels of heroism. This is evident from all our freedom struggles.

But we have now to fight the social and cultural backwardness that has been historically thrust upon women. Male superiority has become, in a way, a vested interest, and like all vested interests, it is damaging to humanity. And all of us men and women - must fight this with all our strength. Women have a right to education, to employment, to development. This must get full facilities.

WOMEN'S CONTRIBUTION

#### WOMEN'S CONTRIBUTION

Women's contribution to humanity throughout history, whether in the home, in the work place, or in society, has been no less than men's. Still women today do not get adequate opportunities in education and in employment. We are trying to change this in India. As Smt. Chandrashekhar just said, we have taken many steps for the uplift and progress of women. We realise that one of the key factors is education. And as a first step, we have made education free for girls - up to the high school stage. We shall take other such steps to see that women are able to develop. Women will be equal partners in building our nation.

The U.N. Decade for Women has fought for political, administrative, legal, social, economic and cultural equality for women. But really what we have to do is to build this into our society. We pass laws, we have conferences. But the idea must permeate the hearts of people. And that is when it really will start making a difference.

#### REMOVING DISPARITIES

As a group, women are perhaps the largest under-privileged group in the world, And we must fight to remove this disparity. Our late Prime Minister, Indira Gandhi, has said: "It is very good to see women in top positions and they get a lot of publicity when they come into top positions. But it is really at the grass roots, at the daily level, that the discrimination must be removed." It is the fight up every rung of the ladder that has to be made easier and we hope that this conference will contribute towards this struggle.

#### SPECIAL PROGRAMMES

In India we have special programmes, and special monitoring to see how women can progress faster. We have had a recent Act in Parliament - family courts - to prevent delays. We have many social groups and voluntary agencies helping us. Government action is good, but what is important is that the mood of society has to be changed. This can be done only when voluntary agencies help the Government. The problems are similar all over the world, especially amongst our developing countries.

I hope this Conference will help to remove these problems and be a major step towards the full equality of women, in developing their potential for the benefit of humanity. I wish you all the best for this Conference and thank you for giving me this opportunity to talk to you.

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DIA MALDIVES USA

**Date :** Apr 10, 1985

## Volume No

1995

NORWAY

### Agreement on Cooperation in the Field of Computers

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Apr 12, 1985 on the agreement on cooperation between India and Norway in the field of computers:

The visiting Norwegian delegation led by the Vice Minister Mr. Arne Synnes and the Indian delegation led by Dr. M. S. Sanjeevi Rao, Chairman, Electronics Commission, have reached wide ranging agreements in the areas of computers, particularly Software Development and Export.

The meeting in Delhi on 11th and 12th April 1985 is a follow up of the Memorandum of Understanding between India and Norway signed in Oslo in October, 1984.

The two countries have agreed upon the implementation of three specific proposals:

Consider establishment of an apex structure like the Indo-Norwegian Software Development and Export Consortium (INSDEC) in India, promoted on the Indian side by the Electronics Commission I Department of Electronics, and on the Norwegian side by an appropriate body.

establishment of an Indo-Norwegian software development and export company entered into by A. S. Computes of Norway and Indian companies to be designated by the Department of Electronics.

commissioning a second phase of cooperation within the area of computer aided engineering for development agreed upon between National Informatics Centre (NIC) and A. S. Veritec.

NORWAY INDIA

**Date :** Apr 12, 1985

## Volume No

1995

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Signing of Manpower Agreement between India and Qatar

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The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Apr 11, 1985 on the signing of a manpower agreement between India and Qatar:

A labour agreement concerning the organisation of manpower employment between India and Qatar was signed today between H.E. Ali Ahmed Al Ansari, Minister of Labour and Social Affairs, State of Qatar and Shri T. Anjaiah, Minister for Labour.

This is the first such agreement signed by India with a foreign country and Qatar. There are about 40,000 Indian workers presently employed in Qatar and the agreement seeks primarily to protect and safeguard the interests of Indian workers going to Qatar for employment. Appended to the main agreement is a specimen employment contract which ensures provision of all the essential terms of employment such as salary, overtime, accommodation, transportation medical benefits and, death and disability compensation. Every contract of an Indian worker going to Qatar for employment is to be authenticated by both the Governments.

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The agreement has a provision for settlement of disputes involving Indian workers and there is scope for initial conciliation by the concerned authorities in the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs in Qatar before the dispute is taken to the labour courts.

A provision has also been made in the agreement for setting up of a joint committee consisting of representatives from both countries to review implementation of the agreement and propose amendments if required at a later date.

It is hoped that this agreement will further strengthen the friendly relations between India and Qatar and facilitate liberal recruitment of Indian manpower for employment in Qatar.

TAR INDIA

**Date :** Apr 11, 1985

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Statement in Lok Sabha on Situation in Sri Lanka

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The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Apr 29, 1985 of the statement in Lok Sabha today April -99, 1985 on the situation in Sri Lanka by the Minister of State for External Affairs, Shri Khurshed Alam, Khan: -

When I last apprised the House on the situation in Sri Lanka I had assured Hon'ble Members that the Government would take the House into confidence as and when there are fresh developments to report. On 25th April, the Prime Minister in his statement in the House informed the House that the Government was following developments in Sri Lanka and their repercussions on India with concern and that Government have been in continuous touch with the Sri Lankan Government. A Special Advisory Group has since been set up. The Group will expeditiously examine and advise on the serious question of the large scale influx of refugees into India and also the problems of insecurity faced by our fishermen in Palk Strait.

The situation in Sri Lanka continues to be tense. Violence which had somewhat slackened is again endemic. There have been disturbing reports of large scale violence in the Eastern province involving Muslims and Tamils. This is a sad and serious development which will further aggravate an already complex situation. The sense of insecurity and uncertainty seems to have further heightened.

As the Government have said in the House on several occasions we are deeply affected by the repercussions of the unfortunate ethnic problem in Sri Lanka. We have had to maintain a large and increasing number of refugees from Sri Lanka since July 1983; the exodus is continuing and the figure has now gone up to almost a lakh. While we have done whatever is possible to provide succour to the helpless refugees, the influx imposes heavy social and economic strains on us. The livelihood of our fishermen has been affected, they have been harassed and attacked. We have had to strengthen our surveillance and take other protective measures.

In this complex and grave situation our primary objective is to ensure that Indian citizens are not under threat and our interests are protected. Simultaneously, we want to - see a return to normalcy and stability in Sri Lanka which would permit the refugees to return in safety and dignity. Equally, we hope that a

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peaceful and negotiated settlement will be found for the problems faced by the Tamils in Sri Lanka without any further delay. We

have reiterated that the Sri Lankan Government cannot find a solution to this problem through military means. A negotiated political settlement acceptable to all concerned will have to be found by the Sri Lankan Government.

It is essential that a political dialogue with all concerned is resumed early in Sri Lanka. For this an appropriate atmosphere needs to be created. The present disturbed state in Sri Lanka does not appear conducive to any meaningful efforts for negotiations. We hope that all efforts will be made to defuse the situation and tension. The initiative rests with the Sri Lanka Government and I sincerely hope that they will show the necessary political will and vision in this direction.

We would like to reaffirm our stand that a negotiated settlement acceptable to all concerned and within the framework of Sri Lanka's sovereignty, integrity and unity can provide the answer to the serious ethnic problem that has engulfed the country. I would like to once again make it clear that we do not believe in separatism. At the same time we do not believe that repressive measures can help in finding a solution to the ethnic issue in Sri Lanka.

We have been in constant touch with the Sri Lanka Government with a view to assisting them in finding a political solution. This has been through both diplomatic channels and visits by special envoys. In our recent exchanges which were free and frank, we have been given to understand that President Jayewardene will take some positive measures towards a political solution. We hope that these measures will be implemented without any delay so that a suitable atmosphere for negotiation amongst all concerned can be created.

I LANKA INDIA USA

**Date :** Apr 29, 1985

## Volume No

1995

SRI LANKA

Situation in Sri Lanka - Prime Minister's Statement

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Apr 25, 1985 of the statement made by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, in the Lok Sabha today (April 25, 1985) on the situation in Sri Lanka:

An All Party delegation from Tamil Nadu led by the Chief Minister, Shri M. G. Ramachandran, met me on April 23, 1985 and submitted a Memorandum regarding the latest developments in Sri Lanka. It was pointed out that the influx of refugees is continuing. Traditional activities of Indian fishermen in the Palk Straits have been affected. The situation is critical. The delegation requested the Government of India to take up the matter with the Sri Lankan Government for restoration of peace and normality so that the refugees in Tamil Nadu can return home and traditional economic activities resumed on both sides.

I assured the delegation that the Government of India was following the developments in Sri Lanka and their repercussions on India with concern. They have been in continuous touch with the Sri Lankan Government, both through the normal channels and through special visits. In view of the prevailing situation I shall convey to President Jayewardene our distress and anxiety and the need to arrive at a speedy and, viable solution of the problem on a political basis acceptable to all parties concerned. In view of the gravity of the situation, I am setting up a Special Advisory Group to continue efforts for resolving the problem.  
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I LANKA INDIA MALI USA

**Date :** Apr 25, 1985

## Volume No

1995

SWEDEN

Indo-Swedish Aid Agreement Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Apr 24, 1985 on the signing of an Indo-Swedish aid agreement:

The Indo-Swedish Agreement under which Sweden will broaden its support to the Indian national leprosy control programme was signed here today. Swedish assistance for the leprosy control programme which is on grant basis will be of the order of S. Kr. 18 million (Rs. 2.56 crores approximately) for the period 1984-85, 1988-89.

The agreement was signed by Shri M. S. Mukherjee, Joint

Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance and by H.E. Mr. A. Edelstam, Ambassador of Sweden in India on behalf of their respective Governments.

Swedish aid will be used for the sup-ply of Refamptizin and Clofazimine drugs; vehicles, microscopes and office equipment, adhesive, water-proof and socclusive tape containing zincoxide, resin and gum; etc. and local cost subsidies including studies, health education, programme monitoring, including consultants and participation of research institutions; reviews and evaluations.

The Swedish support for the leprosy control programme will be executed and administered by the World Health Organisation.

Sweden is also providing assistance to India in the health sector for the control of malaria and tuberculosis-

EDEN INDIA UNITED KINGDOM USA

**Date :** Apr 24, 1985

## Volume No

1995

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Indo-U.S. Sub-Commision on Science and Technology

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Apr 10, 1985 on the signing of the Indo-U.S. agreement on science and technology:

An Indo-U.S. agreement on science and technology was signed here today on the conclusion of a three-day meeting of the Indo-U.S. Sub-commission on science and technology held here from April 8 to 10 , 1985. The agreement was signed by Prof. Yash Pal, Secretary, Department of Science and Technology, on behalf of India while the Special Assistant for Policy centres for Disease Control U.S. Public Health Service, Dr. William Forge, signed on be-half of the U.S.A. The following is the text of the Joint Communique.

The seventh meeting of the Indo-U.S. sub-commission on science and technology concluded on April 10 with strong endorsement of cooperative activities in various fields of scientific endeavour. With in-creasing activities under the sub-commission, both delegations recognized the need for streamlining clearance procedures and improved mechanisms for expeditious processing of

proposals and agreed to develop detailed procedures to carry it out. Nearly 200 delegates, prominent scientists and technical administrators from both coun-  
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tries, participated in this three-day meeting.

One of the largest sub-commission working groups covered health, medical and life sciences. In addition to reviewing with satisfaction the progress made in approximately 50 projects initiated under the sub-commission and the Gandhi-Reagan Science and Technology Initiative, the Health Working Group decided that the rapid advances achieved in recent years in biotechnology make feasible and desirable a major expansion of our cooperative effort in research and development of new and improved vaccines for infectious diseases. Also warranting increased effort is research on health problems causing children to die, including acute respiratory infections, diarrheal disease and low birth weight. The scientific problems associated with nutrition and reproductive biology require continuing efforts as do the increasing serious problems of cancer, alcoholism and mental illness. Health hazards associated with the work place and environment are of concern to both countries and need high priority. Rehabilitation of the handicapped and efforts in the area of health education for the general population are also of increasing importance. The working group reiterated the importance of basic research in the life sciences.

Indo-U.S. collaboration under the sub-commission, once again, was found to be focussing on the frontier areas of international scientific interest with global implications such as ocean climate studies; studies of atmospheric chemistry; solar terrestrial physics; scientific data and information exchange, exploitation of satellite, communication technology. Indian and U.S. scientists are already cooperating in over 35 cooperative projects under the Indo-U.S. Science and Technology Initiative.

The recognition that basic and applied research in physical sciences is a prerequisite for the development of high technology played a pivotal role in the identification of collaborative research between India and the U.S. in the area of physical sciences. Several emerging areas were identified where joint research could accelerate technological developments in both countries. These include new alloys, ceramics, and advanced electronic device technology. In the area of basic sciences, astronomy and space sciences, chemical dynamics, photochemistry were among those recommended for joint research. A special initiating meeting was recommended to speed up the initiation of research projects in materials sciences and engineering. Joint workshops and projects were recommended in wind effects on structures, lineament tectonics and studies on Himalayan Collision Zone. Improved management of living marine resources, mariculture; cooperation in ocean instrumentation and quality

control of ocean data project were recommended.

Five broad areas of priority consideration were endorsed by the sub-commission in environment and ecology representing both natural resources management and technical areas of pollution control. Areas identified are wild life conservation, environmental toxicology, systems approach to environmental problems, waste treatment and management, and mined area reclamation. Proposals supported by the sub-commission ranged from development of the Wildlife Institute of India to captive breeding programmes, and the development of a model for toxicity prediction of river sections.

The sub-commission noted with satisfaction the progress that has been made in biomass, solar and coal areas under US AID and India's Department of non-conventional energy sources (DNES) programmes. It was also proposed to initiate activities in enhanced oil recovery, hydrogen, fuel cells, wind energy and some engineering aspects of power of plants. Exchanges of scientists and information were recommended in the general field of energy research and development.

The sub-commission's work in information science was expanded to include information technology in this meeting resulting in recommendations for establishing an international telecommunication link to enable India to search US data  
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bases on-line, share in US know-how and expertise in the use of computers as an educational aid for teachers and students and sharing US know-how and expertise in frontier-areas in computer sciences and technology such as robotics, knowledge-bases system, expert system, artificial intelligence etc. as well as relevant use of computers in industrial applications; and joint studies of electronic communication networks. Collaborative programmes in on-line scientific data bases were recommended covering meteorology, agriculture, and information systems.

A INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC PERU

**Date :** Apr 10, 1985

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## Volume No

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1995

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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White House Statement on the Festival of India

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The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Apr 20, 1985 on the White House statement on the Festival of India:

In a statement issued in Washington DC on April 18, 1985 on the Festival of India the White House has recalled late Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi's devotion to the arts and described it as "appropriate that we dedicate this Festival of India to her memory". The statement considers the Festival as "an affirmation of the universal value of the fascinating and richly varied civilizations which was her personal heritage as well as of the vitality of the great democracy to which she devoted her life".

The following is the text of the statement:

I am pleased to announce that Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi will inaugurate the 1985-86 Festival of India. The Festival is an unprecedented nation-wide celebration which will include exhibitions, performance programmes, symposia and other educational projects in 37 states and more than 80 cities. The idea for this "Year of India" grew out of the visit in 1982 to Washington of Mr. Gandhi's mother, the late Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. At that time Mrs. Gandhi and I agreed that the Festival would be an excellent vehicle for the people of the United States to learn of one of the world's most ancient and vibrant civilizations.

We would like to commend the participating institutions, sponsoring corporations, foundations and agencies of both our Government and the Government of India, which are making it possible. We welcome this unique opportunity to learn more of India's culture, society and scientific achievements.

Recalling Mrs. Gandhi's visit to US and her devotion to the arts, it is appropriate that we dedicate this Festival of India to her memory. The Festival of India will comprise an affirmation of the universal value of the fascinating and richly varied civilisations which was her personal heritage as well as of the vitality of the great democracy to which she devoted her life.  
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A INDIA

**Date :** Apr 20, 1985

**May**

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**Date :** May 01, 1985

## Volume No

1995

AUSTRALIA

Scope for Greater Co-operation between India and, Australia

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 08, 1985 during the visit of the Australian Foreign Minister, Mr. William George Hayden., to India:

India and Australia have emphasised the need for greater economic co-operation between the two countries. This emerged from the discussions between the Union Finance Minister, Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh and Mr. William George Hayden, M.P., Minister for Foreign Affairs, Commonwealth of Australia held in New Delhi today.

During the discussion the Finance Minister said that agriculture, dairy development, animal husbandry and irrigation were the fields where both sides could profit by greater mutual cooperation., Explaining the measures taken by India for promotion of trade, the Finance Minister informed that there is complete duty exemption of raw material and finished goods in the 100% export-oriented units. He emphasised that at a time when the world is following protectionist policies, India has liberalised trade policies. The Finance Minister highlighted the importance of visits of trade delegations from both the countries to promote trade. He said that the trade delegations from Australia could go round the country and identify areas where bilateral trade could be promoted.

Mr. Hayden informed the Finance Minister that his country would welcome relaxation by India in restrictions on import of agricultural products.

STRALIA USA INDIA LATVIA

**Date :** May 08, 1985

## Volume No

1995

FRANCE

Indo-French Protocol for Cooperation in Coal Sector Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 28, 1985 on the signing of a protocol between India and France for co-operation in the coal sector:

India and France signed a protocol here today for strengthening their cooperation in the coal industry.

The protocol was signed at the end of a two-day meeting of the

Indo-French Working Group on Coal which went into details identifying areas for co-operation between the two countries in this sector.

Mr. Pierre-Francois Couture, Director (Gas, Electricity & Coal) of France and Shri S. B. Lal, Secretary, Department of Coal, Ministry of Steel, Mines & Coal signed the protocol on behalf of their Governments.  
<pg-119>

Besides accelerating the pace of implementation of some existing projects, the Indian side has proposed certain new areas of cooperation. These include the Kottadih underground project in the Raniganj coalfield and projects for fire control in the Amlabad underground project and the Jhingurdah opencast project in Sangrauli.

#### TECHNOLOGY

The Central Mine Planning & Design Institute Limited (CEMPDIL) has prepared a project report for Kottadih project based on the experience gained earlier on the French technology and submitted it to the Government for approval. Meanwhile, CHARBONNAGES de FRANC(CdF) have been requested to examine this report, depute their experts to visit the mine and convey their advice on applying the proposed technology. Depending on the outcome this could be followed by a package contract for the project including technical assistance, training, supply of equipment with performance guarantee and necessary managerial assistance to achieve assured levels of production, productivity and efficiency of international standards.

ANCE INDIA USA GERMANY

**Date :** May 28, 1985

## Volume No

1995

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

Indo-FRG Financial Co-operation Agreement Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 28, 1985 on the signing of a financial cooperation agreement between India and the Federal Republic of Germany:

India and the Federal Republic of Germany signed an agreement for

financial co-operation for 1985-86 amounting to DM 360 million (Rs. 144 crores), here today. The Finance Secretary, Shri S. Venkitaraman, and the FRG Ambassador in India Mr. G. Schodel signed on behalf of their respective Governments.

The financial assistance is in the form of a concessional loan at 0.75% rate of interest repayable over 50 years including moratorium of 10 years. This will be utilised for import of capital goods loans to financial institutions (ICICI, IFCI) and commodity aid. This would also help finance projects such as the Hazira-Bijaipur-Jagdishpur pipeline, Farakka II Power Project, Extension of Telco automotive works, breakdown cranes for Indian railways, gas turbine for Uran Power Plant, expansion of Yerraguntla Cement works, rural water supply in M.P. and programmes in the energy sector. Additionally, DM 175 million (Rs. 70 crores) of commercial credit will be made available for projects qualifying for mixed financing in the ratio of 50% soft credit: 50% commercial credit.

The Federal Republic of Germany is one of the leading members of the Aid India consortium that extend bilateral credits to India. Between 1958 and 1984-85 it had pledged about DM 9800 million (approximately Rs. 4000 crores). This year's additional amount will take the total beyond the DM 10,000 mark.

#### COMMERCIAL CREDIT

In addition to the soft loan of DM 360 million and commercial credit of DM 175 million being signed on this occasion, the FRG has also made available DM 30 million as a outright grant for technical assistance. This would be used for financing projects such as computer at IIT, Madras

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hydraulic mining in the coal fields, setting up of toolrooms in various states, improvement of electronic products etc.

Among the prominent symbols of Indo-FRG cooperation are the Neyveli Lignite Corporation, the Korba, Ramagundam and Singrauli Super Thermal Power Projects, the Oceanographic Research Vessel Sagar Kanya and the HUDCO housing schemes for the weaker sections of society.

The Germans have also agreed to utilise the services of Indian consultants for their bilateral development programmes in other developing countries.

RMANY INDIA USA

**Date :** May 28, 1985

## Volume No

1995

MALAYSIA

Air India to Operate Thrice a Week in Kuala Lumpur - Singapore- Madras Sector

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 30, 1985 on the Memorandum of Understanding signed between India and Malaysia on air services between the two countries:

India and Malaysia signed a new Memorandum of Understanding to operate three D-747 air services a week to Kuala Lumpur and Singapore from Madras. This will provide Air India with 58 per cent more seats than hitherto provided in this sector.

Air India and Malaysian Airline System (MAS) have also agreed to commercial arrangements involving pooling and sharing of revenue. Both the delegations agreed to cooperate in the field of aviation with specific reference to training and technical documentation.

The visiting Malaysian Government air delegation and the Indian side signed a new Memorandum of Understanding to this effect following the successful conclusion of the Indo-Malaysia Air-Services talks held in New Delhi on the 28th and 29th May 1985.

The Indian delegation was led by Dr. S. S. Sidhu, Secretary, Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation. The Malaysian delegation was led by Dato Ishak bin Tadin, Secretary General, Ministry of Transport, Government of Malaysia.

LAYSIA INDIA REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE USA

**Date :** May 30, 1985

## Volume No

1995

MOROCCO

More Indian Exports to Morocco Envisaged

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 21, 1985 on the Indo-Moroccan Joint Committee Meeting:

Indian exports to Morocco are likely to go up in items like green tea, vehicle

parts, and tobacco, as well as in new sectors like power generation, apart from colaboration in industry and joint ventures. Increased export orders for jute bags and drugs and pharmaceuticals are also likely.  
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This follows the visit of an Indian delegation to Morocco recently which was led by Shri P. A. Sangma, Minister of State for Commerce. The Indian delegation participated in the Indo-Moroccan Joint Committee Meeting in Rabat which was established under the Trade Agreement between India and Morocco.

## TOURISM

Tourism and hotel management has also been identified as a sector for growth. Some specific projects like mini-cement plants, gear manufacturing unit, etc. for export on turn-key basis from India have also been identified. Indian technical experts are also likely to be positioned in Morocco to help prepare an industrialisation plan, with emphasis on the small scale sector.

A follow-up Moroccan trade mission is expected here in a few weeks, which will be led by Mr. Tahar el Mesmoudi, the Moroccan Minister for Commerce and Industry. Wide ranging discussions are expected to take place as a follow up to the meeting of the Indo-Moroccan Joint Trade Committee.

Wide ranging talks were held during the visit of Shri Sangma who also met the Prime Minister of Morocco as well as the Ministers of Finance, Foreign Affairs, Energy and Mines and Trade and Industry. While India has been importing considerable quantities of rock phosphate and phosphoric acid from Morocco, Indian exports have been at a comparatively much lower level. the Indian delegation emphasised that Morocco must enhance its level of imports from India to enable bilateral trade to grow.

ROCCO INDIA USA RUSSIA

**Date :** May 21, 1985

**Volume No**

1995

NETHERLANDS

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## Cultural Agreement with Netherlands Signed

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The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 23, 1985 on the signing of a cultural agreement between India and the Netherlands:

A cultural agreement between India and Netherlands was signed today in Amsterdam providing, among other things 4(new opportunities for wider manifestations of cultural exchange between the two countries in the field of performing arts, plastic arts, literature, archives, media coverage etc." The agreement was signed on behalf of India by the Minister of State for Personnel and Culture, Shri K. P. Singh Deo, now on an official visit to Netherlands and by Dr. W. F. Van Eekelen, State Secretary for Foreign Affairs, on behalf of Netherlands.

This is the third agreement to be executed, which was envisaged during his Royal Highness Prince Claus' visit to India in 1981, and figured in the Memorandum of Understanding signed at that time in New Delhi. It will be another important stepping stone in strengthening the already close bilateral relations between the two countries.

Shri Singh Deo also discussed bilateral matters of cultural and educational interest with ministers and senior executives in the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Welfare, Health and Culture and the Ministry of Education and Science.  
<pg-122>

DIA THE NETHERLANDS USA

**Date :** May 23, 1985

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## Volume No

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1995

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NORWAY

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Export Entitlement Distribution Policy for Norway

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The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 23, 1985 on the export entitlement distribution policy for Norway:

Consequent on conclusion of a Bilateral Textiles Agreement between the Government of India and the Government of Norway, the Government has extended the Export Entitlement Distribution

Policy to exports of bed linen and certain readymade garments/knitwears with effect from July 1, 1985.

#### POLICY FOR BED-LINEN

There will be two systems of allocation - viz. First-Come-First-Served Contract Reservation System and First-Come-First-Served Ready Goods System. The allocation will be in the ratio 2:1 between Contract Reservation System and Ready Goods System. There will be only one period of allotment from July 1, 1985 to December 31, 1985. Public Notice 15/ETC (PN) /85 dated May 22, 1985 on the above has been issued.

#### POLICY FOR GARMENTS AND KNITWEARS

The items covered are jackets and blazers, trousers and slacks, T-shirts and blouses, under garments, shirts, pullovers and sweaters, blouses, dresses and housecoats and skirts.

There will be two systems of allocations viz. Past Performance and First-Come-First-Served Small Orders divided in the ratio 55:45 respectively. There will be only one period of allotment viz. July 1, 1985 to December 31, 1985. There shall be no slow moving items.

Public Notice 16-ETC (PN) /85 dated May 22, 1985 on the above has been issued.

RWAY INDIA USA

**Date :** May 23, 1985

## Volume No

1995

NORWAY

Quota Free Access to Indian Items and Handloom Bed Linen -Indo-Norwegian Agreement on Textiles

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 01, 1985 on the Indo-Norwegian agreement on textiles:

Cottage industry handcrafted textile products commonly called India items and handloom bed linen have been accorded quota-free access to Norway.

India and Norway signed a bilateral agreement for regulating exports of textile and clothing products, here today. Of the 21

items covered by the agreement, quantitative limits have been laid down for nine garment items and one made-up item, viz. bed linen.

The agreement which was signed by Mr. N. K. Sabharwal, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Supply and Textiles, and Mr. Tancred Ibsen, Ambassador of Norway to India, will come into effect from July, 1985 for which the Export Entitlement Distribution Policy will be announced shortly.

This bilateral textile agreement will be effective for 1 1/2 years and can be extended for one more year subject to mutual consent. The foundation for the signing of this agreement was laid in December, 1984, when the two countries negotiated the clauses of the agreement following Norway's accession to the Multi Fibre Agreement in July, 1984.  
<pg-123>

RWAY INDIA USA

**Date :** May 01, 1985

## Volume No

1995

PALESTINE

Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People - Asian Regional Symposium

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 01, 1985, of the speech by the Minister of State for External Affairs, Shri Khurshed Alam Khan, while inaugurating the United Nations Regional Non-Governmental Organisation Symposium on the question of Palestine here today (New Delhi, May 1, 1985):

I am indeed happy to welcome you all to New Delhi on the occasion of this symposium organised by the Committee on exercise of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people.

As the land of the prophets the cradle of Judaism and Christianity, and Islam-three great religions of the world, Palestine has historically been endowed with special significance. In recent times political geography has accentuated conflict and protracted it in and around Palestine,

India's own sympathy for the people of Palestine and support for the establishment of a Palestinian State, are rooted in our awareness of the historical, territorial and national identity of

the Palestinians. Even during the days of our struggle for national independence, our leaders identified themselves with the Palestinian cause and raised their voices in support of the establishment of an independent Palestinian homeland. The continuing struggle of the brave Palestinians has evoked sympathy and understanding among the people of India to this day. As the late Prime Minister of India, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, recalled in her closing address to the Seventh Non-Aligned Summit held in New Delhi in March 1983, millions including the Palestinians were still denied their birthright. She said and I quote "we are of one mind in our support for the brave homeless and much harassed Palestinian people. Israel feels free to commit any outrage, unabashed in its aggression, unrepentant about its transgressions of international law and behaviour. But can it for ever obstruct the legitimate rights of Palestinians?"

This seminar focusses on one of the most important aspects of the problem, i.e. "The inalienable rights of the Palestinian People". After 36 years of efforts of UN, the question of Palestine remains as tangled as ever before with the major protagonists in the field remaining as far apart as they were in the beginning of the United Nations involvement on this issue. Yet peace in West Asia and indeed world peace and security depends on a satisfactory solution to this problem.

#### GENEVA DECLARATION

Attempts by the International community to convene an International Conference on the Middle East, were propelled by a sense of urgency, by an awareness raised to a level of revolution over the continued violation of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people to and in their ancient homeland. These efforts by the international community to find a comprehensive solution of the problem of the Middle East, received a fresh impetus at the International Conference on the Question of Palestine in 1983 which adopted the Geneva Declaration. This Declaration had envisaged that a peace conference, on the Middle East, to be convened under the auspices of the UN, with participation of all parties to the conflict including PLO as well as the USA, USSR and other concerned States on an equal footing, should take as basis the internationally recognised guidelines endorsed at the Conference.

India has fully supported this call. We had, however, suggested that some

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flexibility be retained in the selection of participants for the Conference. On the time framework for the convening of the Conference, it is our view that the situation in West Asia did not brook any delay and urgent preparatory measures should be undertaken so that the Conference can be convened at the earliest possible time.

## SELF-DETERMINATION

Time is of the essence and delay does not facilitate a solution of the problem in the Middle East. The continued denial to the Palestinian people of their basic and inherent right to self-determination and nationhood, is a sordid chapter in a seemingly endless tragedy. We, also view with interest, as an interim measure, the proposal of the Secretary General contained in his report on the situation in the Middle East of using the machinery of the Security Council in a pragmatic way to work with the parties concerned on various aspects of the Middle East problem and to distil from the various proposals and plans that have been put forward in recent years, the common elements that could help to work out the basis of a negotiated structure. It is important that a process of negotiations be initiated, as the Secretary General has said to clear the ground and to prepare for a full-fledged effort to negotiate the problem".

The Movement of Non-Aligned countries, from its inception, has consistently advocated a comprehensive solution of the question of Palestine, the core of the Middle East problem and the root cause of the Arab-Israeli conflict. It was at the initiative of the Non-Aligned that the majority of the UN resolutions on the subject have been adopted. In the past years, the Non-Aligned countries have been particularly active in mobilising international support against Israeli action in occupied territories and its invasion of Lebanon. The Non-Aligned countries have also reaffirmed their firm opposition to the Israeli practices and policies in occupied Arab and Palestinian territories and called for the withdrawal of Israel from occupied Syrian Golan Heights. At the Seventh Conference of the Non-Aligned Heads of State/Governments held in New Delhi in March 1983 this question was exhaustively examined. Fundamental principles for the solution of the problem were again reaffirmed.

## DURABLE PEACE

The committee of Eight on Palestine, set up by the New Delhi Summit to "work with the various forces influential in the Middle East for the achievement of a just, durable, and comprehensive peace in the region", has just held a meeting at Ministerial level on April 20, 1985 in New Delhi and reiterated their full support for, the Palestinian people and to their struggle for liberation, self-determination and the establishment of an independent sovereign State in their homeland, Palestine, under the leadership of PLO, their sole and legitimate representative.

The Committee which was given a comprehensive briefing by His Excellency Chairman, Yasser Arafat on the current situation prevailing in the Middle East reviewed the evolving situation in the area.

As a member of the Committee on the Exercise of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, India has fully supported the Committee in its efforts to secure the rights of the Palestinian people and to , promote their cause. Though the basic recommendations of the Committee have remained unimplemented so far, its activities over the years have served to increase the support of the international community to the cause of Palestine.

I would like to take this opportunity of underlining India's solidarity and support to the heroic struggle of the Palestinian people under the Palestine Liberation Organisation. India has consistently supported the realisation of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people at the UN, at the Non-Aligned conferences and on other international fora. As Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, in his inaugural address to the Extraordinary Ministerial Meeting of the  
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coordinating Bureau of Non-Aligned Countries on Namibia, on 19th April, 1985, stated. "No meeting of Non-Aligned Nations can remain silent to the sufferings of the Palestinian people and their righteous cause for regaining their homeland". India's support to the Palestinian cause is rooted in traditional history and has been matched by concrete action. India has given material support to the PLO in various ways. India also supports the United Nations Relief and Works Agency in looking after Palestinian refugees.

#### PALESTINE NATIONALISM

Despite some recent negative developments there is reason for optimism, Non-Aligned solidarity with Palestine's nationalism and aspirations has remained steadfast. The right of the Palestinian people and the role of the Palestine Liberation Organisation have come to be widely recognised. More and more countries have joined the overwhelming majority of the international community in censuring Israel regarding its settlements policy, violation of basic human rights and attempts to make Jerusalem its capital. Many of them have also underlined the necessity of associating the Palestine Liberation Organisation in any negotiation for a solution of the problem. Mobilisation of international public awareness of the true nature of the Palestine problem and of Israel's barbarous policies has much to do with this gradual evolution of positions and credit should go to the untiring efforts of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestine People towards increasing the support of the international community for the cause of Palestine.

P.L.O.

No people, as determined and steadfast in achieving their legitimate rights as the brave Palestinians can be subdued

indefinitely. Under the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, their sole and authentic representative, Palestinians have repeatedly demonstrated their bravery and heroism in resisting Israel's settlers colonialism and state terrorism, notwithstanding the tremendous cost in terms of human lives and resources. Their struggle may be protracted and bloody, but we have no doubt whatsoever of their final victory. If, through these seminars, and the mobilisation of international public opinion, we can contribute making their struggle a little shorter and reducing their sacrifices ever so little, we would have done something worthwhile.

I wish the Conference all success.

DIA USA ISRAEL SWITZERLAND LEBANON SYRIA NAMIBIA

**Date :** May 01, 1985

## Volume No

1995

POLAND

Indo-Polish Shipping Protocol Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 24, 1985 on the signing of Indo-Polish Shipping Protocol:

A meeting of the Indo-Polish Joint Committee on Shipping was held recently at Warsaw to review the working of the Indo-Polish Shipping Agreement/Service. The Indian delegation was led by the Union Shipping Secretary, Mr. Prakash Narain, and the Polish delegation by Mr. R. Pospieszynski, First Deputy Minister in the Office of Maritime Economy in the Government of the Polish People's Republic. The Indian delegation included

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representatives from Ministries of Shipping and Transport and Finance and the Indian shipping lines.

Some of the important issues discussed by the Joint Committee related to the procedure for adjustment of imbalances in cargo liftings/earnings, modernisation/improvement of the shipping services and closer cooperation in international forums. Problems pertaining to levy of income-tax on freight earned by Polish lines on third country shipments from Indian ports were also discussed. On all the issues, a mutually agreed plan of action

was arrived at. The Committee also considered the programme for celebration of the 25th Anniversary of the Indo-Polish Shipping Agreement/Service in the first week of July 1985.

The trade between India and Poland has grown substantially over the years. The estimated trade turn-over for 1984 is of the order of Rs. 2,000 million and the trade Protocol for 1985 envisages a turnover of Rs. 4,000 million.

LAND INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date :** May 24, 1985

## Volume No

1995

SARC

Third Meeting of Foreign Ministers

The following is the text of statement by Shri Khurshed Alam Khan, Minister of State for External Affairs, Government of India and Leader of the Indian delegation to the third meeting of Foreign Ministers held in Thimphu in May 1985:

Mr. Chairman, we are all very happy indeed to assemble here for the Third Meeting of Foreign Ministers of South Asian Countries.

I have great pleasure in extending our warm felicitations to you, Sir, on your unanimous election as Chairman of this meeting. It is only appropriate at this point for me to pay tribute to H.E. the Foreign Minister of Maldives for his dedicated work for SARC since our last Ministerial meeting. I would like to thank the Royal Government of Bhutan for their generous hospitality and the excellent facilities provided for this meeting, and above all, for the inspiring words of His Majesty the King of Bhutan this morning which has set the tone for our meeting. We entirely agree with His Majesty when he said "No other region in the world needs harmonious and cooperative relations among its states more than South Asia".

### COMMON CULTURAL HERITAGE

India and Bhutan share a common cultural heritage in the teachings of Gautama Buddha whose name is never invoked in vain. Our two countries have always enjoyed excellent relations and we look forward to the deepening of these relations through SARC. SARC epitomizes the twin concepts of wisdom and compassion - the

pillars of Mahayana Buddhism; and indeed of all our cultures. The scenic beauty of the Himalayan landscape around us provides the ideal atmosphere for our deliberations. The Himalayas have always sheltered our countries and helped to give our region a sense of geographic unity. This should assist in focussing our minds on the qualitative factors that create a community of interest among our nations.

In sharp contrast with the peace and serenity of this Himalayan Kingdom, the  
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situation on the global political front is grim. Areas of tension and conflict are proliferating around the world and threaten its stability. The arms race continues unabated. The nuclear weapon states continue to amass destructive weapons, oblivious to the dangers of a nuclear holocaust. In an increasingly interdependent world, tension and conflict anywhere jeopardise the prospects for peace everywhere. The world economic situation continues to be equally grim. Peace and development are closely inter-related. The perpetuation of poverty in vast areas of the globe poses a direct threat to peace and stability. We cannot aspire to durable peace so long as a major component of the world remains underdeveloped. The efforts of developing countries to bring about a New International Economic Order based on justice and equity have met with little success. There is a stalemate in the North-South Dialogue and there is a serious threat to the multilateral system.

#### NORTH-SOUTH COOPERATION

Greater cooperation among developing countries has always been an integral part of our endeavours towards international cooperation for development. In the current adverse environment for North-South cooperation, we need to redouble our efforts to forge cooperation among countries of the South. Such efforts need to be pursued not only at the bilateral level but also at the sub-regional, regional and global levels. A number of economic groupings of developing countries have emerged in many parts of the globe and are pursuing useful programmes of cooperation. In our own region, we can all be justly proud of the solid foundation we have laid for our mutual cooperation with the signing of the SARC Declaration in New Delhi in August 1983.

The countries of South Asia are joined by history, by geography, by culture and by beliefs. We have had a sense of community that goes back three millonia. Our wisest rulers have always recognized the collective identity of our region. The movement of travellers, scholars, religious missionaries and ordinary people has forged bonds among our peoples which go beyond the material to our spiritual selves. Yet the events of the last few centuries have frayed and eroded many of these links. These centuries have left behind in their wake a fragmented vision of ourselves, so

that we are in danger of losing sight of our collective interests, dwelling instead on our individual problems. Relations as close as ours cannot be wholly free of problems. But it should not be beyond the reach of our collective wisdom and political sagacity to realise that our common concerns are overwhelmingly more important than our individual differences.

#### INSTITUTIONAL FRAME-WORK

We in India have always attached the utmost importance to the need for regional cooperation in Asia. We have been engaged in efforts to promote such cooperation ever since our independence. It was at the initiative of the late Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru that the historic Asian Relations Conference was convened in India, soon after our independence, to discuss the problems of the region and to chart a common course of action. Since then we have always played an active role in programmes of cooperation among countries of the region, both on bilateral as well as regional basis through organisations such as ESCAP. India was one of the initiators of the idea of closer cooperation among the countries of the ESCAP region in the areas of trade and payments arrangements which led to the conclusion of the Bangkok Agreement and the Asian Clearing Union.

The need for an institutional framework to promote cooperation in South Asia has been felt for quite some time. The countries of the region have somewhat lagged behind the other regions in initiating a process of regional cooperation; although this was certainly not due to any lack of opportunities for such cooperation. It is indeed a matter for

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gratification that we have managed to overcome the initial hesitations and have finally realised that even though we may have had our differences in the past, there is no way we can escape geopolitical parameters forced upon us by history and geography.

Our nations have individual variations and characteristics. But we share not only a past but also a common vision for the future. We all have the same aspirations for the welfare of our peoples and for a world free from fear, dominance or interference. Our individual characteristics should be seen as a source of diversity that adds richness to the texture of our relations and increases the potential benefit of our interaction. The promise of SARC is to bring about a qualitative change in our relations towards those based on sensitivity for each other's interests and needs and willingness to give priority to the views and legitimate interests of the countries of our region.

India is firmly committed to the concept of regional cooperation in South Asia and to the strengthening of cooperation with the countries of the region. The establishment and strengthening of

friendly relations with all our neighbours has always been an important element of India's foreign policy. The new government, under the dynamic leadership of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, has decided to accord the highest priority to this task. We have already taken concrete steps to convey to our neighbours our strong desire to bring about a substantial improvement in our mutual relations. We are ready to join hands with them in an effort to bring about greater peace, stability and prosperity in the region. We are willing to contribute in every possible way to the economic and social progress of the peoples of South Asia. We are encouraged by the response we have received so far and we are determined to pursue these efforts with vigour and determination.

#### SPECIAL TIES

With many countries of the region we have special ties formalised by treaties and agreements. We have been actively participating in programmes of technical and economic cooperation with all of them on a bilateral as well as multilateral basis. We have now added a new dimension to this cooperation in the framework of SARC. I am confident that as we move forward on the path of regional cooperation, the programmes of cooperation which already exist will continue to grow in strength, to the mutual benefit of all of us.

#### SARC PROGRAMMES

The progress we have achieved so far in implementing programmes of cooperation under SARC is impressive indeed. These programmes are quite wide-ranging and cover important areas of infrastructure and economic activity. The emphasis in the earlier stages was understandably on studies and seminars designed to identify possibilities for cooperative endeavour. It is heartening to note that the emphasis is now shifting to more action-oriented programmes and increasing attention is being paid to the formulation and implementation of regional projects. We would certainly wish to see this trend continued and further strengthened.

There is much that we can accomplish in the areas of cooperation already identified. In the area of transport, for example, a well-integrated system of communications would be invaluable for the economic development of the region. There are also obvious benefits to be derived from cooperation in areas such as meteorology and telecommunications, for example through joint research on cyclones and the improvement of telecommunication links. We are glad to note that a number of useful programmes have also been initiated in other areas identified so far. The implementation of these programmes will no doubt contribute significantly to progress and prosperity in the region. In the course

of time it would be necessary to enlarge the scope of our cooperation so as to include the more important areas of economic activity such as trade and industrial cooperation. The volume of intra-regional trade in South Asia is still insignificant in relation to both our global trade as well as the potential for such trade. There is obvious need for remedial steps in this regard. We need conscious efforts to promote our mutual trade through a reduction in trade barriers on a preferential basis. A related field which offers potential is that of industrial cooperation. Some countries of the region have gained considerable experience in this field, which can be shared with other countries with greater advantage than technology and know-how borrowed from industrialised countries. Benefits can be derived from economies of scale by establishing industrial units which can cater to larger markets in the region.

#### SARC SUMMIT

As the scope of SARC activities grows, we must ensure that we have an adequate framework to provide the necessary institutional support. This will be an important issue before the first SARC Summit to be held this year. We have had some constructive proposals in this regard at the Male meeting. These included the establishment of a formal organisation with a Council of Ministers as the highest policy level body. In keeping with our consistently positive attitude towards SARC we have lent our full support to these proposals.

The Summit Meeting of Heads of States or Governments of SARC to be held in Dhaka at the end of this year will indeed be a historic event. We are glad to note that preparations for the Summit are well under way. It is a matter of satisfaction that a consensus has been reached at the Standing Committee that a South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation will be created. MY delegation is in favour of a Council of Ministers and the establishment of a Secretariat at the appropriate time.

The Dhaka Summit will provide an opportunity to assess the progress achieved so far under SARC and to chart our course for the future. It will take important decisions on the future institutional framework. The manifestation of the political will at the highest level to pursue programmes of regional cooperation will in itself have a favourable impact on the pace of future progress. But the Summit will have a political significance which goes beyond the limited SARC framework. It will be the first ever gathering of the leaders of the countries of South Asia. It will thus be a historic event of unprecedented importance. It will symbolise our determination to break new ground in placing our mutual relationship on a firm basis of peace and friendship. It will contribute to the creation of conditions in which the people of the region can move forward on the path of progress and prosperity. It will provide an opportunity for the leaders of South Asia to survey the global political and economic scene and

to exchange views on matters of common concern. Above all, it will demonstrate to the world our unity of purposes and our firm resolve to work together for creating a more just and equitable world order.

It is our task here to make thorough preparations for the Summit in Dhaka so as to ensure that it becomes at once the culmination of our joint efforts of the last few years and the beginning of a new phase of our history. Our peoples have a right to expect that this process will make a significant difference in their own lives. It is not sufficient for it to remain at the level of rhetoric or expressions of hope. It should lead to a new framework and a new approach that improves the qualitative relations among our countries and thus releases the energies of our peoples for a constructive and concentrated effort towards addressing our own problems and helping one another in resolving our common problems.

Mr. Chairman, on behalf of my own country, I would like to express our firm commitment to this ideal for cooperation  
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in South Asia and our determination to facilitate in every way we can the realisation of its objectives. We believe that we stand today at the threshold of a new era for our countries - an era marked by close and cordial relations and characterised by trust and confidence among our nations. Our people deserve no less.

#### FULL SUPPORT

I would like to conclude by affirming once again our full support for the further evolution of SARC - both conceptually and institutionally. We extend our hand in solidarity, knowing fully that what we are seeking to achieve cannot be done with ease. The present international scene continues to be dictated by noble platitudes and harsh realities. History has shown that even when benefits of working together are positive and self-evident, vested and narrow interests tend to entangle the gains that could accrue from such cooperation. It has been fittingly remarked that those who do not heed the lessons of history are condemned to repeat it. We must increase our self-reliance and reduce our susceptibilities to pressures, both within and outside our control. Divided we are vulnerable. United we will move forward to a bright future in pursuit of freedom and peace, so essential for it. As the late Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi said when she inaugurated the first Meeting of Foreign Ministers of South Asian Countries:

"The world can survive and progress only with a strong sense of the unity of humankind, and tolerance of the right to political diversity. Within this framework we seven must conduct our affairs so as to eliminate tension and promote greater peace and stability in our region."

DIA BHUTAN USA MALDIVES MALI BANGLADESH

**Date :** May 24, 1985

## Volume No

1995

SAUDI ARABIA

Agreement for a Loan of Saudi Riyals 1.72 Million Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 14, 1985 on the agreement for a loan of Saudi Riyals 172 million signed between India and Saudi Arabia:

The Government of India today signed an agreement with the Saudi Fund for Development for a loan of Saudi Riyals 172 million (U.S. \$ 50 million) for the 'Ramagundam Thermal Power Project Stage-][P. H.E. Dr. Saleh H. Al-Humaidan, Deputy Vice Chairman of the Saudi Fund for Development, signed the agreement on behalf of Saudi Fund and Shri S. Venkitaramanan, Finance Secretary on behalf of the Government of India. The loan carries an interest of 3 per cent per annum and is repayable in twenty years including a grace period Of five years.

With the signing of this agreement, the Saudi Fund have extended loans totalling Saudi Riyals 628.2 million for three projects in India. The earlier loans were given for Srisailam Nagarjunasagar Power Project in Andhra Pradesh (SR 353 million - U.S. \$ 100 million) and Koraput-Rayagada Railway Line Project (SR 103.2 million - US \$ 30 million).

The Saudi Fund has also agreed, in principle, to provide a loan of SR 141 million (US \$ 30 million) for Nhava Sheva Port Project. The details are to be negotiated further with the Fund.  
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UDI ARABIA INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date :** May 14, 1985

# Volume No

1995

SEYCHELLES

Defence Minister Against Militarisation of Indian Ocean

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 07, 1985 of the speech by the Defence Minister, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, at a dinner given in honour of the visiting Defence Minister of Seychelles:

It is a privilege to welcome to our capital a young leader from a young nation. The name of your country has long conjured in the mind images and associations of adventure and beauty. Cradled in a million square kilometres of ocean and warmed by the vibrant tropical sun, the Republic of the Seychelles is known to us today for the vigour and enterprise of its people and the creative relationships its government has sought with other nations:.

We too lie on the shores of the Indian Ocean. The vastness of its waters has not distanced our peoples, it has brought us closer together. Our common history of colonial rule has, given us both the realisation of how precious the freedom of the present is and how necessary it is to preserve it as an investment in our future.

Threats and dangers to freedom persist in many forms. There are nations whose national ambitions are not inhibited by their national frontiers. Whether in the form of open aggression or of clandestine engineering of internal disturbances, no methods are spared or considered improper in the fulfilment of their ambitions. This experience has therefore, made us wary. But by the same token these tactics have weakened man's faith in his own goodness and that of his fellowmen.

## VOYAGES OF FRIENDSHIP AND DISCOVERY

Through the turbulence of time, voyages of friendship and discovery were charted along the warm waters of the Indian ocean. Nations and peoples emerged with better awareness of each other. Many of today's voyagers are less peaceable, their intentions more sinister. The algebra of the stresses among the great powers, not easy for simpler human minds, to understand, is reflected in the arithmetic of their unwarranted presence in the Indian Ocean.

Reports of the increased sophistication of this presence threaten to make the Indian Ocean an unwilling laboratory for military

adventure and, worse, for nuclear experiment. So long as it is at a long and safe distance from the homes of the great powers, any area on the globe seems to them a good field for every type of hazardous experimentation. What happens in those remote areas, to fish or to men, is of no consequence to the experimenters; they would not care less. It is this that poses the real challenge to the countries of the Indian-Ocean littoral-either they could fight unitedly and retain their ocean as a Zone of Peace, health and safety or through their luke-warmness or inability to withstand pressures and blandishments, acquiesce in the Indian Ocean, becoming a dumping ground for nuclear wastes and field of nuclear war in which none of us is even remotely interested. We have to make this choice not only for today, but for countless coming generations of our progeny. We have to imagine what they will think of us, their unworthy ancestors who have condemned them permanently to a life crippled by nuclear fallouts of untold variety and unknown dimensions. This, in short, is the true dimension of the U.N. proposal for declaring Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace and on which reason and the genuine interests of the concerned littoral States seem to have taken a back seat. In effect, we are being asked to keep the doors always open to those who are capable of breaking them open.

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#### NON-PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

A generation ago, India had inscribed on the agenda of the United Nations an item on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons which considered both the vertical and the horizontal aspects of proliferation as integral to the gravest threat to man. The Non-Proliferation Treaty in 1968 deliberately distorted and destroyed this concept by seeking to perpetuate nuclear feudalism. As we near the fortieth anniversary of the destruction wrought by the atom bomb, it is time for nations with a conscience to address themselves to this one, vital question again. We cannot allow another generation to pass. The dangers are too real, the solution too easily deferred.

As a nation whose southernmost point lies on an island, we are well aware of the special needs and particular concerns of an archipelago state like your own. Your distinguished President was with us on a bilateral state visit exactly five years ago. The discussions between our leaders at that time gave an impetus and direction to our positive cooperation and our talks today have carried this still further.

May I request you, Ladies and Gentlemen, to raise your glasses in a toast to our distinguished guest and his gracious wife, to the people of Seychelles and to their friendship with India.

YCHELLES INDIA TOTO USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC UNITED KINGDOM

**Date :** May 07, 1985

# Volume No

1995

## SOVIET UNION

### Mr. Gorbachev's Speech at Banquet in Kremlin

The following is the text of the speech by the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee., Mr. Mikhail S. Gorbachev at the banquet in the Kremlin hosted by him in honour of the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi on May 21, 1985:

Esteemed Mr. Prime Minister, Esteemed Mrs. Gandhi, Dear Indian Friends, Comrades, we are glad to welcome in Moscow the Prime Minister and those who accompany him, representing a country which is held in great esteem in the Soviet Union. Meetings between Soviet and Indian leaders are invariably marked by warmth, cordiality and a high level of trust and mutual understanding. They have beneficial impact on the development of relations between our countries and on the situation in Asia and throughout the world.

As years and decades go by and generations of people succeed each other in our countries, the relations of friendship and cooperation between the USSR and India develop along an ascending path. This is because they are built on the basis of equality and mutual respect and of coincidence or proximity of the two countries' positions on the key issues of our time.

Our cooperation with India, which now has so many dimensions, is free of pressure of any kind, of any strings attached. The Soviet Union has consistently supported India at every stage of India's struggle to consolidate its independence and has always shown effective solidarity with that great country upholding its sovereignty, dignity and the right to independent development.  
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### ECONOMIC TIES

As India's friends we share with it the best we have in all spheres of our cooperation. And we are extremely gratified that economic ties between the USSR and India have been instrumental in solving problems of major importance for India's progress, key problems of each specific historic period - whether the building of basic heavy industries or the development of the fuel and energy sector. Today the list of our joint projects includes those whose implementation will, no doubt, make a fitting

contribution to India's economic development and to the strengthening of its defence potential on the threshold of a new century.

The successful space flight of the joint Soviet-Indian crew illustrates the high effectiveness and, I would say, the great potential of our scientific and technological ties.

Broad and diverse cultural exchanges between our countries reflect the two nations' traditional and mutual interest for each other's cultural wealth and a certain degree of spiritual affinity.

But the scope of what has been achieved in the most diverse fields should not overshadow the existing great opportunities for further progress. In the talks held today both sides have expressed their desire to work towards that end. We are quite capable of jointly raising our cooperation to a qualitatively new level in many areas.

Of special importance are the efforts of the Soviet Union and India, conducted along the same lines, to eliminate the threat of war and to stop the arms race. Nobody can disregard the fact that the friendship and cooperation between our countries are playing an increasingly important and beneficial role in the entire system of international relations. They set an example in promoting the principles of peaceful co-existence and in working for the benefit of stronger peace and security for all nations. Our Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation usefully serves these goals.

## PEACE AND PROGRESS

All nations strive for peace and progress. No nation wants war. But there are forces that pursue other objectives. They are unwilling to reckon with the legitimate interests of others and the political realities of today's world. Moreover, in their search for the chimera of military superiority, they have placed the world on the brink of yet another spiral of the arms race, unprecedented in its dimensions, which threatens to enter a qualitatively new stage involving processes beyond control.

What for example, can the notorious "Star Wars" programme, which Washington is trying to disguise and pass off as "defence initiative", have in store for the nations? In the first place, a substantially higher risk of a nuclear war. And, of course, a greatly reduced chance for an agreement on disarmament issues. Immense resources will be added to those already burning in the furnace of the arms race - including the nuclear arms race. Those resources could be used instead for purposes of mankind's peaceful development, for tackling such pressing problems as the elimination of poverty, hunger, disease and illiteracy.

That is why the problem of preventing the militarization of space affects the interests of every country and nation, and everyone has to face it. We think that all peace-loving States should raise their voices against this new danger until it is too late, until a point of no return has been reached under the power of reassuring statements.

One of the realities of today's world is the emergence on the international scene of scores of States in Asia, Africa and Latin America seeking to do away with the pernicious aftereffects of colonialism. The overwhelming majority of those States adhere to the policy of Non-Alignment. The emergence of the Non-Aligned Movement, which has become a major factor in world politics, is a logical phenomenon of our time. This demonstrates most graphically that the  
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newly free nations strive for an equitable cooperation among States, for recognition by others of their legitimate rights and interests and for the removal from international life of any manifestation of domination, diktat or claims to hegemony.

In short, the newly free countries do not want to be regarded as sources for profit-grabbing or as sites for military bases and outposts. The position of those countries can - and must - be understood. When they are declared to be spheres of someone else's "vital interests" without as much as consulting them, their own interests are the last thing to be taken into account. What is more, they are totally ignored.

There is no need to dwell at length on the great danger posed at present by conflicts in various parts of the globe. And if one takes a closer look, one can easily see that those conflicts are, as a rule, brought about by the imperialist powers, attempts to interfere in the affairs of newly free countries in one form or another and to place them under their influence. Precisely this, rather than the notorious "Super Power rivalry", is the reason for the appearance of many hotbeds of tension in the world. An obligation by all the permanent members of the United Nations Security Council to observe strictly in their relations with the countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America the principles of non-interference, renunciation of the use or threat of force and non-involvement of those countries in military blocs would, in our view, be a step that could contribute to the elimination of seats of tension and to peaceful settlement of various conflicts in those Continents. The Soviet Union is prepared to assume such an obligation. This is fully consistent with the principles of our foreign policy.

The concept of "detente" was born in Europe. It will soon be 10 years since the day when the historic document which sums up, as it were, all that the nations see in that highly meaningful concept, was signed in Helsinki. Much of what was built on the

basis of that document has been destroyed by the icy winds from across the Atlantic. Yet, much has survived, endured and taken deep roots, bringing tangible benefits to the nations.

## ASIA

In Asia today the problems of ensuring peace and security are perhaps no less acute and painful than in Europe - and in some of its areas, even more so. It is, therefore, understandable that in recent years a number of important constructive initiatives have been put forward concerning certain aspects of the security of the Asian Continent and of some of its regions. The Socialist States and the members of the Non-Aligned Movement figure among the sponsors of those initiatives. They include the Soviet Union and India.

The proposals that have been put forward remain on the international agenda. For instance, the proposal to convert the Indian Ocean into a Zone of Peace has been supported by the United Nations General Assembly and by the Non-Aligned Movement most recently at its conference held in New Delhi. It should not be overlooked that the two Asian nuclear powers - the Soviet Union and the Chinese People's Republic - have assumed an obligation not to be the first to use nuclear weapons.

The question which arises now is whether, taking into account all those initiatives and, to some extent, the experiences of Europe, some thought should perhaps be given to the idea of an overall comprehensive approach to the problem of security in Asia and, possibly, to joining the efforts of Asian States in this direction. Of course, the path that lies ahead is not easy. But then the road to Helsinki was not simple or smooth either. Here one could think of various methods to be employed, from bilateral talks or multilateral consultations to an Asia-wide forum, to be held sometime in the future, for an exchange of views and a joint search for constructive solutions.

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Yet one thing seems clear - the peoples of Asia are no less interested in ensuring peace and peaceful cooperation than those on any other continent, and they could do a great deal to this end.

It appears that India, a great power that enjoys high standing and respect both in the Asian countries and throughout the World, could play a very important role in this process.

We highly value India's contribution to strengthening peace and international security and to enhancing the role played in this respect by the Non-Aligned Movement.

GREAT NAMES TO CHERISH

The memory of nations will always cherish the names of the great Indian leaders Jawaharlal Nehru and Indira Gandhi, inseparably linked with the history both of India and of the national liberation struggle in all Continents. They charted the political course that India has pursued, scoring impressive gains in its internal development and in strengthening its international positions. They also did a great deal to establish and develop the Non-Aligned Movement as an important positive factor in the world today.

The international Lenin Prize "for the strengthening of peace among nations" posthumously awarded to Indira Gandhi is a manifestation of the broad recognition of her outstanding achievements in the struggle for the preservation and strengthening of peace.

Soviet people will always gratefully, remember Jawaharlal Nehru and Indira Gandhi as firm and consistent champions of close friendship and co-operation between our two countries. We highly appreciate the intention expressed by you, Mr. Prime Minister, to continue to uphold the cause of your distinguished predecessors.

I can assure you that the Soviet leadership intends to work actively for the further development and intensification of the friendly Soviet-Indian relations. A peace-loving, independent India can always be sure of the Soviet Union's understanding and support.

Allow me to propose a toast to the health of the esteemed Prime Minister of the Republic of India, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, Mrs. Gandhi and all our Indian guests; to the success and well-being of the great people of India; to the further development of friendship and co-operation between our two countries; and to lasting peace on our planet.

DIA RUSSIA USA FINLAND

**Date :** May 21, 1985

## Volume No

1995

SOVIET UNION

Reply by Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi

The following is the text of the speech by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi at the banquet hosted by Mr. Mikhail S.

Gorbachev in Moscow on May 21, 1985:

General Secretary Gorbachev, Madam Gorbacheva, Excellencies, Distinguished Soviet Friends, it is a pleasure and a privilege to be once again in this historic place - and amidst trusted friends. My wife and I are most grateful for your warm welcome and generous hospitality. Every visit of a Soviet leader to India and of an Indian representative to the, Soviet Union is a further step in strengthening the close friendship that exists between our two great peoples and contributes to peace. For peace is the shining star which guides our two peoples who have given so much to civilisation. Both our countries want mankind to be assured of a brighter tomorrow. We do not wish the spirit of any people anywhere to be gnawed by fear and anxiety.

#### FAITH, LABOUR AND SACRIFICE

Every ideal demands faith, labour and sacrifice. The world knows 'the  
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enormous sacrifices the Soviet people made in building up their new State, and later, in defending their independence from Fascist invaders. You have just celebrated the 40th anniversary of the victory over fascism. In two years more, YOU will observe the 70th anniversary of the October Revolution. In India, we are this year celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Indian National Congress which led the struggle for our freedom. In your epic battles, your nation produced countless heroes and heroines. So did we in India when we fought against imperialism through our weapon of non-violent civil-resistance. Our people have borne immeasurable hardships in building a new India and in consolidating our unity.

I am moved by the references you have made to Shrimati Indira Gandhi. She lived and toiled for the people of India. But she reached out to the people of other lands as well. Her aim was to mould an India which would realise its potential and play a role in the making of a better world. Millions adored her, but a few were unreconciled. Her death is a reminder that humanity's major enemy is violence fed by hatred. It also underlines the threats that the new order faces from old prejudices and ways of thought.

#### EQUITABLE SOCIAL ORDER

The Soviet people's commitment to peace springs from their ideals as well as from the fact that no people have suffered more from war. We in India are also deeply committed to peace because all our hopes for a better life hinge on it. Under the inspiration of Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru and Indira Gandhi, we have been engaged in the endeavour of lifting the burdens which centuries of feudalism and imperialist rule had placed on the backs of our people. We are committed to

socialism and an equitable social order. Since independence, the Indian economy has impressive achievements to its credit. We have become self-sufficient in grain production and laid the foundations of a modern industrial society. We are proud of the work of our scientists and technologists in many frontier areas and sophisticated fields of application. We are on the threshold of much faster all-round development.

#### EDUCATION AND HEALTH CARE

The path of national development charted for us by Shri Jawaharlal Nehru and Shrimati Indira Gandhi is best suited for our social conditions. Its correctness has been proved by the test of results. We shall continue along the path of building Self-reliant strength assigning a key role in development of the public sector and keeping the people's needs above all. We have taken up massive programmes of enlarging and strengthening agriculture, power, transport and communication, creating new employment for our rural masses, and providing fuller outlets for the productive capacities of our people. In the vital field of human and social development, we are paying increasing attention to education and health care.

The overwhelming part of the endeavour has been our own people's. But friends have certainly helped. We deeply appreciate the substantial and principled support which the Soviet Union has given to our economic development. We look forward to a rapid enlargement of this cooperation. We are interested in stable and long-term expansion of trade and economic relations which takes cognisance of the needs, constraints and potentialities of our two national economies. New areas and mechanisms of co-operation must be evolved. The scope for economic, scientific and cultural co-operation is immense. The Soviet and Indian cosmonauts who went into space have been heralds of a new era in our peoples working together.

#### INTEGRAL ELEMENT OF FOREIGN POLICY

Friendship and co-operation with the Soviet Union are an integral element of our foreign policy. Our people regard the Soviet people as friends who have stood by them in times of need. The splendid record of Indo-Soviet relations owes much to the vision and exertions of the leaders of both our countries over the last three decades.

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I am here to continue the tradition set for us by Shri Jawaharlal Nehru and practised by successive Governments in India of sharing assessments and perceptions so that our two countries can work together for a better world. The Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation of 1971 reflects our high regard for each other and has served the cause of peace. I had the privilege of meeting you, Excellency, when YOU assumed your present high office at a

crucial phase of world history, I vividly recall the feeling reference you made to India and to the importance you personally attach to Indo-Soviet relations. We had a fruitful exchange of views this afternoon. I look forward to continuing the conversation tomorrow. We hope that you will soon give us the opportunity to welcome you in India.

#### BASIC YEARNING FOR PEACE

In this nuclear age, peace is the basic yearning of all peoples of the world. Yet at no time in history has the danger to peace been greater. This danger comes from the very weapons that have been developed in the name of security. The stockpiles are growing. It is a good sign that there is repeated public expression of a desire to reduce and eliminate nuclear weapons. The onus of disarmament is that of the nuclear-weapon powers. But can any other nation remain unconcerned? There can be no greater leveller and decimator than a nuclear war. Nuclear death will not inspect people's passports. It will not care for nationality as it will not care for life. There are no winnable nuclear wars, nor any impregnable defences against nuclear weapons.

#### DELHI DECLARATION

India and the rest of the Non-Aligned community have been assiduous in urging all States to ban the use of or threat of use of nuclear weapons, suspend all weapons tests, seek a comprehensive weapon test ban treaty, freeze production of nuclear weapons and fissionable material for weapons purposes,, and prevent the testing, production and deployment of chemical, biological and space weapons. We issued this call at the Non-Aligned Summit which met under Shrimati Indira Gandhi's Chairmanship in Delhi in 1983. More recently the Heads of State and Government of six nations from five continents reiterated this appeal through the Delhi Declaration.

#### POSITIVE SOVIET RESPONSE

We are glad that the Soviet Union has responded promptly and positively to the appeal. We have welcomed the various initiatives that you have personally taken. We sincerely wish success to your efforts, We welcome the resumption of the USSR-USA negotiations on disarmament in Geneva and the Declaration by both nations of their resolve to work for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons. World peace and regional tranquillity are closely intertwined. Regional conflicts can turn global with surprising speed. We in India are greatly concerned at the increasing militarisation across our border and the entire Indian Ocean. We are opposed to any outside intervention and interference anywhere.

#### REGIONAL PEACE

We have initiated discussions with our neighbours to improve the total environment of regional peace and co-operation. We desire South Asian regional cooperation to make a contribution to better, mutually beneficial relations among the countries of our region.

There are tensions in other regions about which we must all be greatly concerned: the continued denial of the legitimate rights of Palestinians, the blatant practice of Apartheid and aggression in South Africa against African peoples, the denial of the rights of the Namibians, the efforts to frustrate the functioning of Governments in Latin America and the continuing armed conflicts in South-West and South-East Asia.

None of us, while safeguarding the interests of our nations, can overlook our duty to the human race. The prism of geography may colour our peoples differently, but in the white light, we are one humanity. It is to the service of that

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humanity that Indo-Soviet friendship is dedicated.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, may I request you to raise your glasses to the health and success of His Excellency Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, General Secretary of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union; to the health of Madam Raisa Gorbacheva; to the further prosperity and progress of the great Soviet people; to ever growing friendship and cooperation between the Soviet Union and India; and to a peaceful world and a humanity freed of fear.

SSIA USA INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC SWITZERLAND SOUTH AFRICA NAMIBIA

**Date :** May 21, 1985

## Volume No

1995

SOVIET UNION

Humanity at Peace - Indira Gandhi's Dream

The following is the text of the speech  
by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi  
at the civic reception in Moscow on  
May 22, 1985:

It gives me pleasure to be amongst you and to address eminent

citizens of the Soviet Union representing various areas of achievement.

We are grateful for your warm welcome. Every Indian, whenever he visits the Soviet Union, knows that he will be the recipient of unreserved friendship.

I bring the warm greetings of the people of India to the great people of the Soviet Union, to the Soviet leadership and to Mikhail Sergeevich Gorbachev.

Our two countries exchanged Ambassadors after India became free from colonial rule in 1947. But mutual regard between our two peoples began long before that date.

#### VISIT OF NEHRU IN 1927

My great grandfather Motilal Nehru, and my grandfather Jawaharlal Nehru, both of whom were in the front rank of India's struggle for freedom, visited the Soviet Union in 1927, on the tenth anniversary of the Great October Revolution. Both were keenly interested in studying at first hand the new social system that was being built in the Soviet Union. Jawaharlal Nehru said at that time:

"To understand the great drama of the Russian revolution and the inner changes that shaped and brought the great change about, a study of cold theory is of little use. The October Revolution was undoubtedly one of the great events of world history ... and its story is more absorbing from the human and the dramatic point of view, than any tale of fantasy."

India's fight for independence received outspoken support from the Soviet people. We in turn were concerned at the conflicts that were developing in Europe in the twenties and thirties, especially the ominous rise of Fascism.

Jawaharlal Nehru kept warning the world of the danger to come. He was distressed at the attitude of some European Governments towards Hitler. We in India, although not yet free, were ranged unequivocally against Fascism. We admired the heroic resistance of the Soviet people. You demonstrated that no price is too high to pay for principles, for honour, for the independence and integrity of one's Motherland.

This year you celebrate the 40th anniversary of that victory over Fascism. We join in your rejoicing. We salute your brave.

#### FREEDOM STRUGGLE

India's freedom struggle was a saga of the resistance of an unarmed people against the world's biggest empire. On gaining freedom we adopted a multi-party parliamentary system. The Indian

nation is built on the principles of democracy, secularism and socialism. We have adopted the method of planned development and we have concentrated all our energies on overcoming mass poverty which was  
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the legacy of two centuries of colonialism.

We have scored notable successes. In grain production, we have become self-sufficient - and are able to export cereals to others. A country which had virtually no industry, has now become a major industrial nation. The work of our research laboratories in finding solutions to several deep-seated problems commands the respect of the international scientific community.

In this vast undertaking of modernisation we have received invaluable understanding and cooperation from the Soviet Union. Your contribution has been particularly crucial to us in building up our mineral, metallurgical and machine-building industries. We warmly appreciate this help.

We, have during my visit, discussed plans for production co-operation and diversification of trade as well as industrial and technological cooperation in a perspective of fifteen years. The scope is immense. As India's industry, science and technology grow, we shall need to have greater exchange with the Soviet Union and other great industrial countries. Our joint efforts will benefit both economies.

Soviet support has not been confined to the economic field. You have stood by us in our difficulties. It is adversity that tests friendships. The Indian people regard the Soviet people as reliable friends.

#### FIRM RELATIONSHIP

Indo-Soviet friendship demonstrates how two peoples with different social systems can establish a firm relationship of understanding and work for a larger common cause. The largest common cause is peace. Our friendship is not against any other nation, but actuated solely by the desire to strengthen our own peoples and to further the cause of global peace and international co-operation. We both long for peace because of our memories of the past and our dreams for the future. Only the tree of peace can yield life sustaining fruit to humanity.

We in India have believed that we serve peace best by staying out of military alliances. The Soviet Union has recognised that this policy of Non-Alignment has contributed solidly to strengthening the world-wide environment in favour of peace. Prime Minister, Indira Gandhi, when she presided over the Seventh Conference of Non-Aligned Nations in New Delhi two years ago, reiterated the Movement's total commitment to peace. That Conference also

appealed to the nuclear powers to take positive steps for disarmament so that in the foreseeable future the world would be rid of all weapons which had the power to destroy life on earth. At a time when peace is perched precariously on nuclear stockpiles, I reaffirm the Non-Aligned Movement's and India's resolve to work for peace and disarmament. The land of Gautam Buddha and Mahatma Gandhi will always be on the side of peace. We welcome the initiative taken by the Soviet Union to resume negotiations on disarmament.

You have honoured Indira Gandhi with the Lenin Peace Prize. It is a gesture which the people of India deeply appreciate. Vladimir Ilyich Lenin, after whom the Prize is named, is one of the mankind's immortals whose name will forever be linked with struggle against oppression and exploitation. As time passes, he grows greater, as Jawaharlal Nehru pointed out. While commemorating Lenin, the Prize also honours peace and those who work for peace. I am touched by your eloquent tributes to Indira Gandhi's life and work. This Award is an appreciation not only of her personality, but also of causes dear to her India, namely peace, international cooperation and Indo-Soviet friendship.

#### LENIN PEACE PRIZE

Indira Gandhi belonged to a line of eminent leaders who embodied the best in our heritage in all its depth and diversity. She was profoundly aware of the

strength and continuity of India's culture. Yet she regarded all humankind as her kin. A humanity at peace with itself was Indira Gandhi's dream. She was in the forefront of the struggle to establish a just and equitable international order. It gives me great pleasure to accept the Lenin Peace Prize given to my mother.

May I thank you for this privilege!

SSIA USA INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date** : May 22, 1985

## Volume No

1995

SOVIET UNION

Address to the Soviet People on T.V.

The following is the text of the address by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, to the Soviet people on T.V. on May 22, 1985:

Dear friends, I am glad to be speaking to you in your homes. I bring you greetings from over 700 million Indians. They value your friendship and they have high regard for you.

I have had the pleasure of visiting the Soviet Union before. Every time I have come here, I have felt the warmth of your friendship and learnt something more of your achievements in arts, science and economic reconstruction. The Soviet Union's technological progress is known all over the world. I am glad to tell you that we have many centres of learning in India where your languages and your history are studied. A number of Soviet scholars have studied Indian culture and current affairs. This interest is not confined to specialists. Amongst our peoples there is a large and growing desire to know each other's literature, music, dance and cinema.

#### ARCHITECT OF INDO-SOVIET FRIENDSHIP

Your and our cinematographers have jointly produced a film on Jawaharlal Nehru. It brought out how Shri Jawaharlal Nehru hailed the Great October Revolution as one of the most significant events in the history of man. Even before he became the first Prime Minister of free India, he was keen that the peoples of India and the Soviet Union must know each other well and work together. He was the architect, from our side, of Indo-Soviet friendship. He believed, as you might know, in the doctrine of Non-Alignment and of keeping out of military pacts. Soviet statesmen have consistently befriended India and have respected our non-alignment.

Indo-Soviet co-operation has grown steadily in the last 30 years. You have helped in setting up many of our large industries in our effort to build a modern economy. Plants built by your engineers dot our landscape, and places like Bhilai and Bokaro have become household names, symbolising the relationship between our two countries. Thousands of our technicians have been trained in your country, and they now run the projects which were originally set up in collaboration with you. More joint ventures are being planned. Last year there was a dramatic, heart-warming demonstration of scientific cooperation between our peoples. A young Indian aviator went abroad the Soviet space vessel Soyuz-T-11 with your cosmonauts. Millions of our people sat up night and day to watch their progress in space. This voyage evoked great admiration among our people for Soviet technology and achievement.

#### GOLDEN AGES

The story of India dates back thousands of years. We were one of

the early cradles of civilisation. In our long history there have been several Golden Ages. One of the earliest was the age of the Buddha, in the sixth century B.C. The Buddha taught us the message of kindness, of avoidance of hatred and violence. Four centuries ago, the fabled wealth of India brought European traders to our shores. The traders in due course became rulers. By the time we ultimately reasserted our freedom under Mahatma Gandhi's leadership, colonialist exploitation had reduced India to one of the world's poorest

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nations. The Industrial Revolution had passed us by.

#### LEGACY OF SMT. GANDHI

Our endeavour has been to haul our country over the hump of technological backwardness and shake off mass poverty. We have won half the battle. We have built the inner technological strength with which we can complete the remaining task. Our agricultural production has almost trebled. We have established a variety of basic and heavy industries. We have built centres of research and advanced training. A great deal of the old blight of poverty still remains. But we have the technological capability, the hope, the will to build a new bright age. This is the legacy to us of Smt. Indira Gandhi, who built on the foundations laid by Shri Jawaharlal Nehru.

Nearly three-fourths of India's people are below 35 years of age. They have no memory of colonial rule. So they will not appreciate the burdens their elders had to bear. They are impatient Of getting into the 21st century. It is my task, and that of others whom the nation has elected, to take them there. In doing so our endeavour will be to preserve all that is worthwhile in our great heritage while availing ourselves of the new knowledge.

#### ANCIENT VERSE ON PEACE

This dream, this yearning, will be fulfilled only-if there is peace - "peace on the earth, peace in the waters, and peace in the skies," to use the perspective words of one of our ancient verses. So it is natural that we should befriend other peoples who are equally devoted to peace. This is one of the great common bonds between the Soviet Union and India.

#### ROSE AND THE LOTUS

We know how greatly your nation has suffered in the wars following the Revolution. We know the sacrifice that every family of your great country has made. Out of the anguish and blood has sprung the rose of your love of peace, even as out of our colonial suffering has grown the lotus of our hope and determination. So let us tend this rose and this lotus.

## BENEFIT To HUMANITY

Humanity as a whole benefits from Indo-Soviet friendship. We work together for peace. Our friendship is not against anyone. Our relations show how nations with differing social systems coexist, develop trust and work for the mutual good of our people as well as humankind. We the Soviet and Indian peoples will continue to march together towards a Golden tomorrow.

DAzdravstveyet Sovietsko-Indiskaya  
Druzhba.

DIA USA

**Date :** May 22, 1985

# Volume No

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1995

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SOVIET UNION

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Economic Agreements

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The following is the text of a press release issued in Moscow on May 22, 1985 on the economic agreements between India and the Soviet Union:

Two agreements on economic cooperation have been signed in Moscow on May 22, 1985 by Shri Rajiv Gandhi, Prime Minister of India and Mr. Mikhail S. Gorbachev, General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. One Agreement relates to the grant of credit by USSR to India to the extent of roubles 1,000 million for financing the cost of Soviet goods and services in respect of Soviet participation in projects that we are taking up under our Plans, projects in power oil, coal, ferrous and machine building sectors and other areas.

In the power sector, the credit will relate to the Kahalgaon thermal power plant in Bihar of 840 MW planned capacity (4 units of 210 MW each). The Soviet participation in the project will be similar to that in the Vindhyachal ther-

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mal power station presently under construction.

COAL SECTOR

In the coal sector, the credit will relate to an open cast mine

in the Jharia coalfield with washeries, the Moher and Khadia open cast mine in the Singrauli coalfields and Sitanala underground colliery in the Jharia coalfield with washeries. It will also include establishment of institute for designing of coal washeries plants and facilities for detailed designing of coal projects, as well as the modernisation of the Patherdih washery.

In the petroleum sector, the Soviet Union will cooperate by taking on a project for integrated exploration of hydrocarbons in on shore areas also providing equipment and specialists' services.

In ferrous and machine building sectors, the credit relates to Soviet participation in our plans for modernisation and reconstruction as required. Other projects may be added subsequently through mutual agreement.

The coverage of the credit Agreement is flexible and the repayment for the principal and payment of interest in respect of this credit will be in Indian rupees in line with all past credits. The repayments will be utilised by the Soviet side for purchase of Indian goods in accordance with the Indo-Soviet Trade Agreement in force from time to time,

#### SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

The second Agreement signed in Moscow pertains to the main directions of economic, trade and scientific and technical cooperation between India and the Soviet Union for the period upto 2000 AD. The two countries have taken note of the evolving pattern of development of technology and capability on both sides and they shall develop new forms of economic cooperation and trade on the basis of mutual benefit and taking into account the complementarities of their economies. The main economic sectors covered by this Agreement will be power, petroleum, coal industry, ferrous and non-ferrous metallurgy, machine building, production cooperation and science and technology. The Agreement provides for participation of Indian organisations in civil and industrial projects in the Soviet Union in a form and manner which will be mutually agreed upon in specific cases where such cooperation is decided on. The two sides will also consider cooperation in construction of industrial and other projects in third countries.

India and the Soviet Union will take measures for dynamic and steady growth of mutual trade in accordance with Rupee Trade Aid and Payment Arrangements on long term basis. The two Governments have stressed the need for maintaining the tempo of growth of trade and finding new forms of trade including production cooperation, co-production, cooperation in the services sector.

Emphasis has been put on science and technology, i.e., both in the fundamental and applied sciences as well as on technology.

**Date :** May 22, 1985

## Volume No

1995

SOVIET UNION

Indo-Soviet Joint Statement

The following is the text of the Indo-Soviet joint statement issued at the conclusion of the visit to the Soviet Union by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, from May 21 to 26, 1985:

At the invitation of the leadership of the Soviet Union the Prime Minister of the Republic of India, H.E. Shri Rajiv Gandhi, paid an official friendly visit to the Soviet Union from May 21 to 26, 1985.

The distinguished Indian guest and the persons accompanying him were accorded a cordial welcome, reflecting the relations of traditional friendship and mutual respect between India and USSR.

Talks were held between the Prime Minister of the Republic of India, H.E.

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Shri Rajiv Gandhi and General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee H.E. Mr. Mikhail S. Gorbachev, in which the participants were: From the Indian side: Minister of Finance, Shri V. P. Singh; Chairman of the Policy Planning Committee of the Ministry of External Affairs, Shri G. Parthasarathi; Ambassador of India to the USSR, Shri S. Nurul Hasan; Minister of State for Power, Shri Arun Nehru, Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister, Shri Arun Singh, Parliamentary, Secretary to the Prime Minister, Shri O. Fernandes.

From the Soviet side: Member of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the CPSU and Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, Mr. Nikolai A. Tikhonov; Member of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the CPSU, First Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the USSR, Mr. Andrei A. Gromyko; Alternate Member of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the CPSU, Minister of Defence of the USSR, Marshal of the Soviet Union Sergei L. Sokolov; First Deputy Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers,

Mr. I. V. Arkhipov; Ambassador of the USSR to India, Mr. Vasily N. Rykov.

The Prime Minister of the Republic of India, H.E. Shri Rajiv Gandhi had, in addition a detailed discussion with the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU, Mr. Mikhail S. Gorbachev, which was conducted in a warm and friendly atmosphere.

While visiting Moscow, Minsk and Frunze, the guests acquainted themselves with various aspects of the Soviet people's life and achievements in the economic, scientific and cultural fields.

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The meetings and discussions were held in an atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding. Both sides expressed deep satisfaction at the successful development of relations of close friendship and multifaceted co-operation between India and the Soviet Union. These relations are characterised by respect and trust between the peoples and leaders of the two States. They are notable for their stability in the political field and, for the wide scope and diversity of their mutually beneficial cooperation in commercial, economic, scientific, technological, cultural and other areas. Their steady growth is an important achievement on the part of both countries.

The two sides believe that relations between India and the USSR demonstrate the fruitful character of ties between States with different socio-economic systems, if they are committed to the principles of peaceful coexistence, equality and mutual respect, strict observance of sovereignty and non-interference in the internal affairs of each other. The friendship and co-operation between India and the USSR constitute a factor of peace and stability in Asia and the world.

Both India and the Soviet Union are of the view that the Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Co-operation between India and the USSR promotes the development of the traditional friendship between the countries and truly reflects their commitment to world peace and detente.

Both sides highly evaluate Indo-Soviet economic, commercial, scientific and technological cooperation which is developing dynamically on a planned basis and is being constantly enriched with new form and content.

#### AGREEMENT ON BASIC DIRECTIONS

The two sides note with satisfaction the considerable expansion of economic cooperation between them and express confidence that the Agreement on Basic Directions of Economic, Trade, Scientific and Technological Cooperation between India and the USSR for the period upto the year 2000 as well as the Agreement on Indo-Soviet

cooperation in the construction of a number of new major projects in India, signed on May 22, 1985 in Moscow, will contribute to further broadening and deepening ties between the two countries.

Both sides expressed satisfaction at the high rate of growth of trade between  
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the two countries and reaffirmed their determination to maintain it in the future. At the same time, they expressed their mutual interest in seeking ways of further increasing the effectiveness of bilateral trade through broadbasing and diversification of supplies, and the adoption of new forms of co-operation in accordance with the principles set out in the Agreement on Basic Directions mentioned above.

## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Both sides noted the growing cooperation between them in the field of science and technology. The results of joint activity in this sphere promote scientific and technological progress in both countries and help in accomplishing the task facing their national economies. The successful joint Indo-Soviet space mission carried out in April 1984 is a vivid demonstration of the fruitful nature of this cooperation. Both sides note the importance of further developing their cooperation in the field of science and technology and of increasing its effectiveness.

The two sides positively assess the activities of the Inter-Governmental Indo-Soviet Commission on Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation and in particular the results of its ninth session held recently in Moscow, which laid down specific guidelines for developing cooperation in various fields for the immediate future.

The two sides expressed readiness to continue developing and strengthening cooperation between them in the fields of culture, science, health, education, mass media, tourism and sports.

The Indian side highly evaluated the substantial contribution made by the Soviet Union to theof  
India's economic potential and acceleration of its scientific and technological progress. The Soviet side reaffirmed its readiness to continue to assist India in  
strengthening its self-reliance in the economic and other important fields.

## II

The two sides exchanged views on a wide range of international issues of mutual interest and reaffirmed once again the coincidence or similarity in the positions of the two countries on major contemporary issues.

Both sides are concerned over the growing tensions in the international situation. The escalating arms race, particularly in nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction, the growing dangers of its being extended to outer space, as well as the aggravation of crisis situations in various parts of the world call for resolute and persistent efforts on the part of States, regardless of their social systems, to strengthen international peace and security, to ensure that the threat of war is eliminated, policies of confrontation renounced and the path of negotiation pursued. Only such efforts can contribute to the achievement of detente, the resolution of existing problems and disputes, the elimination of hotbeds of tension and conflicts and the prevention of the emergence of new ones. The two sides are convinced that all States, large and small, have a role to play in the search for realistic solutions that would halt and reverse the arms race and reduce tensions in the world.

#### CESSATION OF ARMS RACE

India and the Soviet Union are firmly convinced that the prevention of nuclear war is of paramount importance in the world today. They consider as the most urgent tasks the immediate cessation of the arms race, above all in nuclear weapons, and preventing the extension of this race into outer space, the vigorous pursuits of policies aimed at the total destruction and prohibition of nuclear weapons so that the threat of nuclear war is eliminated for all time. In the context of the initiatives taken by each side, they reiterated their willingness to cooperate fully with each other and with all States in achieving these goals.

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Both sides consider important in this context the Delhi Declaration adopted in January this year by the Heads of State or Government of Argentina, Greece, India, Mexico, Tanzania and Sweden which once again called for an all-embracing halt to the testing, production and development of nuclear weapons and their delivery systems, the prevention of an arms race in outer space and the conclusion of a comprehensive nuclear weapons test ban treaty. In this connection they noted that the proposals put forward by the Soviet Union for preventing the militarisation of outer space, terminating the nuclear arms race and ultimately for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons were directed towards objectives which are consonant with those set out in the Delhi Declaration.

India and the Soviet Union attach major importance to the Soviet-American negotiations in Geneva on a complex of questions concerning space and nuclear arms - strategic and intermediate-range to be considered and resolved in their interrelationship. The two sides are convinced that these negotiations, given a constructive and realistic approach by both participating sides

in accordance with the terms of the agreement reached, can lead to far-reaching solutions in the interests of peace and the security of all nations.

#### NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT

Both sides stressed the special responsibility of nuclear-weapon States to take urgent measures towards general and complete disarmament, especially nuclear disarmament. They reaffirmed their commitment to this goal and called for urgent practical steps aimed at halting and reversing the arms race. In this connection, the Soviet side supported the Indian proposal calling for the negotiation of a Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons, with the participation of all nuclear-weapon States in such a convention. The Indian side welcomed the Soviet Union's declaration not to be the first to use nuclear weapons. Both sides consider that the adoption of such an obligation by all nuclear-weapon States would be an important step towards the complete ban on the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons. The two sides stressed the importance of a freeze on nuclear weapons on a global basis beginning from a specific date and under appropriate verification. This should be followed by substantial reduction in nuclear arsenals. They supported the immediate suspension of all nuclear weapons tests and the speedy conclusion of a treaty on the complete and general prohibition of nuclear weapons tests. They called for an early prohibition and elimination of chemical weapons and for the prohibition of the development and production of new types of weapons of mass destruction. They also stressed the urgent necessity of transferring resources, currently directed to military expenditure, to meet the needs of social and economic development. A part of funds which will be released in the process of disarmament should be channelled towards rendering assistance to developing countries.

#### CO-OPERATION AMONG STATES

The two sides reaffirm the importance of developing peaceful, mutually advantageous co-operation among States, based on the principles of equality, mutual respect and non-interference in internal affairs whether at the bilateral, regional or global level. Being opposed to any infringement of the sovereign rights of all States and peoples to independent and peaceful existence as they desire, being opposed to any manifestation of imperialism, colonialism, neocolonialism, domination or hegemony, they firmly uphold the principles of peaceful coexistence and equitable co-operation among States, the solution of disputes and the settlement of conflicts between States through negotiations and without resort to the use or threat of force.

India and the Soviet Union believe that observance of these principles by all countries, and above all the cessation of mili-

tary or any other type of outside interference in the affairs of sovereign States, the exercise of restraint and putting an end to foreign military presence, in the first place the removal of foreign bases, constitute important pre-requisites for strengthening peace and stability in Asia as also in other regions of the world.

#### PERSISTING TENSIONS IN MIDDLE EAST

The two sides express their concern at the persisting tensions in the Middle East as a result of Israel's aggressive and expansionist policies. They condemn the continuing occupation of Arab territories by Israel. They also condemn Israel's invasion of Lebanon and its practices and measures against the civilian population there. They call for the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanon. The two sides emphasised the urgent need for a comprehensive, just and durable Middle East settlement on the basis of Israel's complete and unconditional withdrawal from all occupied Arab territories; the realisation by the Palestinian people, whose sole and legitimate representative is the Palestine Liberation Organisation, of their legitimate and inalienable national rights, including the right to establish their own State; as well as ensuring the right of all States in the region to secure an independent development. The two sides emphasise that the path to such a settlement lies through the collective efforts and participation of all the parties concerned, including the Palestine Liberation Organisation, on an equal footing. They strongly support the convening of an International Peace Conference on the Middle East under the auspices of the United Nations.

#### CALL TO END IRAN-IRAQ WAR

The two sides voice their regret and concern over the continuing war between Iran and Iraq and call for an immediate end to the war and peaceful settlement of the conflict. The Soviet Union supports the efforts of India as the Chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement towards seeking mutually acceptable measures to bring about a just and enduring settlement of the conflict through negotiations.

The two sides express serious concern over the continuation of the hot-beds of tension in South West Asia and reaffirm their conviction that the problems of the region demand peaceful political solutions paying full respect to the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and Non-Aligned status of the countries of the region. They call upon the countries of the region to expeditiously terminate the armed conflicts, to exercise restraint and cooperate constructively for reducing tension and restoring peace. India and the Soviet Union reiterate their opposition to all forms of outside interference in the internal affairs of the countries of the region. They are

confident that negotiated political solutions alone can guarantee a durable settlement of the existing problems of the region.

#### SOUTH EAST ASIA

The two sides are concerned over the persisting tensions in South East Asia. They believe that a solution to the problems of South East Asia should be found by the States of the region themselves on the basis of full respect for the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of all the States of the region and without outside interference in their internal affairs. They support the desire of the States there to normalise the situation in the region and make it an area of lasting peace, stability, good-neighbourliness and cooperation. They expressed the hope that this would also lead to eliminating the involvement and threat of intervention by outside powers.

#### INDIAN OCEAN

India and the Soviet Union express their concern at the further aggravation of the situation in the Indian Ocean and, in this connection, call for the dismantling of all foreign military bases in the area and the prevention of the creation of new ones. They also oppose any attempts to increase foreign military presence in the Indian Ocean. The two sides call for the early implementation of the United  
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Nations Declaration on the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace and support the decision of the United Nations General Assembly to convene, without delay, a Conference on the Indian Ocean for this purpose. The Soviet Union firmly support the desire of India and other Non-Aligned countries to bring this about.

The two sides believe that it is necessary to complete preparations during 1985 so that the Conference could be held as decided at the 39th Session of the United Nations General Assembly, by the first half of 1986 at the latest. They reaffirm their support for the just demand of Mauritius concerning the restoration of its sovereignty over the Chagos Archipelago, including the island of Diego Garcia.

#### NAMIBIA

Both sides condemn the policy of Apartheid practised by South Africa and demand an end to its illegal occupation of Namibia and the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of South African troops from that territory. They call for a full and prompt implementation of all relevant United Nations decisions on granting independence to Namibia, including Security Council Resolution 435 (1978). They condemn the recent decision by South Africa to instal an illegal "interim administration" in Windhoek. They reaffirm their support for SWAPO as the sole and authentic

representative of the Namibian people. India and the Soviet Union also insist on an end to South Africa's acts of aggression and subversion against its neighbours and demand that South Africa scrupulously respect the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of these neighbouring States.

India and the Soviet Union are in favour of a just, political settlement of the situation in the region of Central America and the Caribbean, especially around Nicaragua, on the basis of strict respect for the right of the peoples freely to choose the path of their development and noninterference in internal affairs. They call for the cessation of all forms of pressures and acts of aggression against the independent Non-Aligned countries situated there. Both sides support the constructive initiatives of these countries and the efforts of the CONTADORA Group, aimed at a settlement of the situation in that region.

#### NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER

The two sides favour the restructuring of international economic relations on a just and democratic basis and the establishment of a New International Economic Order. The solution of this pressing task would serve the interests of all mankind. They condemn any manifestations of the policy of neo-colonialism, discrimination and methods of pressure of any kind in inter-State economic relations. Both sides favour the ensuring of fair and equitable prices for the exports of developing countries and the dismantling of artificial trade barriers.

India and the Soviet Union note with satisfaction the growing positive role of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries in the struggle for peace and the prevention of nuclear catastrophe, for disarmament and the relaxation of international tension, against imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism, racism and Apartheid, as well as against all forms of aggression, interference, domination, or hegemony in the political or economic fields and for the realisation of the New International Economic Order.

#### NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT

The Soviet Union values highly India's constructive contribution to the efforts to ensure international peace and security and towards developing equitable cooperation among States and strengthening the unity and enhancing the international stature of the Non-Aligned Movement.

The two sides note the historic significance of the fortieth anniversary of the great victory over the forces of Fascism and militarism and call for observing this commemorative date in a befitting manner by adopting steps for putting an end to the arms race, for eliminating the threat

of war and establishing a healthier international environment.

Both sides reiterate their abiding commitment to the United Nations, to preserving and strengthening this organisation as an effective instrument of peace, and to the purposes and principles enshrined in its Charter. They believe that the commemoration of the 40th anniversary of the United Nations and the observance of the International Year of Peace can and should give an additional impetus to mobilising the efforts of the people and Governments of the Organisation's member-States aimed at removing the threat of nuclear war and strengthening international peace and security, as well as at establishing equitable economic relations among States and promoting its objectives in the social and humanitarian fields. The two sides are prepared to take necessary steps in order to ensure that the just and democratic principles on which the United Nations was founded forty years ago become firmly rooted in the practice of international relations. They also noted the historic importance of the UN Declaration on the Granting of independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples adopted 25 years ago and reaffirm their commitment to work for the total eradication of colonialism.

### III

India and the Soviet Union attach great importance to the regular contacts between their leaders and regard these as an important means for strengthening the relations of friendship, mutual understanding and confidence between the two countries. The two sides note that Indo-Soviet dialogue at the highest level effectively promotes the development of relations of close friendship between India and the USSR and enhances the effectiveness of the efforts of the two countries for the preservation and consolidation of peace and security.

The two sides favour continuing and broadening the practice of regular consultations at appropriate levels on questions of bilateral relations and topical international issues of mutual interest.

The two sides expressed profound satisfaction at the results of the official friendly visit paid to the Soviet Union by the Prime Minister of India, H.E. Shri Rajiv Gandhi. The visit has further strengthened mutual trust between the leaders and the bonds of close friendship between the peoples of the two countries. The two sides are convinced that the visit will be a new and important step on the road of further development of relations of traditional friendship and many-sided cooperation between India and the USSR.

The Prime Minister of India, H.E. Shri Rajiv Gandhi, expressed sincere gratitude to the leaders and the people of the Soviet Union for the warm welcome accorded to him and his party. The Prime Minister extended invitations to the General Secretary of

the CPSU Central Committee, H.E. Mr. Mikhail S. Gorbachev, and to the Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, H.E. Mr. Nikolai A. Tikhonov, to pay official visits to India. The invitations were accepted with gratitude.

A INDIA COMMONWEALTH OF INDEPENDENT STATES(CIS) RUSSIA BELORUSSIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC ARGENTINA GREECE MEXICO TANZANIA SWEDEN SWITZERLAND ISRAEL LEBANON IRAN IRAQ MALI MAURITIUS NAMIBIA SOUTH AFRICA NICARAGUA

**Date :** May 22, 1985

## Volume No

1995

SOVIET UNION

Indo-Soviet Protocol on Shipping

The following is the text of the press release issued in New Delhi on May 16, 1985 on the Indo-Soviet protocol on shipping:

The Minister of State for Shipping and Transport, Shri Z. R. Ansari today informed the Lok Sabha that a protocol was signed at the conclusion of the 7th Session of the Indo-Soviet Joint Committee on Shipping on April 12, 1985.

In his written reply to a question tabled by Dr. Krupasindhu Phoi, the Minister stated that some of the more important decisions arrived at were as follows.

(1)The Soviet and the Indian sides agreed to take further measures to improve turnaround time of Indian and Soviet vessels in the ports of both the countries.

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(2)Both the sides expressed satisfaction in the maintenance of parity in liftings and earnings in general during 1984.

(3)With a view to reduce the delay of Soviet tankers at Indian Ports, the Soviet side were requested to deploy smaller tankers.

(4)A was agreed that fertilisers, rice, sulphur and oil cakes will continue to be shipped on liner basis instead of on charter party or other terms.

(5)The cargoes being shipped from India to Afghanistan via Black Sea were also included in the parity.

(6)Both the sides noted that improvement in packaging was essential for reducing damages to cargo while in transit.

(7)The Soviet side agreed to give preference to Indian ships over third country ships in allotting third country cargoes.

A INDIA AFGHANISTAN CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date :** May 16, 1985

## Volume No

1995

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

US Commerce Secretary Calls on Deputy Chairman,, PlanningCommission

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 17, 1985 on the visit of Mr. Malcolm, Baldrige, U.S. Secretary of Commerce:

Mr. Malcolm Baldrige, the U.S. Secretary of Commerce, called on Dr. Manmohan Singh, Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission, here today. They had a frank and informal exchange of views on a variety of issues including planning problems, technology transfer and international economic environment.

Apprising Mr. Baldrige of the developments in the Indian economy, Dr. Manmohan Singh referred to the noticeable acceleration of growth taking place since the mid 1970s. Despite difficult international and internal circumstances, the 5.2 per cent 6th Plan growth target ' he said, is estimated to have been achieved.

Referring to the seventh Five Year Plan, Dr. Manmohan Singh indicated that the anticipated growth of about 5 per cent would be made possible, among other things, through emphasis on improvement in productivity, both in agriculture and industry, modernization and technological upgradation in different sectors. All-round improvements in efficiency had, according to him, become imperative not just to keep abreast of the fast moving world but also to strengthen self-reliance further.

The US Commerce Secretary felt that India had a high absorption capacity for, and could benefit a good deal from, diffusion of high technology because of the large pool of technically trained manpower in the country. Agreeing with this, perception, Dr. Manmohan Singh mentioned that high technology was welcomed and for this reason very much easier conditions were extended to

foreign investment accompanied by transfer of sophisticated technology,

Mr. Baldrige explained US views on free international trade in services, which he felt would be beneficial to developed and developing countries alike. Responding, Dr. Manmohan Singh felt, that the issue should be considered in a wider setting. Tolerance of protection in developed countries even when it amounted to discrimination against goods of export interest to developing countries sapped the Third  
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World's confidence in multilateral institutions like the GATT. He suggested, therefore, that a beginning should be made by building up and strengthening this confidence by the developed countries undertaking to implement the existing obligations arising out of the previous rounds of GATT negotiations.

#### JOINT INDO-US R&D VENTURE PROPOSED

Shri Virendra Patil, Union Minister of Industry and Company Affairs proposed India's involvement in research and development activities in USA for futuristic technology. He said that there was abundance of highly trained technical manpower and skilled workers available in India at comparatively low cost. Research and Development activities could be taken up jointly either in India or in USA which will work out to be economical. This was suggested by Shri Patil to Mr. Malcolm Baldrige when he called on Shri Patil, here today.

Shri Patil said that India welcomes high technology from developed countries along with equity participation. However emphasis is on transfer of high technology even without foreign investment.

Shri Patil suggested that there should be no restrictions on imports from developing countries to USA. To enable India to import more from USA it was essential to encourage export of more traditional items from India.

Mr. Baldrige appreciated India's suggestion on joint ventures in research and development. He informed that the interest of USA companies in India was growing. However, they felt concerned about protectionism in India through Patent and Copyright Acts. Shri Patil said that India was willing to examine and consider any specific problems felt by foreign collaborators in this regard.

The US Commerce Secretary suggested that India should identify specific areas in which high technology transfer was required. He indicated that USA would send two trade delegations to India after the visit of the Prime Minister to USA.

Mr. Baldrige is on a 4-day visit to India to familiarise himself with the direction of the economic policies of India in connection with the forthcoming visit of Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi to USA.

The Minister briefly informed Mr. Baldrige about the various measures taken by the Government towards the liberalisation of industrial policy and procedures and various concessions and incentives available to various collaborators. He pointed out that investment climate in India was encouraging.

Referring to Indo-US cooperation, Shri Patil said that USA was having maximum foreign collaborations in India which figured at 21 per cent at present.  
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**June**

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SRI LANKA

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1995

BANGLADESH

Joint River Commission Meet in Dhaka

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jun 03, 1985 on the Indo-Bangladesh JRC Meet in Dhaka:

The 28th meeting of the Indo-Bangladesh Joint Rivers Commission which began here (Dhaka) yesterday, continued for the second day today. The discussions have been held in a friendly and cordial atmosphere.

Shri B. Shankaranand is leading the 11-member Indian delegation while Rear Admiral Sultan Ahmad, Deputy Chief Martial Law Administrator and Minister for Irrigation, Water Development and Flood Control, is the leader of the Bangladesh delegation.

The Joint Rivers Commission has been discussing the augmentation of Ganga water flows at Farakka during the lean season and other issues.

Earlier the Irrigation and Power Minister called on Shri Humayun Rasheed Chowdhury, Adviser for Foreign Affairs, Government of Bangladesh and discussed with him issues of common interest.

At the start of the meeting yesterday, Shri Shankaranand conveyed the serious concern and grief of the Government and the people of India over the recent catastrophe which has taken a heavy toll of life in Bangladesh. He assured the Bangladesh Government of full cooperation in providing relief and other assistance to the people of Bangladesh.

It may be recalled that the 27th meeting of the JRC was held in

New Delhi on December 15, 1984. It was then decided that the next meeting of the JRC will be held in Dhaka.

NGLADESH INDIA USA TURKEY LATVIA

**Date :** Jun 03, 1985

## Volume No

1995

BULGARIA

India and Bulgaria Initial Air Services Agreement

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jun 24, 1985 on the Indo-Bulgarian air services agreement:

India and Bulgaria have recently initialled an agreement on the basis of the Memorandum of Understanding with Balkanair (the Bulgarian Airlines) in Sofia. The agreement enables Balkanair to commence unilateral operation in sector Sofia-Abu Dhabi-Calcutta-Bangkok under the cover of commercial agreement,

This follows the visit of an Indian delegation to Bulgaria under the leadership  
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of Dr. S. S. Sidhu, Secretary, Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation, who during his stay there also had talks with Mr. Ognyan Doinov, Chairman of the Indo-Bulgarian Joint Commission. Dr. Sidhu also held meetings with Bulgarian authorities to discuss the possibilities of cooperation in the field of tourism.

LGARIA INDIA UNITED ARAB EMIRATES USA

**Date :** Jun 24, 1985

## Volume No

1995

NAMIBIA

Security Council Debate on Namibia - Text of the Statement Madeby Minister of State

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jun 13, 1985 of the statement made by the Minister of State for External Affairs, Shri Khurshed Alam Khan in the Security Council debate on Namibia which commenced in New York on June 10 " 1985. India opened the debate as Chairman of the NAM:

Allow me at the outset, to offer felicitations to you upon the distinction that goes with your assumption of the high office of President of the Security Council. Our two countries enjoy cordial and cooperative relations, enriched immeasurably by the age-old ethnic and cultural bonds that reach out to span the geographical distance between us. We are happy that the representative of a friendly and fellow Non-Aligned country presides over the Council as it takes up the question of Namibian issue with which the Non-Aligned Movement is vitally and intimately concerned. Your eminent personal qualities and diplomatic experience are well-known. We feel assured that the Council is in good hands and that it will approach the task before it with a sense of purpose. We are confident that your wise guidance will enable the Council to achieve constructive results.

#### GREETINGS

I avail myself of this opportunity to convey to you, and through you, to the distinguished members of this Council, the greetings and good wishes of my Prime Minister, in his capacity as Chairman of the Movement of Non-Aligned countries.

We also pay tribute to the distinguished Foreign Minister of Thailand and to Ambassador Birabhongse for the excellent manner in which the Council was led in the month of May.

May I also say how happy we are to see our esteemed Secretary-General with us. While expressing our deep appreciation for his untiring and devoted efforts in promoting the purposes and principles of the Charter, and in particular, in implementing the decisions of the United Nations in respect of Namibia, we assure him of our continuing support and whole-hearted cooperation.

The Security Council meets in response to a call made by the members of the Non-Aligned Movement at the recent meeting of its Coordinating Bureau in New Delhi. The Bureau had sought an urgent meeting of the United Nations Security Council to resume its consideration of the question of Namibia and to give effect to its own resolutions in this regard, in particular, Security Council Resolution 435 of 1978. The Bureau had further invited the Foreign Ministers of a number of countries to personally participate in this meeting. It is my privilege to be here in pursuance of that mandate. The presence here of several distinguished Ministers from Non-

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Aligned countries including the Prime Minister of Peru, is a reflection of the high importance and urgency we attach to the cause of Namibia's independence.

#### LACK OF PROGRESS

Mr. President, the Security Council is now meeting to consider the situation in Namibia after a lapse of almost two years. That, in itself, is a sad commentary on the lack of progress towards implementation of the United Nations Plan for Namibia's independence, a plan which has been in existence for nearly seven years. When the Council last met in October 1983, it took one, of the most important decisions of the question of Namibia in Resolution 539 of 1983. That resolution, inter alia, reiterated that Security Council Resolution 435 was the only basis for a peaceful settlement of the Namibian problem, condemned South Africa for its objection of the implementation of that Resolution by insisting on conditions contrary to the provisions of the UN Plan and rejected South Africa's insistence on linking Namibian independence to irrelevant and extraneous issues. It declared that the independence of Namibia cannot be held hostage to the resolutions of issues that are alien to Security Council Resolution 435. Finally, Resolution 539 expressed the resolve of the Council to meet as soon as possible following the Secretary-General's report for the purpose of reviewing progress in the implementation of Resolution 435 and, in the event of continued obstruction by South Africa, to consider the adoption of appropriate measures under the Charter of the United Nations.

Mr. President, South Africa's response to Resolution 539 came no later than the day after its adoption. With familiar arrogance and defiance, Mr. Botha once again listed that no settlement plan could be implemented unless a firm agreement was reached on the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola.

Members of the Security Council will therefore understand the deep sense of frustration and profound concern felt by the international community at the manner in which the situation has evolved. It is a frustration that stems not merely from the fact that an unequivocal and firm message from the Security Council has been spurned and repudiated even before the ink was dry on it. In a more fundamental sense, it is frustrating - indeed alarming - to see the United Nations, which assumed direct responsibility over Namibia nearly two decades ago, watch helplessly from the sidelines. Meanwhile efforts, purportedly aimed at facilitating the implementation of Resolution 435 continue to be talked about and the impasse is prolonged.

#### CRITICAL ROLE

For that reason alone, if for no other, we are happy that the Council is once again seized of the matter. In so doing, the

Council is asserting its critical role and assuming its legitimate and inescapable responsibility in this regard. This meeting, therefore, is of crucial significance.

Mr. President, the recent extraordinary ministerial meeting of the Coordinatign Bureau of Non-Aligned countries, devoted specially to the question of Namibia, was a reflection as much of the high priority and importance which the Non-Aligned countries have traditionally attached to the question of Namibia as of the urgency of bringing about the independence of Namibia, through the implementation of Security Council Resolution 435. The final document of the New Delhi meeting has already been circulated as Document S/17184 and I need not therefore dwell in detail upon the assessment made by the Ministers assembled in New Delhi and the conclusions reached by them. I may, however, recall that the Bureau, at this meeting, reiterated that the United Nations has primary responsibility for Namibia and that it is, therefore, incumbent upon the United Nations to ensure the speedy attainment of genuine and internationally recognised independence by Namibia. It remains the firm conviction of the Bureau that the UN Security Council Resolution 435, which seeks to put into effect the UN plan for Namibian independence, constitutes the only basis for a peaceful settlement of the Namibian question. The Bureau reiterated  
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the categorical rejection of the linkage of Namibian independence to the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola. It called upon the Security Council to act in a decisive manner, in fulfilment of the direct responsibility of the United Nations with regard to Namibia, and to take urgent measures in order to ensure that the United Nations Plan, as contained in Resolution 435, is immediately and effectively implemented, without modification or preconditions.

With regard to the latest obstacle posed by Pretoria in the way of implementation of Resolution 435, namely, the decision to establish a so-called "Interim Government in Windhoek, the Bureau expressed its strong condemnation and observed that this development made it all the more imperative that the Security Council meet, forthwith and assume its responsibilities fully to ensure the speedy and unconditional implementation of Resolution 435. It is pertinent to recall here that the Security Council, through the statement made by the President on 3 May 1985, has condemned and rejected any unilateral action by South Africa leading towards an internal settlement outside Security Council Resolution 435, as unacceptable, and declared the establishment of the so-called interim Government in Namibia to be null and void.

#### PUBLIC OPINION

It is, again, characteristic of South Africa that it should

choose to defy international public opinion and the Security Council and press ahead with its plans to instal a puppet administration in Namibia. We have learnt with indignation and grave concern of reports regarding the ceremony planned for 17th June in Windhoek. In its communique of 4 June 1985 issued in the course of its Extraordinary Plenary Meetings in Vienna, the Council for Namibia has called upon the Security Council "to take appropriate measures to preempt the installation of the 'Interim Government' and to ensure the immediate and unconditional implementation of the United Nations Plan for Namibian independence." We fully endorse this call by the Legal Administering Authority for Namibia until independence.

We have noted the contents of the latest report submitted by the Secretary General, contained in Document S/17242 dated 6 June, 1985. His concluding remarks cannot but cause deep disquiet and profound concern. He has noted that implementation of Security Council Resolution 435 continues to elude us for reasons which are irrelevant and extraneous and has stressed that it is imperative for all concerned to respect the provisions of the United Nations Plan, which is binding on the parties, and remains the only agreed basis for independence of Namibia.

Mr. President, the situation that confronts us today is strangely ironic. There is universal agreement that the travail of the Namibian people must come to an end, that Namibia must be free. Similarly, there is universal agreement that the United Nations Plan for Namibian independence, contained in Security Council Resolutions 385 and 435, constitutes the only basis for a peaceful settlement of the Namibian question. We are thus all agreed on the end, and the means to achieve that end. Why, then should it have taken so long to resolve this question? Why is South Africa being permitted to defy the unanimous call of the international community? With what conscience can anybody hold the independence of Namibia hostage to issues that have no bearing on it? Can we remain silent spectators of the suffering people of Namibia being used as pawns in a game involving larger strategic interests? Can we afford to continue to tolerate South Africa's aggressive actions against the Front-line States and its duplicity as evidenced again by its latest act of sabotage deep inside Angolan territory?

#### U. N. RESOLUTIONS

Mr. President, the time has come for the Council to acknowledge what has become transparent to all-namely, that South Africa has no intention of abiding by United Nations Resolutions. The  
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Council must take action to compel compliance by South Africa.

As the Coordinating Bureau noted in its recent meeting the international community has shown exemplary patience with an

arrogant and intransigent regime. If South Africa persists in its intransigence there can be no option, but to impose comprehensive mandatory sanctions under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter.

It is our earnest hope that this meeting of the Council will lead to more resolute action than we have seen in the past. It is our expectation that the Council will chart a course of action which would bring independence to the people of Namibia, without delay in conformity with Resolution 435. We should also give our distinguished Secretary General a clear mandate within that framework to monitor and secure compliance by South Africa.

Mr. President, I should like to add a word about the position of my own country with regard to the question of Namibia. Our attachment to the Namibian cause and our espousal of it is a matter of public knowledge and record. We were the first country to take up the question of South West Africa before the United Nations General Assembly in 1946. The same year, we became the first to voluntarily impose comprehensive sanctions against South Africa. As a founder member and Vice-President of the United Nations Council for Namibia, India has striven to promote the interests of the Namibian people. We are proud to be of assistance to SWAPO - the sole and authentic representative of the Namibian people - whose leadership is present here today with us. In the person of its distinguished President, H.E. Dr. Sam Nujoma, we remain firm in our conviction that the people of Namibia shall ultimately prevail, for theirs is a just cause.

#### INDEPENDENCE

Mr. President, I would like to close with a quotation from the inaugural address by Prime Minister, Rajiv Gandhi, Chairman of the Movement of Non-Aligned countries, at the recent New Delhi meeting. I quote.

"Just a few years ago, Namibia's progress towards independence appeared so sure, today it has become a casualty to power politics and multinationals' profit. In the process, the very credibility of the institution that had guaranteed this independence, the United Nations Security Council, has come under question, the issue now is whether a wronged and dispossessed people will be supported or deserted by the world body. It is thus a challenge to the United Nations. Will the United Nations now in its 40th year, fulfil its moral and political obligations or will military and economic might prevail over right?"

MIBIA INDIA USA THAILAND PERU SOUTH AFRICA ANGOLA CUBA AUSTRIA

**Date :** Jun 13, 1985

# Volume No

1995

NORWAY

## Norwegian aid to Develop Rural Telecommunication Services

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jun 11, 1985 on Norwegian aid to develop rural telecommunications services:

The Government of India and the Government of Norway signed an agreement here today under which Norway will supply telecommunications equipment, technical assistance and training in connection with the development of rural telecommunication services in India in the districts of Barmer, Kohima, Mathura <pg-157>

and Nainital. Norwegian assistance would amount to N. Kr. 57.4 million (Rs. 80.93 million approximately).

The agreement was signed by Smt. Otima Bordia, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Finance and H.E. Mr. Tancred Ibsen, Ambassador of Norway in India, on behalf of their respective Governments.

The Norwegian contribution will be used for, the supply of equipments, training, etc. for the development of the telecommunications services in the selected rural districts of Rajasthan, Nagaland and Uttar Pradesh. The project is expected to improve the quality of services by the introduction of subscriber trunk dialling and replacement of older equipment by modem reliable equipment. The construction, installation and commissioning of the equipment are to be completed by the end of 1987.

The project envisages installation of about 5800 direct exchange lines in about 35 villages and towns plus transmission and switching facilities linking the exchanges to national network.

By 1988, at least 450 long distance public telephones will be provided in the districts to ensure that no village will be more than 5 kms. from the nearest telephones.

RWAY INDIA USA

**Date :** Jun 11, 1985

# Volume No

1995

## PRIME MINISTER'S TOUR ABROAD

### Prime Minister's statement on arrival in Algiers

The following is the text of a press release of the statement made by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi at the airport on his arrival in Algeria on Jun 10, 1985:

I am delighted to be in Algeria. I bring the greetings and good wishes of the people of India to the President Of Algeria as well as the Government and people of this dynamic country.

Our two peoples have much in common. Both fought long and bravely against colonialism. After the achievement of freedom both have actively pursued the policy of Non-Alignment. Further, both Algeria and India are engaged in building a new life for their peoples based upon social justice and economic modernism.

The relationship between our two countries has been enlarged by high mutual regard, friendship and cooperation. We have made it a practice periodically to exchange our assessment of the international situation. Algeria's statesmanship commands high respect in the Arab world and the entire Non-Aligned Movement. Twelve years ago, Algeria played host to the 4th Summit of our Movement. My mother, who participated in the Conference had accepted your invitation to visit your country again and was keen to come here. I am here today, in fulfilment of that promise.

The objectives which our two countries and the rest of the Non-Aligned community hold dear, are under serious challenge. The arms race is being escalated. Programmes of former colonies to achieve development are rendered daily more difficult because of the gradual drying up 'of multilateral aid and the reluctance to reform the international economic system.

Within the Non-Aligned group, there are unfortunate discords and conflicts. The Iran-Iraq war shows no signs of abating or ending; the Palestinians are no nearer the realisation of their dreams of living peacefully in their homeland. The countries of Southern Africa are threatened by racist South Africa.

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It is important that the Non-Aligned should overcome bilateral differences amongst themselves and work more resolutely for international peace and cooperation.

Fortunately the relations between Algeria and India have always been marked by harmony and likemindedness. By continuing to work together we can be of help to others. Meanwhile, we must and I am sure we shall further deepen and develop our bilateral cooperation.

Once again I thank President Chadli and the Prime Minister for this invitation. Long live Indo-Algerian friendship in the cause of world peace and cooperation.

GERIA INDIA USA IRAN IRAQ SOUTH AFRICA CHAD

**Date :** Jun 10, 1985

## Volume No

1995

### PRIME MINISTER'S TOUR ABROAD

#### Prime Minister's Statement at Algiers Airport before Departure

The following is the text of a press release of the text of the statement made by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, at the Algiers airport before his departure for Washington yesterday (Jun 11, 1985):

My visit to Algiers has been brief but most useful. I have had extensive discussions with President Chadli, the Prime Minister and other Ministers. These discussions have been marked by an extraordinary degree of understanding and similarity of outlook. The President is an eminent international statesman. His views on the world situation and the Non-Aligned Movement were very valuable for me. It is gracious of him to have found so much time for these talks during the month of Ramadan.

#### COURAGE AND SACRIFICE

The courage and sacrifice of the Algerian people in their quest for freedom are well-known. I came face to face with Algeria's history when I visited the magnificent monument to martyrs. Today, you are engaged in the challenging task of nation-building. During our talks we have decided that India should play a greater role in Algeria's plans of technological modernisation. India will also buy oil from Algeria so as to enlarge the area of cooperation. Indo-Algerian relations, which have always been close, will now move to a higher stage. We shall also be coordinating more closely our work in the Non-Aligned Movement and in the international forums.

Once again, I thank President Chadli and the Government of Algeria. To the people of Algeria I give my own good wishes and those of the people of India.

GERIA USA CHAD INDIA

**Date :** Jun 11, 1985

## Volume No

1995

### PRIME MINISTER'S TOUR ABROAD

#### Prime Minister's Speech at Banquet in Cairo

The following is the text of a press release of the text of the speech delivered by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, at the banquet held in his honour in Cairo 'on Jun 05, 1985: ,

We meet as representatives of two of the oldest mother civilizations of the world. We met also, Mr. President, as heirs to the nationalist movements led and inspired by two towering freedom fighters: Sa'ad Zaghloul Pasha and Mahatma Gandhi. Binding us is the policy of Non-Alignment, expounded by Nasser and Nehru. When Egypt and India meet, it is, in the words of an Egyptian poet, a union of Nile and the Ganges.

We have given much to each other and to the world. Millennia ago, in the days of the early Pharaohs, brave sailors from India carried to Egypt perfumes and  
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spices, pearls and brocades, and Egypt sent us coral and rosewater, gold and saffron. Queen Hatshep-Sut despatched envoys to India in the fifteenth century BC - which we might take as the commencement of our mutual diplomatic relations. More than 2200 years ago, Emperor Ashoka's missionaries took the message of the Buddha to Egypt, leading to the establishment of an Indian settlement in Alexandria. The famed Egyptian explorer, Udoxus, twice made perilous voyages to our country, once at the behest of Queen Cleopatra. And from the Arabs to India, came the message of the Prophet. Our languages have enriched each other's.

#### INDIA'S LITERATURE

India's literature, notably the Panchatantra, travelled to Europe through Arabic translations, algebra and arithmetic were our

common gift to mankind: consequently, what the west calls 'Arabic Numerals', the Arabs call 'Al-Arkaan Al-Hindiyya'. Our astronomy, our science and our medicine have brought knowledge and succour to humanity.

Later came our common subjugation. Both Egypt and India broke the fetters of foreign domination within a few years of each other. As newly freed countries, they together elaborated the philosophy of Non-Alignment. Peace can be preserved: not through an inherently unstable balance of terror, nor through the imposition of any hegemony, but only by peaceful coexistence among equal and sovereign countries. Our methodology is not confrontation but consensus, not domination but dialogue.

One of the first votes cast by independent India in the United Nations was our vote against the partition of Palestine. We have consistently and uncompromisingly supported the just Arab cause. We support the struggle of the Palestinian people led by the PLO as their sole, legitimate representative. Israel must withdraw from all occupied Arab lands. The Palestinian people cannot be denied a homeland of their own.

The tragic conflict between Iran and Iraq, two members in the Non-Aligned Movement has led to untold suffering to their peoples and caused us deep anguish. We are in close contact with the leaders of both countries and our efforts to restore the peace are complementary to the initiatives being taken by others to the same end. A de-escalation and cessation of hostilities is our common objective. We must persevere.

#### SWAPO

We both abhor racialism and apartheid. South Africa and Namibia must be rid of these. We reaffirm our solidarity with the oppressed people of South Africa. We reiterate our support for the Namibians' struggle for freedom, led by SWAPO.

From its very inception the Non-Aligned Movement has regarded war as an anachronism belonging to past epochs of human history. We have yet to mould the world in that vision. The arms race continues unabated. The leaders of six nations issued an appeal followed by the January 1985 Delhi Declaration. We called upon the nuclear weapon States to halt and reverse the nuclear arms race to prevent an arms race in outer space, to conclude a comprehensive weapons test ban treaty, and to proceed with all deliberate speed towards dismantling and outlawing all nuclear weapons.

At the Non-Aligned Summit in Cairo in 1964 we affirmed collective responsibility for meeting the natural aspirations of mankind to live in a better world. Two decades later disparities have grown and large numbers of people in the developing world find their conditions of living threatened by a world economic system which

bears especially harshly on the poor. We witness a retreat from multilateralism which for long was regarded the basis for international economic cooperation. These trends must be reversed. It is in the interest of both the developed and developing countries that this should be done.

Mr. President, I recall with pleasure and satisfaction your visit to India in  
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November 1982 and again at the time of the Seventh Non-Aligned Summit. My mother was to have returned the visit in April 1984. Her blessings are with us as we renew our pledge to further our mutual understanding and cooperation.

My wife and I are deeply grateful for your Warm welcome and hospitality. We shall retain very happy memories of our visit.

I have special pleasure in proposing a toast to the personal health and happiness of Your Excellency and Madame Mubarak, to the well-being and prosperity of the friendly Egyptian people, and to the further consolidation of relations between our governments and people.

YPT USA INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC ISRAEL IRAN IRAQ NAMIBIA SOUTH AFRICA

**Date :** Jun 05, 1985

## Volume No

1995

PRIME MINISTER'S TOUR ABROAD

Welcome Address by Mr. Laurent Fabius on Arrival of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi In France

The following is the text of welcome address of Mr. Laurent Fabius, Prime Minister of the French Republic in honour of Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, Prime Minister of India, on Jun 06, 1985:

Mr. Prime Minister, Madam, Ladies and Gentlemen, on behalf of the Government and the people of France allow me, first of all, to convey my profuse greetings to you. This is one of your first visits abroad, since you have been vested with the great responsibility of India's destiny. It is an honour for my fellowmen. This is also a mark of friendship which we appreciate keenly. We will do our best to respond and make your visit a success by showing you France in its multiple facets, such as it is today, and what we hope for in the future.

Mr. Prime Minister, along with the President of the Republic, you will be inaugurating the India Year. You will then, in turn, be introducing your country to us. It is also a product of a long history and wants to adapt to the requirements of modern times and this is even a priority. This meeting of two peoples and of two cultures which will be crystallised tomorrow was very important to Mrs. Gandhi and YOU would be more aware of this. Your Presence symbolises the value that you, in turn, attach to it.

But this gesture reflects even more Your willingness to extend the initiative given by Mrs. Gandhi, who was a very great Indian and a sincere friend of France.

There seems no better occasion than today, as we are gathered this evening to unite our thoughts in her memory, I cannot imagine a better homage to her memory than this Festival which will take place in the coming months, with its numerous events. Such an event has never taken place in France. It is true that perhaps no other nation, Mr. Prime Minister, can evoke a similar interest here.

This is evidently- a matter of great satisfaction. But, if I may say so, it reveals paradoxically, serious shortcomings bequeathed by history. which distances worsen. For it is a matter of regret, but we can face this between friends: our People do not know each other as well as they would like to. And when I say our people, I would like to speak of our youth, universities and laboratories, artists and business concerns, people in charge of defence and all that forges the links between our Governments in particular. This gap was one of the reasons which led us to renew our cooperations, four years ago. Today, results which are substantial and even at times remarkable have been achieved. We congratulate ourselves on this. I am thinking mainly of what has been accomplished in the cultural field, fundamental research (science), in industry, telecommunications, aluminium industry, energy and civil and military aviation.

This advancement needs to be consolidated and developed. To put it more clearly, they still fall short of the ambitions

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which countries like ours can rightfully, foster.

What are these ambitions? Their basis is first of all political in the widest sense of the term. Our environments are markedly disparate. The important thing is to go beyond the specifics and agree upon the essence. The essential can be expressed in two simple principles. The first is that the people of each country should determine their own destiny, that nobody, however powerful, has the right to dictate behaviour to another. The second, which complements it, would like solidarity between the

North and the South to be the salvation in today's world, as also the setting up of an economic and monetary order which establishes a balance, increases justice and spurs growth.

Our bilateral cooperation, Mr. Prime Minister, is nothing but an implementation of these principles. On the one hand, it is a very concrete way of strengthening our independence having a certain number of technical, complex and costly procedures. By sharing this know-how, without reserve or interference, we are enlarging the sphere of freedom, without which neither India nor France would be worthy of their tradition. By doing so, we can claim to start a collaboration which other industrialized and developing countries are free to emulate.

But that is not all. Since your arrival to power, Mr. Prime Minister, you have devoted yourself to an immense task of renovation which is striking in its magnitude and scope. France is following these efforts with great interest, and wishes every success. For her part, she is equally committed to a modernisation plan, under the guidance of the President of the Republic. Our project, like yours banks on future activities in order to solve today's problems. During my visit to India, 18 months ago, when I had the pleasure of meeting you for the first time, I could gauge the high standards achieved by your researchers and engineers. Your visit is now an opportunity to see some of our achievements for which France prides herself. I hope that your talks with the President, our talks, your meeting with representatives of various circles will enable you to gauge our mutual skills and means. They are quite vast. It is up to us to define the directions of an increased and diversified collaboration, on the basis of our experiences.

Mr. Prime Minister, Madam, I wish all success to our talks and your stay. I wish for a strong and prosperous India and the continuous development of our friendly relations and cooperation.

Long live Indo-French friendship!  
Long live India! Long live France!

A FRANCE INDIA

**Date** : Jun 06, 1985

**Volume No**

1995

PRIME MINISTER'S TOUR ABROAD

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## Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's Speech at Banquet

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The following is the text of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's speech at the banquet in Paris on Jun 06, 1985:

Prime Minister, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, my wife and I are delighted to be here. We thank you for your welcome and your hospitality. I am very happy to be amongst you as we start the year of India in France. I bring you greetings from the people of India.

France is the symbol of a whole series of values and achievements. Your passion for liberty and reason, your contribution to the arts and to good taste, the work of your thinkers, scientists and technologists cannot easily be matched or surpassed by any other nation.

These have influenced the people of India in many ways. There have been old ties between us. Historians tell us that one of the cities where the proclamation of the French Revolution was read out was in Srirangapatnam, the capital of Tipu Sultan in Southern India. Pondicherry  
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became the haven of many of our freedom fighters. Some of them, like Sri Aurobindo and Subramania Bharati, made immortal contributions to the realms of thought and poetry.

French scholars have had a special feeling for Indian philosophy and epics. The great Jules Michele, on reading the Ramayana, called it a book of divine harmony, - an ocean of love, compassion and clemency. Auguste Rodin went into lyrical rapture when he first beheld the image of Nataraja. Romain Rolland befriended Rabindranath Tagore and Mahatma Gandhi. In our own day Andre Malraux has spoken of the importance of France and India understanding each other and working together. One of the objects of the Year of India, I believe, is to enable everyone to experience what these savants had beheld.

What is India? A vast stretch of land with the widest conceivable geographical diversity where the arts of contemplation, cultivation and commerce sprang up very early in history. The people of India have belonged to many racial stocks but they have always had a strong sense of oneness. Those of Mesopotamia, Egypt, Iran, China and Greece, recognised this distinctiveness. The early achievements of India in mathematics, medicine and metallurgy were avidly studied by scholars of other lands. India's textiles, spices, steel, teak and ships were sought by other peoples. It is the home of all the great religions of the world - Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism and Sikhism were born there, and Judaism, Zoroastrianism, Christianity and Islam have had countless adherents among its people for centuries. The major modern languages of India are as numerous as those of Europe, and

arose about the same time.

What has made India survive as a civilisation is its extraordinary capacity to accept, absorb and assimilate, to tolerate diversity and take the whole view. Today we want to assimilate the fruits of modern knowledge and modern technology without giving up our heritage. Our political and cultural resurgence whose spirit was symbolised by Mahatma Gandhi, Rabindranath Tagore and Jawaharlal Nehru, was one of the least chauvinistic of any mass movements. Even before we became free, we had developed a world view based on equality, co-existence and cooperation. And so India became non-aligned. Non-alignment implies an active effort to build friendships.

For three and a half decades, development in a peaceful world has been India's preoccupation. The Indian economy, which used to be cited as an example of the stagnancy bred by colonialism, is today astir and moving forward. We have trebled our food production and completed building the foundations of self-reliance. A new phase of growth has begun. Our objective today is to achieve faster development and ensure that its fruits reach millions of more people who are waiting for them. Whatever we have achieved has whetted our people's appetite for more. This can be met only if we infuse and develop more technology and place greater emphasis on efficiency and quality. We have benefitted in the past in many ways from the help given by France. We look forward to a further expansion of economic cooperation between our two countries in numerous areas of industry, science and technology on a long-term basis.

The last 35 years have seen a steady strengthening of the fellow-feeling between our two countries. Jawaharlal Nehru and Indira Gandhi, who both had a deep love for France and its political and cultural heritage, attached special importance to the development of closer relations with France. Successive French Governments have felt the same way about India and shown special understanding of our problems. Individuality and the spirit of independence make us stand up and voice our independent outlook on international relations. We both recognise the importance of a multipolar heterogeneous world.

We are particularly heartened by President Mitterrand's strong advocacy of a productive North-South dialogue. He has been consistently and eloquently drawing the world's attention to the connection between disarmament and development. France and India have regularly exchanged views on both these great issues of our day.

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It is imperative that we work together to halt the incipient retreat from multilateralism. India and the Non-Aligned Movement stand for general and complete disarmament. Early this year six nations from five continents issued the Delhi Declaration

outlining steps for pulling the nuclear fangs of militarism. I am sure that France and India will always be together on the path to peace and human harmony.

Victor Hugo, who died a hundred years ago, had said: "I represent a party which does not yet exist: the party of revolution, civilisation. This party will make the twentieth century." Perhaps not without significance, my party, the Indian National Congress was born in that same year!

Ladies and gentlemen, may I now request you to raise your glasses to the health of His Excellency the President of the Republic of France and Madame Mitterrand, to the health of the Prime Minister, and to the lasting friendship between the peoples of France and India.

ANCE INDIA USA IRAN CHINA EGYPT GREECE

**Date :** Jun 06, 1985

## Volume No

1995

### PRIME MINISTER'S TOUR ABROAD

Festival of India - Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's Inaugural Speech

The following is the text of speech by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, at the inauguration of the Festival of India at Paris on Jun 07, 1985:

It is in the rightness of things that the inauguration of the Annee de l'Inde should take place in the city of Paris in spring when the flowers of this ancient yet ever-young city are in bloom and people rejoice at earth's new awakening. Coming together in a Mela - a milieu for the mingling of peoples for rejoicing and sharing - two cultures will meet and get acquainted. Two peoples with a vast capacity for joy, with an indomitable spirit and vital concern for liberty, will meet and get acquainted. Two rivers, the waters of the Ganga and the Seine will mingle. Like the symbolic meeting of the rivers, dancers, musicians and bards from India travel to distant cities in the heartlands of France, germinating an ever new spirit of friendship.

On behalf of my people, of my wife and myself I would like to express my thanks to the warmth and friendship I have received, to your great President and the people of this country. My mother loved France, delighted in its poetry and in its culture and the

intellectual ferment amongst its people.

We send our greetings and our good wishes to M. Jean Riboud, Chairman, l'Annee de l'Inde in France. We have been concerned to hear of his indisposition. His support has been a major factor in determining the scope and vitality of the many events programmed. Through Madame Krishna Riboud we send him our salutations and good wishes for a speedy recovery.

May I on behalf of the people of India thank you, Mr. President, for all that has been done by your Government, by the Mayor of Paris, by your cultural personalities and the people of France to make this Year of India a success.

DIA FRANCE USA

**Date :** Jun 07, 1985

## Volume No

1995

### PRIME MINISTER'S TOUR ABROAD

#### Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's Address at UNESCO

The following is the text of address by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, at the UNESCO, Paris, on Jun 07, 1985:

Director-General, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, it is an honour to be in UNESCO, which Jawaharlal Nehru called the "conscience of the world community". The purpose of UNESCO, in the words of Dr. Radhakrishnan, the philosopher who became our President, is to foster libera-  
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lity, understanding and freedom, the "truths of the spirit".

UNESCO deals with education, science and culture. It is possible for a person to have gone to school and yet be uncultured. It is also possible to be uneducated in the formal sense, yet cultured, as millions of people who are bred on orally transmitted wisdom are. One may be so exclusively immersed in a highly specialised discipline as to be impervious to larger impulses. A few years ago we used to hear a great deal about the two cultures and their mutual exclusiveness. That very debate led to the introduction of the humanities and social sciences in science courses. The rigid categorisations of yesterday are giving way to broader-based scientific disciplines.

We are becoming increasingly aware of the inter-relationship of various branches of knowledge and of various phenomena. Sages with insight have always known and proclaimed the wholeness of life and of knowledge. But lesser people, as in the story of the blind men and the elephant, claim that only their own perception is valid. Science has begun to obliterate the dividing line between matter and energy, between mind and matter, between the living and the non-living.

Education has a key role to play in understanding the world, in coping with life, in adding savour to existence. There is practically no country in the world which is satisfied with its educational system. For centuries education was the preserve of the few. But all societies now are casting aside old hierarchies, castes and vested interests. Education has come to be regarded as a basic human right.

True education, Ruskin said, is training which makes people "happiest in themselves and also most serviceable to others". One of the basic functions of education is evidently to make a person productive. But it is more important to enlarge his total personality. Excessive emphasis on the utilitarian has led to the materialism that bedevils modern life. In fact it is not even very practical. The acquisition of today's vocational skills will not suffice when technologies are changing fast. The silicon chip has already joined the wheel, steampower and the internal combustion engine as a major turning point in the development of technology. The technological revolution, which is upon us, is changing the types of education, patterns of employment, levels of productivity and techniques of training. What serves is not just a skill but the skill to imbibe new skills, a mind that can cope with new situations and challenges, a temperament that is confident, cooperative and creative.

Education has made impressive quantitative progress in India. We have about 120 million children at school. Our universities have grown. But a large number of our young do not know what to do with themselves. They are ill-equipped to deal with today's problems, not to speak of tomorrow's challenges. We have taken UP the task of educational restructuring. New advances in communication and transfer of knowledge Provide us an Opportunity to Overcome some of the limitations of conventional approaches to schooling. They can disseminate ideas that will help people overcome social and economic handicaps and also give them access to the best by way of quality and authenticity.

That does not mean we are neglecting institutionalised education. We are emphasizing the schooling of girls. We are working on strategies to reduce the rate of drop-outs. We are redesigning the linkages between the world of learning and the world of work. We are establishing Open universities and centres of excellence.

All this is a gigantic task. It needs vast resources. Even more, it needs the best available intellectual talent and dedication. Non-formal education calls for considerably greater imagination and the innovative use of information technology.

It is not enough if we set out to do what has been done in the more affluent countries. The answer to the educational  
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problems of developing countries is not imitation. Conventional indices do not tell the full story. Total literacy need not lead to great wisdom or less of violence and venality. The educational challenges of the so-called advanced are no less daunting than those in supposedly backward countries. Both must join hands in the endeavour of moulding better minds and better hearts.

Civilizations such as India's, which stretch back into antiquity, have a special responsibility to ensure that they modernize themselves without losing the inner core of their spirituality and traditions. "Tradition", said Indira Gandhi, who represented India on UNESCO's Executive Board of several years, "is not just the past. It is that part of the past which lives on in the present, and enables the people to face the challenges of the future.

UNESCO has done notable work in helping to preserve some of such priceless treasures of the human heritage as Abu Simbel, Mohenjo-Daro, the Acropolis, Bamiyan and Borobodur. India is seeking the organisation's support in preserving our monuments at Ajanta, Ellora, Mahabalipuram, Konarak, and that marvel in marble, the Taj Mahal at Agra. Besides ensuring that archaeological monuments withstand the ravages of the elements, societies must also be helped to conserve their songs and stories. Inculcation of an instinct of conservation is the best antidote to the exploitative tendency.

In science, the emphasis has been too much on utility and not so much on the joy of discovering the laws that govern natural phenomena, on casting aside prejudice, on being ready to give up what is not tenable. Science has been so submissive to the purposes of the State that the globe is today burdened with a destructive power which can extinguish all life and reduce us to a planet of grey ash and silence. Martin Luther King bemoaned that we have guided missiles and misguided man. Working for peace is one of the functions assigned to UNESCO by its very charter.

The peoples of the world must know more about one another. Modern communications, it is said, have made the world a global village. We in India are indeed using satellite technology to take the world to everyone's doorstep. But people very often are at the mercy of the media. More information must lead to greater strength for the individual, and not greater manipulation of his mind by image-builders and propagators of prejudice. Excessive

power over the means of communication on the part of a handful of countries is not conducive to real freedom as it affects the right to inform and the right to be informed of people in the less developed countries. The UNESCO's Constitution asks it to promote communication in order to promote understanding. In doing so, it is not our desire to put information in any straitjacket or to suborn the institutions of others. We support UNESCO's New World Information and Communication Order in order to ensure the participation of all peoples in life-enhancing knowledge.

UNESCO has problems. We know that almost all international organisations are under pressure today because strong nations have tried to bend them to their purposes. There is an unfortunate retreat from multilateralism and internationalism. All who care for a saner and more equitable world order must come to the help of UNESCO in its hour of trial. India will support any constructive effort which will resolve UNESCO's dilemmas. There is no human institution which cannot work better than it is doing. But to turn away from UNESCO is to turn away from universal cooperation and to reject the democracy of international relations in world bodies.

Human history is a story of bondage and freedom, of strife and harmony, of rivalry and cooperation, of aggression and accommodation. As the great Indian saint, Guru Nanak, proclaimed, man is born to be free, history is basically the record of man's search for freedom, for beauty, for meaning and fulfilment'. It is only through acceptance of co-existence,  
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through a willingness to preserve the wonderful diversity of the earth, through seeking the new and fusing it with the old, that civilisation, built with the bricks of education, science and culture, can be preserved and enriched.

"I shall tell you a great secret, my friend", wrote Albert Camus: "Do not wait for the last judgment. It takes place every day". It is inner strength and repose that help us to survive that judgement. UNESCO must build not only defences against war in the minds of men and women, but defences against de-humanisation.

Thank you for giving me this opportunity to be with you.

ANCE USA INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date** : Jun 07, 1985

**Volume No**

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1995

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Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's Speech at Civic Reception

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The following is the text of speech by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, at the, Civic Reception at Paris on Jun 08, 1985:

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen, I am grateful to you, Mr. Mayor and to the Council of Paris for having invited me to this most beautiful Civic Centre of your magnificent city. I am delighted to be in your midst.

Yesterday, President Mitterrand and I inaugurated the Year of India. There was a tremendous public response. Thousands of Parisians, milling around the Mela on the Trocadero, made India their home for an evening. My grateful thanks to you for having made this area available for such a festival for the first time in over half a century. I thank you also for all the help, cooperation and personal interest you have taken. Over the next 12 months, Paris will see performances of traditional folk art, classical dances and music, exhibitions of contemporary modern art, photography, textiles, architecture and cinema from India. Our 700 artists and performers will not only project to you the culture of India but also benefit immensely from the cultural life of Paris.

Mr. Mayor, Paris is a city of extra-ordinary charm. The splendid monuments and museums of this city treasure some of the finest creations of mankind. Paris adroitly combines a rich heritage of bygone centuries with all that is modern. The skilful manner in which the city has adapted to the needs of a fast changing world, without losing its moorings in the past, is a lesson for us who are coping with rapid urbanisation, with the change from yesterday to today.

Mr. Mayor, we recall your visit to, India in January 1976, when important steps were taken towards development of mutually beneficial cooperation between our two countries. We have built on that. We look forward to further developing and diversifying India's already-excellent relations with France.

Thank you.

ANCE INDIA USA

**Date :** Jun 08, 1985

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1995

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PRIME MINISTER'S TOUR ABROAD

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Special Session of I.L.O. in Switzerland - Prime Minister's Address

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The following is the text of a press release of the text of the address of the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, to the special session of the International Labour Conference at the Palace of Nations, Geneva, on Jun 17, 1985:

It is a pleasure to be with you this morning. The International Labour Conference  
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conference brings together governments, workers and employers. The ILO champions the rights of those who through their labour create wealth for their nations and peoples. I am grateful for the special honour you have done me in asking me to address this Session. I also thank the Canton authorities of Geneva and the Federal Government of Switzerland for their gracious welcome.

The underprivileged, the poor and the disinherited have won many an important victory, but the struggle must continue. Millions of poverty-stricken people in Asia, in Africa and in Latin America are denied fulfilment of basic human needs. Even today starvation is a stark reality in some parts of the world. The ravaged faces of men, women and children seeking food are an indictment of the existing world order. The great moral paradox of want amidst plenty is yet to be resolved.

It is in this larger perspective that we have to consider the role of the ILO. What we do here must, relate to the major issues of our time, else our work and our achievements will not endure.

#### SOCIAL JUSTICE

The basic objective of the ILO is to secure social justice and peace through international cooperation. Just as the ILO was the response of the international community to the exploitation of labour, the UN system as a whole was a response to the utter futility of the methods devised earlier to preserve peace and to promote a just world order. We had hoped that the hour of international cooperation had come.

And so it seemed for some time. Although armed conflicts did not disappear, and the theme of development did not always have an easy passage, the belief in the positive force of collective action through multilateral institutions gained strength. The ideals of the UN Charter were the source of inspiration for several international organisations and specialised agencies.

Many crises were overcome. World opinion was mobilised for a vast cooperative effort to banish the scourges of war and want.

Today the very idea of joint international endeavour for peace and prosperity is under challenge. We are witnessing a retreat from multilateralism. Doubt, discord and dissension are gnawing at the system. There are pressures for conformity. There is reluctance to consider the wider effects of a policy that small groups of countries may wish to pursue to meet the world economic crisis. The theme of interdependence is publicly professed, but diluted in practice. The dialogue to create understanding is encountering serious resistance.

## SCARCE RESOURCES

Forty years after the end of the second world war, the dark and lengthening shadow of a nuclear holocaust lies across the future of mankind. The crushing burden of armaments grows. Scarce resources are earmarked for the engines of destruction, while development falters for want of funds.

Are there no exits?

We in India believe that the crisis of our age can be resolved only through a renewal of commitment to the principles of the UN Charter. The ILO, the oldest representative of international cooperation, is a most appropriate forum for us to reaffirm that faith on which the United Nations was founded. We have to hold fast to the vision of a future for mankind at peace with itself and dedicated to the progress and prosperity of all.

India, which is a founder member of the ILO, has pursued these objectives in its national policies. We won our independence through a mass movement in which industrial labour and rural workers played a notable part. When we drew up our Constitution, we proclaimed that the State should make "provision for securing just and humane conditions of work" besides ensuring "a living wage and a decent standard of life to all workers, agricultural, industrial or other". These form important articles in the chapter in our Constitution

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outlining the Directive Principles of State Policy.

## PLANNED DEVELOPMENT

Over the last thirty-eight years, we have endeavoured to achieve these objectives through the process of planned development. The concept of planning grew as part of our struggle for freedom. Jawaharlal Nehru roused the Indian social consciousness to recognise that exploitation of labour was inherent in underdevelopment and that underdevelopment itself was the product of colonialism. The struggle against colonialism was

simultaneously a struggle against the deep-rooted causes of India's poverty. That is why the protection of the rights of workers has formed an integral part of our design of development. I am glad to say that our trade union movement, which has zealously guarded the rights and interests of workers, has been an enthusiastic participant in the wider process of development.

#### ORGANISED LABOUR

The wider process of development raises a number of issues which demand urgent attention. The ILO's tripartite social contract between organised labour, employers and governments has made a notable contribution in advancing the cause of social justice. However, if the ILO had remained circumscribed by that limited but important gain, it would not have been the focus of aspirations of the developing world that it is today. We know that the ILO has travelled beyond that to face the wider challenge of world poverty. The Philadelphia Declaration recognised that "poverty anywhere constitutes a danger to prosperity everywhere". This was said in 1944. This noble objective has yet to become an international reality.

#### PIONEERING WORK

The pioneering work of the ILO in the field of labour legislation has certainly produced impressive results. The basic concepts behind the ILO standards are unquestionable and universally shared. The living and working conditions of labour have improved significantly, But we are still only talking about those who are employed. And only those among the employed who are organised. What about the unemployed? What about those who are unorganised, as the vast majority of workers in developing countries are?

We must remember that in developing countries, organised labour forms a small part of the total labour force. In my country the earnings of organised labour fall within the top decile of all income-earners. Ninety per cent of all Indians earn less than the organised workers. These are the millions spread over our countryside who work as landless labour or as contract labour on building sites, in quarrying, road construction and in service trades" all at low income levels. In addition, there are millions who can find no work or who are grossly under-employed. My question is: What more can the ILO do to make these segments of labour a major focus of its activity?

I should like to tell you what we in India are doing to improve the conditions of unorganised labour. Since the mid-seventies we have implemented a series of special programmes aimed at alleviating acute poverty and increasing rural employment. These include schemes for integrated rural development, for training youth for self-employment, special programmes for hill regions, drought-prone areas and deserts, and schemes for guaranteed employment to landless rural labour. We have also paid attention

to the specific needs of women workers, the physically handicapped, and the socially disadvantaged sections of society. These anti-poverty programmes have given the poor an opportunity to be productive and have aroused tremendous enthusiasm.

The results speak for themselves. Fifteen million families below the poverty line have been helped in the last five years  
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under the integrated rural development programme. More than three hundred million man-days of additional employment are being generated under the rural employment programmes annually.

#### NEW SE-ILLS

We have still a long way to go. But where earlier there was despair, there is now hope for a new life. New skills, assets and incomes have been generated. A valuable base now exists to go forward.

In the seventh plan, which we have just launched, the thrust for social justice will be continued with greater vigour. We have learnt from experience that to achieve a significant reduction of poverty, simultaneous action is needed in several key areas.

#### EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM

We have to restructure our educational system to relate it meaningfully to employment opportunities. Our youth have to be trained to use new technology in all areas, especially agriculture, where it matters most. Modern advances in genetics and bio-technology have to be brought to the doors of our enterprising and hard working farmers. The more than five hundred thousand villages of India have to feel the beneficial impact of the new communication and information technologies. New horizons are opening up in the field of non-conventional sources of energy, in the spread of new knowledge to areas of subsistence agriculture and in agro-industry. All this cannot happen without significant, indeed revolutionary, changes in our education system.

The economic and social emancipation of women ranks high on our agenda. The totality of their welfare, equal access to education, equal wages, maternity and child benefits, special health care, the ending of socially discriminatory practices, all this will claim our attention and resources, and will raise their social status.

Above all, we shall proceed to tackle earnestly and systematically the problem of burgeoning population. This will involve measures to reduce infant mortality, ensure child survival, improve mother and child care, improve health services and provide education for responsible citizenship.

## POVERTY ALLEVIATION

Poverty alleviation is the core of our strategy for development. It is not only a function of growth. It also requires conscious State intervention. But in the ultimate analysis it is faster growth that provides us the means of intervention. We have been able to mount anti-poverty programmes precisely because we had struggled hard to build the foundations of a self-reliant and dynamic economy. In the sixth plan, the Indian economy grew at an average annual rate of over 5 per cent. For faster growth in the seventh plan, technological change will have to be qualitatively higher and swifter. Workers in India can look forward to greater opportunities of contributing to progress and sharing in it.

We are creating a policy environment conducive to faster growth, to the infusion of modern technology and to higher productivity. This has been a process of evolution. Policy changes were initiated in the early eighties. We are integrating them in a framework consistent with our philosophy of planning. And we are accelerating their pace to galvanise the vast productive forces of our society for "he welfare of the poorest sections.

These are the issues that will dominate the transition to the twenty-first century. An enormous range and complexity of issues are inherent in the management of the dramatic changes in technology for the welfare of the poor in developing countries. The development process and what it does to those without the protective umbrella of organised action must increasingly claim our attention. I trust that the work that the ILO has initiated for the weak, the unemployed and the unorganised will be further enlarged.

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## REDUCTION OF IMPORTS

We should not overlook the danger signals. Some developed countries are trying to solve the problem of unemployment through reducing or shutting out imports from developing countries. Protectionism in the developed world is growing just when developing countries are being-enjoined to liberalise their trade regimes. Sometimes the concept of fair-labour standards is invoked for perpetuating protectionism. But protecting employment in this way is bound to be a short-lived affair. If the developing countries cannot export, they will not be able to import the goods and services produced by the developed countries. And the fastest growing markets are in the developing countries. Thus protectionism has wider ramifications. It concerns not only foreign trade policies, but the basic issue of the livelihood of millions in the poor countries. Therefore, it deserves to be discussed internationally in terms of its long term impact on employment, both in the developed and developing countries.

The human dimensions of technology compel a reorientation of thinking about the whole set of relationships between developed and developing countries. The agony of Bhopal, the scene of one of the worst industrial disasters, shows the terrible dangers to which workers in high technology industries are exposed. We are taking action to mitigate the direct and the indirect effects of that tragedy. But larger questions of the social responsibility of transnational corporations arise and have to be tackled nationally and internationally, in organisations such as the ILO. It is more urgent than ever before that such corporations abide by a well-defined code of conduct. The risks facing the developing countries in the area of higher technology have increased manifold, but international procedures of surveillance of policies and practices of transnational corporations have yet to acquire form and content.

#### FRONTIER AREAS

India, which needs sophisticated technology in frontier areas, welcomes collaboration with advanced countries, but we earnestly hope there will be a more open sharing of technological information and more rigorous enforcement of safety standards.

Friends, we Indians are an ancient people. Our history goes back 5000 years. Our culture has endured through the vicissitudes of time. Always we have shown the capacity to absorb and to synthesise. Different races, cultures and religions have mingled in India to produce the rich diversity of our life. And now, after the end of colonial servitude, our young nation is showing afresh the vitality of endeavour to build a new, fuller life for our people. Our workers and peasants are in the forefront of this struggle, this demanding but very rewarding struggle. And we are struggling not only for ourselves, but for all those who are in chains everywhere else. We must wipe every tear from every eye.

This can be achieved best when nations pool their efforts and work in unison. The United Nations Charter and the constitutions of ILO and other international organisations embody a vision of global peace and prosperity. We must prevent the erosion of the United Nations system. As a popular song on the travails of the African people puts it. "We are the world, we are the children". Mankind is one. Let us not break it up by narrow domestic walls.

Mr. President, distinguished delegates, may I thank you again for the privilege of addressing you?

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ITZERLAND USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC INDIA

**Date :** Jun 17, 1985

# Volume No

1995

## PRIME MINISTER'S TOUR ABROAD

### President Reagan's Remarks at White House Welcome in Washington

The following is the text of welcome remarks by President Ronald Reagan on arrival of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi at the White House Lawn on Jun 12, 1985.

Mr. Prime Minister, Nancy and I take great pleasure in welcoming you and Mrs. Gandhi to the White House today. In 1949 your grandfather, Prime Minister Nehru, visited the United States on what he termed "a voyage of discovery." He said that though we may know the history and something of the culture of our respective countries, what is required is a true understanding and appreciation of each other.

Well, Mr. Prime Minister, your visit marks a continuation of that process of mutual discovery. Today we celebrate the depth and vitality of the ties between our nations. We Americans place great value on India's friendship. Our shared democratic ideals serve as a bridge between US. Our cultural differences enrich our relationship. Our mutual commitment to the freedom and dignity of man set us on a different road, a higher road, than governments which deny the human rights so cherished by our peoples.

Mr. Prime Minister, on this, your own voyage of discovery, you will find a deep well of affection and respect for India and its people. You will sense America's admiration for India's strength in overcoming adversities, and our heartfelt sympathy for the tragedy that you personally suffered. You will also discover that the United States remains steadfastly dedicated to India's unity and that we firmly oppose those who would undermine it.

Mr. Prime Minister, you will find that we respect India's non-alignment and recognize the pivotal role your country plays in South Asia. We are supportive of your efforts and those of others in South Asia to overcome past animosities in seeking stability, security, and cooperation in the region.

#### ENTHUSIASM

And, Mr. Prime Minister, our peoples have much to gain from one another. Enthusiasm for the growing potential of our commercial and economic relations is evidenced here. Expanding cultural, scientific, and educational exchanges will also be a great boon to both our peoples. Our countries have areas of disagreement.

Yet, these are opportunities to prove our mutual goodwill by discussing our differences forthrightly. We do so with confidence, because we are convinced that our fundamental areas of agreement far outweigh the differences of the moment.

#### CURRENT TECHNOLOGY

This understanding gives us reason for optimism about the future of our relations. Your stay with us will also provide us a better understanding of you, Mr. Prime Minister. Americans are impressed with what they've seen. Your leadership and your idealism are inspiring. We are eager to learn more of your vision for India's future. I have been impressed with your efforts to invigorate India's economy. In much of the developing world people are moving away from redistribution and state control, methods that have brought only a scarcity and suffering. New and, more successful models for development, focus on incentives, rather than controls, on production rather than redistribution. And here in the United States we've found that reducing tax rates has been the most important factor in the progress we've made. And we have every reason to look to the future with confidence and optimism.

#### OPTIMISM

Just as current technology overcame past problems, new technologies will provide solutions to maladies which today seem insurmountable. Free people, free minds, and free markets, will develop innovations which will ensure a more prosperous and peaceful tomorrow. The people of the United States look forward to work  
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ing with India in building a better tomorrow.

Three years ago, when the late Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and I met here, we agreed that a Festival of India would advance America's knowledge of India's heritage and achievements. You will inaugurate that festival, now dedicated to your mother's memory, during your visit here this week. This is an auspicious year for such a festival. As you know, it has been dubbed "the Year of India", in recognition of a resurgent American interest in India's culture and history.

#### ENRICHED BY EXCHANGE

I look forward to our talks for I am sure that, as with our predecessors, we too will be enriched by the exchange. This is an opportunity to broaden the understanding and deepen the cooperation between our countries, and to advance the cause of peace in your region and in the world.

Mr. Prime Minister, on behalf of all Americans, welcome to the United States.

A INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date :** Jun 12, 1985

## Volume No

1995

### PRIME MINISTER'S TOUR ABROAD

#### Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's Remarks at White House Welcome

The following is the text of remarks by the Prime Minister., Shri Rajiv Gandhi, at the White House Welcome on Jun 12, 1985:

Mr. President, Sonia and I are honoured and delighted to be here. I bring you, to Mrs. Reagan, and to the warm-hearted people of the United States the Indian people's greetings and friendship. Millions of Indian eyes are focussed on this spot today, leaping over oceans and continents.

#### MUCH IN COMMON

Three years ago,. welcoming Indira Gandhi, my predecessor, my mother, on this very stretch of green, you remarked so truly that our two people, with all their differences, have much in common. Yes, there are differences. But rising above them are beliefs we share in common ' in the supremacy of freedom, in the necessity of equality, in the sovereignty of the people's will.

#### EMINENT MEN

As I flew in here I saw, in passing, the memorial to Thomas Jefferson, who proclaimed in simple and stirring words that "All men are created equal and independent." Behind me is a house which has been the home of eminent men who have symbolized your nation's dreams and its drive to greatness. One of them, Abraham Lincoln, said that "A nation cannot be half slave and half free," and that "a house divided against itself cannot stand." The best minds of our age tell us that a world divided against itself cannot endure.

It should be the task of all of us who hold responsibility for other peoples lives to recognize what life and its continuous demand in this hate-filled, violence-prone world of ours demands. The inevitability of co-existence must propel us towards the imperative of cooperation.

## WORKING TOGETHER

The United States and India have been developing a tradition of working together. If my visit strengthens that tradition, it will have given further substance to what is, in any case, one of the most important and one of the most pleasantly rewarding of journeys. I look forward, in particular, to my talks with you, Mr. President. We know of your lifelong feeling for India and look forward to welcoming you there.

## FESTIVAL OF INDIA

From this week a Festival of India opens here in Washington. Several other cities will soon join in it. The festival  
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portrays India's aspirations, achievements, and ancient living heritage. I hope that it will enable the people of the United States to understand what we are, why we are so, and how the Indian civilization has endured for 5,000 years. The purpose of the festival is to secure greater understanding and, with it, greater friendship from the American people, who have themselves built a dynamic civilization. It was a great act of imagination and constructiveness when you and our late Prime Minister decided we should try to develop better grasp of each other through the medium of culture. I am sure it will provide a story for developing an understanding and cooperation in other fields.

Thank you again, Mr. President, for your welcome and for the opportunity for this renewal of our dialogue.

A INDIA

**Date :** Jun 12, 1985

# Volume No

1995

## PRIME MINISTER'S TOUR ABROAD

Speech by President Reagan at White House State Banquet

The following is the text of speech by President Reagan at the White House State Banquet held in honour of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi on Jun 12, 1985:

Good evening and welcome to the White House.

Prime Minister and Mrs. Gandhi and other distinguished guests from India, it is a pleasure to have you here. Yours is among the most ancient of cultures and ours is one of the youngest. Ours is, however, the oldest constitutional democracy and yours is relatively new - thirty eight years of age. Although young, Indian democracy has achieved strength and maturity, and today I have found that is also true of India's Prime Minister, who is just three years older than independent India.

Mr. Prime Minister, I am happy to report to all present this evening that although a few years separate us - just a few - we hit it off and just as with relations between our countries, I predict good things ahead.

Mr. Prime Minister, you were recently quoted as, saying about our two countries that basically we stand for the same things, freedom, democracy, independence. And I am sure that our meetings today reinforce that observation. To paraphrase Tolstoy, undemocratic societies are all undemocratic in their own way, but democratic societies are all alike. And so it is with India and the United States. We are ultimately so similar. And yet, like family members, we often find it hard to communicate. Today we opened up personal channels of communication that will serve our countries well.

India and the United States, Mr. Prime Minister, have enormous strengths on which we can draw in seeking to improve our relations. Democracies have valuable experiences in reconciling differing points of view within their own national societies. This is particularly true in our great nations, both mosaics of diverse cultures, religions, and languages, and the key to our success domestically is dialogue - the quality of careful listening and serious speaking one to another. Dialogue can be the key to better understanding between our nations as well.

Our meetings this week build upon the working relationship established by your late mother. Mr. Prime Minister, India and the United States have just begun to write the history of our relations. As the magnificent Festival of India will illuminate, you have enriched the world with beauty, culture, science and philosophy. Perhaps your most precious gift to us has been the many Indians who have become proud citizens of our country. Some are here tonight and they embody the human bond that is between us.

Being the Year of India in America, your visit and the Festival of India couldn't

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have been better timed. We have today set out an agenda for deepening our cooperation across a broad spectrum of issues ranging from political to economic and scientific.

This afternoon our two nations agreed to extend by an additional three years the very successful science and technology initiative launched as a result of my meetings with the late Prime Minister Indira Gandhi in 1982. This is one example - an important example - of the kind of cooperation that bodes well for the future of Indo-U.S. relations.

So let us move forward together. And with the greatest of admiration for you and the great nation you lead, I propose a toast to Indo-American friendship.

A INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date :** Jun 12, 1985

## Volume No

1995

### PRIME MINISTER'S TOUR ABROAD

Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's speech at White House Banquet

The following is the text of speech by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, at the White House Banquet on Jun 12, 1986:

Mr. President, First Lady, Ladies and Gentlemen, I feel privileged to be in this historic house once again. My wife and I are grateful for the warm and generous words you have spoken about India and about my mother. I recall the esteem she had for you. I recall also the last time she was here. A wish that you had then expressed - about holding a Festival of India - has come true. It is good of you to dedicate that Festival to Indira Gandhi's memory. We appreciate the special interest Mrs. Reagan has taken in it as Patron of the U.S. National Committee.

Every encounter between the peoples of the United States and India is an essay in understanding. It provides an opportunity for the reaffirmation of our commitment to personal liberty, to the rule of law and to free expression. We both are rather outspoken people, not known for keeping quiet about what we feel and believe. But being candid with each other is a measure of the stability of our relationship. Both of us are animated by that capacious tolerance which marks the democratic spirit. It is one of the reasons why in spite of some differences on policies and particulars, a firm people-to-people relationship endures between us. It is in that spirit that we had our conversation today, at which we discussed our assessments and concerns. You have referred to some of them. I mentioned to you our own

apprehensions at the growing militarisation of the region around India, which is increasing our burdens. We have always been against outside presences and pressures which can lead to instability. India has taken several initiatives with its neighbours to reduce tensions in South Asia. But the success of our efforts depends very much upon what the big power-s do in our region in pursuit of their interests. A stable, united, peaceful India, I should think, is in everyone's interest.

That is the India we are engaged in building. For building that India we need peace in our neighbourhood; we need peace in the world. We desire a global partnership for socio-economic development, for the satisfaction of human needs, for the promotion of mutual understanding, and for the prevention of war. Development and peace are closely linked. If disarmament is important for developed countries, it is even more relevant for the developing. We are appalled at the destructive power that men have built over the years. We are concerned about the new dimensions of the arms race. The very survival of mankind today rests in the hands of a very few countries. The world waits in fear and hope. Six nations including India recently issued an appeal for disarmament. Any positive step

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taken towards disarmament will be acclaimed and supported by India, the non-aligned community and by all the people. We welcome the negotiations between the United States and the Soviet Union at Geneva and hope that their deliberations will lead to positive results.

Non-alignment has been a positive force for peace. It stands for friendship and cooperation with all. Any nation's independence must include the option to steer clear of bloc identification. One friendship need not be at the cost of another. We want to enlarge cooperation between our two countries in numerous fields.

India today is poised for greater growth. We have taken up plans and policies to generate new employment in our rural areas and to harness the productive energies of our young. We want the nation to benefit from the enterprise latent in our people. Growth has to be carefully calibrated so that in enlarging national production, it redresses regional imbalances and ensures social justice. This is indeed the basis of our planning within our democratic system. In three decades we have tried to catch up with what others have achieved in a century or more. We have narrowed the industrial and technological gap. Our Seventh Plan envisages an investment of 150 billion dollars. We need new technology in a big way. A good part of it we will develop ourselves. But we must necessarily acquire the most advanced knowledge wherever it is generated. The United States is Pre-eminently the land of high technology. Recently, our two countries have reached an understanding on transfer of high technology. These arrangements must be worked out with speed.

Mr. President, one of your eminent predecessors, Franklin Roosevelt, had said: "The only limit to our realisation of tomorrow will be our doubts of today." These words bring out the spirit of striving which marks America. Each generation must re-establish freedom and justice. Each generation must respond to new situations.

There is just time enough to dip in "time's refreshing river". Situations change. People change. Good ideas become dull and unexciting. Sometimes they undergo distortion. The great personalities who created modern India, Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru, Indira Gandhi, have taught us to be humble and firm and to persist. Our ancient book the Bhagvad Gita told us: "To your duty alone have you a right, not to the fruits thereof." In that spirit we shall strive.

Mr. President, I thank you again for your warm welcome and generous hospitality. We hope that you will give us the pleasure of welcoming you and Mrs. Reagan in India. I now request you to join me in a toast to the health of the President and Mrs. Reagan, to the prosperity of the American people, and to growing cooperation between our two countries in the cause of a better world.

A INDIA SWITZERLAND CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date :** Jun 12, 1986

## Volume No

1995

PRIME MINISTER'S TOUR ABROAD

Speech by Secretary of State George Shultz at the StateDepartment Luncheon

The following is the text of speech by Secretary of State George Shultz at the State Department Luncheon held in honour of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi on Jun 12, 1985:

Mr. Prime Minister, Mrs. Gandhi, your visit coincides with an exciting renewal of interest in India that has been sweeping this country. India is a longstanding friend, a fellow democracy and a major player on the world scene. We welcome this visit as an opportunity to confirm our friendship and deepen our cooperation. There is much we can do together that will benefit not only our two peoples

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but also the cause of international peace, prosperity and freedom.

On this visit you will hear much mention of the Festival of India which is a vivid symbol of Indo-American friendship. The Festival is the living spirit of the pledge your mother and President Reagan made in 1982 to strengthen cultural, - educational and scientific exchange and to seek new avenues through which these activities may be placed on an enduring basis.

Our agenda, of course, goes deeper than cultural exchange. It covers the range of global, regional and bilateral issues, reflecting the important roles of world leadership that both our countries play. Our nations have a special responsibility to maintain a close dialogue and to seek a meeting of the minds on the many important matters of concern to our peoples and to the world at large.

In South Asia, we recognize India's pivotal role and special responsibilities. Despite differences, we see a significant parallelism of interests between us. America's clear interest is to support the stability, security and economic progress of all the nations of South Asia and to promote reconciliation among them.

We know that this is India's goal as well. We know with pleasure the commitment of India and Pakistan to the gradual improvement in relations envisaged in the Simla Accord of 1972. This commitment and its full realization have the greatest significance for peace ' security and stability which we all desire for South Asia.

For the same reason, the United States also believes that the tragic ordeal of Afghanistan must be brought swiftly to a peaceful and just conclusion, in accordance with U.N. General Assembly resolutions, and we will do whatever we can to promote the success of the present negotiating process under the leadership of the United Nations. Withdrawal of Soviet forces is the key to moving this process forward.

Mr. Prime Minister, we also welcome the chance to talk about global economic matters in which both our countries are deeply interested. We share a desire to combat a growing protectionist trend in the world. We share a stake in the dismantling of restrictions on the free flow of trade. The United States believes that a new GATT round will serve both these ends. We are also exchanging views on the important role of the multilateral lending institutions which the United States helped create and sustain in the Years since World War II.

Opportunities for Indo-American trade, investment and technical cooperation, particularly in high technology area such as

computers, electronics and telecommunications, are greater today than in the last several decades. Our new Memorandum of Understanding on technology transfer will give impetus to significant forward movement in this area, reflecting forward movement in our relations.

We have firmly stated from the highest levels our uncompromising opposition to terrorism in any form. Both our countries have suffered grievously from the global scourge. The United States will continue to work closely with India in the fight against terrorism, whatever its form. By our statements and by our deeds, we have made clear that we strongly support the unity, independence and territorial integrity of India against those who would undermine it.

Mr. Prime Minister, the vigour of India's democracy is an inspiration to millions around the world. It creates a special bond between us. Your visit moves our cooperation onto a higher plateau of dialogue and partnership. So, Ladies and Gentlemen, may I propose a toast to the Prime Minister and Mrs. Gandhi and to the future of our relations and to the friendship of our peoples.

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DIA USA PAKISTAN AFGHANISTAN

**Date :** Jun 12, 1985

## Volume No

1995

### PRIME MINISTER'S TOUR ABROAD

Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's speech at the State Department Luncheon

The following is the text of speech by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, at the State Department Luncheon on Jun 12, 1985:

Secretary of State Mr. Shultz, Mrs. Shultz, Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen: it is a great pleasure for us to be here amongst you in the United States. India and the United States have much in common - our beliefs that we hold so dear about the liberty, the freedom of the people, about the right of the people to choose their own systems of government. Our fight for the depressed, the suppressed, for the upliftment of those in the world who do not have all the rights that we would like them to have, that we ourselves have, is something that we must both continue.

One of the biggest dangers that is facing the world today is the threat of a nuclear holocaust. We watch with great interest your dialogue with the Soviet Union. We are worried about new directions that the arms race could take, and our interest as India, as Chairman of the Non-aligned, and as one of the six nations that got together in Delhi in January, is to try and bring about a reduction in the arms race, and an ultimate destruction of the nuclear weapons that many countries are holding in stock.

We believe that - you too would like to go along this same route. We feel that this is a question which is important not just for those countries which have nuclear weapons, but equally important for those that do not have nuclear weapons but face the danger of a holocaust from somebody else's action. Anything that the nations getting together can do to bring about the destruction, reduction, of nuclear weapons must be done and must be done fast enough.

You have mentioned the economic system of the world, some of the protectionist measures that are being taken. We too feel that the system needs a change. The protectionist measures are measures which many times are against the interests of the developing countries. And, although sometimes they're not meant to stop production from developing countries to be imported into developed countries, in fact we find that they are used as such, and we find them a great hindrance to our growth.

Similarly, we're finding that some of the actions of the international monetary institutions are making it difficult for the developing countries to move ahead as they should be. Our problems are best seen from our own points of view. It is very difficult for others to realize what the problems of a different nation are or can be.

We have a very good example in front of us all today. Twenty years ago, India was in a terrible state with its agriculture. We had had a famine and were on the verge of starvation. The US was very kind and you helped us out with your PL 480 wheat. Today, Africa is in a very similar situation. They do not have enough food to feed themselves. But in a bare twenty years, India has developed the capacity not only to feed itself, but also to be able to send 100,000 tonnes of wheat to Africa.

Now there is something there. We would have been in exactly the same place as Africa today, if we had not done things in the way that we had thought was right. We got advice from many countries. We took that advice, but we took our decision in what is right for us, and it has worked,

In Latin America, in South America, we find a tremendous debt problem. In Africa, the debt problem is building up. These are

challenges which we must face and one of the things that we have to realize is that there is no one answer to all the problems.. Each problem has its own separate answer, and it has to be tackled as such and it must be tackled by those that are in contact with that problem, who are alive to that problem at that time.

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In our region, we have tried to bring about much more cooperation. We have had South Asian Regional Cooperation meetings. India has sent people across to all our neighbours to try and sort out our bilateral problems, and we have made much headway.

The two major problems in our area Sri Lanka, with its Tamil problem, and we're very happy that just before leaving for this visit, President Jayewardene had come to India, we'd had very good talks, and both of us are optimistic that this problem will be solved and will be solved fairly fast. We have already drawn up the format of what can be done, what is possible, and on what sort of time schedule this should work. Like I said, we are both optimistic.

The other major problem that we are facing is in the Punjab. Some of it has been here in the United States. The problem in the Punjab is, I think, soluable, and I think we have made headway towards solving the problem. After our new government came in, we took a number of steps to ease the tension in the Punjab, and I'm very glad that the Akali Dal leadership has responded positively.

We now have two different groups one group with political problems,, whom we are willing to talk to. We have said very clearly that within the constraints of our Constitution and within an integral India, we're willing to discuss anything that they want to discuss. The other group, of course, are the extremists or terrorists, and we will deal with them as such.

Like you have said, we have a democratic system, in fact, a very vibrant democracy. Few countries in the world can boast the type of democracy that India has, and we're proud of it. It also allows anybody who has a grievance to express that grievance, and there should be no reason to have to resort to violence when normal procedures are open. Our press is as free as any press in the world. - some times we feel it is much too free, but that is the way we would like to keep it'

Excellency, we have so much in common, so many ideals, so many visions of the world, let us work together to build on these, to make it a better world for everyone to live in. In every small way that we can contribute, we would like to help all the other nations in the world in doing this.

May I propose a toast for cooperation between the United States

and India, better friendship between our two countries and peace in the world?

A INDIA SRI LANKA

**Date :** Jun 12, 1985

## Volume No

1995

### PRIME MINISTER'S TOUR ABROAD

Dinner by Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi in honour of VicePresident George Bush

The following is the text of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's speech at dinner hosted by him in honour of Vice President George Bush at Kennedy Centre on Jun 13, 1985:

Mr. Vice President, Ladies and Gentlemen, may I first congratulate you for your birthday yesterday Mr. Vice President? We are sorry that we couldn't lay out the dinner for you yesterday but we were involved in another engagement. But we did start the Festival of India, we opened the exhibition of bronzes and sculptures, and today we have opened the Aditi exhibition.

These two exhibitions, the beginning of the Festival, the Year of India, bring two quite different aspects of India to the Americans. Aditi is India as it is in the Villages, as our people live, their whole life really comes in front of you. The bronzes, the sculptures, show our ancient traditions and culture and how Indian civi-  
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lization now almost five thousand years old had existed and developed.

We look forward to bringing you more of India so that America, Americans, get to know India and Indians much better,

There is a lot to say... but unfortunately we are very tight and I would not like to hold things up. May I propose a toast to much better understanding between the American people and the Indian people, and for your birthday Mr. Vice President?

A INDIA

**Date :** Jun 13, 1985

## Volume No

1995

### PRIME MINISTER'S TOUR ABROAD

Reply by Vice President George Bush

The following is the text of speech by Vice President George Bush at dinner hosted in his honour by Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi at Kennedy Centre on Jun 13, 1985:

Prime Minister, thank you very much for this lovely birthday party and Barbara and I are getting to be experts in accepting our hospitality. I remember a lovely family evening in Delhi just a little over a year ago, and I know I speak for all of your guests when I say to you and Mrs. Gandhi how much we appreciate your hospitality tonight and this exceptionally special Indian cuisine which is just wonderful.

We are here to enjoy and celebrate this great Festival. We look forward to a wonderful evening and I think already, Sir, your visit has indeed enhanced the friendship and the understanding that you talked about.

Lastly, let me simply say that I wish everybody in this room could have been up in the United States Congress today, and I know I can confidently speak for the Senators on both sides of the aisle, and the Congressmen on both sides of the aisle that are here, and members of the Cabinet that are here tonight, when I say you did an outstanding job and everybody in the United States knows it. It was superb!

we , re off to the show, but before that, Sir, with the great respect that we feel for you, may I propose a toast to the friendship and understanding between India and the United States and India's outstanding Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and Mrs. Gandhi?

A INDIA

**Date :** Jun 13, 1985

Volume No

PRIME MINISTER'S TOUR ABROAD

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Prime Minister's Address to the U.S. Congress

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The following is the text of address by the Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi to the U.S. Congress on Jun 13, 1985:

Mr. Speaker, Mr. President, Distinguished Members of the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives, thirty-six years ago my grandfather, Jawaharlal Nehru, the first Prime Minister of free India, stood here, the highest forum of the great democracy of the United States of America to convey the greetings of the people of India and to offer friendship and cooperation "in the pursuit of justice, liberty and peace." This morning I have the honour to reaffirm that commitment.

I am deeply conscious of the honour you have done me in giving me an opportunity to address this Joint Meeting. I know that this is an expression of your regard for India, our people, our Parliament. On their behalf, I thank you.

The Congress embodies the vision and the will of your people. It reflects their aspirations and defends their rights. It sustains the Constitution. The U.S. Congress enjoys an exceptionally high reputation among the democracies of the world because of the ideals it has cherished through 200 years.

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CURIOSITIES OF HISTORY

The ties that bind our two peoples are many. Some are the curiosities of history. You gained your independence as we were losing ours and many of the people involved were the same. We wish that Elihu Yale had founded a university for us instead of being Governor of Madras and that Lord Cornwallis had surrendered in Delhi rather than to George Washington. It was Indian tea that stimulated your independence movement. I do not know how many of the waters around Boston are still coloured by that historic incident, but - and I am sure, Mr. Speaker that you will correct me if I am wrong - today there are thousands of people of Indian origin in your city as indeed all over the USA - who are making notable contributions to your society including the third Nobel laureate born in India, while the fourth is in Chicago.

SHARED CONVICTION

More broadly, we share the conviction that democracy is the best guarantor of enduring development: that our people must live as free individuals if their talent, energy and enterprise are to have full play; that rule over the people must be with their

consent and in their interest and by their representatives; and that the authority of the executive, the legislature and the judiciary must be completed by the freedom of the press.

The precept and example of your founding fathers were a source of inspiration for us in our struggle for independence. Mahatma Gandhi, the guiding light of our freedom movement, owed much to the thinking of Henry David Thoreau. Gandhiji gave to our freedom struggle its great distinguishing feature, which was the commitment to non-violence. He taught us that arms brutalised men and made them cowards, whereas non-violence instilled courage and self-reliance. Gandhiji's idea of non-violence as a positive moral force was later to travel beyond our borders to influence Martin Luther King in your country's Civil Rights Movement.

#### ENDING OF SUBJUGATION

Freedom for us meant the ending of colonial subjugation and working for equality amongst all nations. It was also the beginning of a grand endeavour to reform and rebuild our society on a more humane and just basis, free from religious prejudice, social inequality and economic exploitation. This was the vision of our founding fathers.

We have achieved much in the past thirty years. Our people have become the true decision-makers. They have exercised their will in eight general elections. Change has been brought about through consent and participation. India's unity has grown stronger. Its constituent regions are assured of their distinctive personality. Its democracy is alive and vibrant.

We have lifted large masses of our population from low standards of living to a fuller life today. To understand India's development process, we must go back to what India was in the early 50s at the time of our Independence. At that time India had practically no industry. We had to import simple items like sewing needles. It is from that that we have built up our industrial base. It is from a very weak, deficit agricultural economy that today we are strong, self-sufficient and able to send grains to Africa when we find out their need.

#### DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

When we look at our development process, we have to understand that when there is poverty below a certain level, the individuals find it difficult to even rise to a level from which they can be self-sustaining and they have to be helped to raise themselves and it is this that we have kept in mind when we have developed a system which we feel is suitable for India's people and India's development. It has involved a mixed economy, an economy with the public sector, with the private sector and with the mixed joint sector.

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## PRIVATE SECTOR

The largest part of our economy has always been in the private sector. Even today, after very great strides in industrialization we are approximately 60% agriculture-based and all our agriculture is in the hands of the small farmers, in private hands and the system has worked. We have shown that we can develop our old agriculture into a modern strong agriculture. But as we grow, as we develop, as we gain experience we have to look at broader horizons, we have to see which areas we can tap.

When we started out 38 years ago, we had almost no management capability, we had no technological capability. There was no way, other than the public sector ' to start the process of development. Through the public sector we have developed a management cadre, a very strong technological base, scientific base, and much of it has gone out into the private sector. As these strengths increase, we look to see how we can involve more people in our developmental process and that involves helping the private sector build themselves up. It is just such steps that we have taken this year, but we started this process 5 years ago in 1980. As we progress, as we develop, as our capabilities develop, we still have to adjust ourselves to our own situation and we will be doing that.

## AGRICULTURE

Our agriculture, which was stagnant at Independence, is today strong and dynamic. There has been a steady increase in agricultural productivity resulting from a wider spread of scientific agriculture. Food production is rising faster than the growth of our population. Consumption levels are rising steadily. Our industrial base has been transformed. Indian industry today spans a wide range of products, some of which embody high levels of modern technology. We have invested heavily in the infrastructure for development, energy, transport, communications, and other priority sectors. The base of entrepreneurship has greatly widened. We have a large pool of managerial, technical and scientific manpower.

Much of what we have done we have done ourselves. Ninety per cent of the investment in our economy is financed from our own resources. But the economic and technological help we received from our friends was extremely important. U.S. economic assistance was of great help to us especially during the sixties. American scientific and technological assistance played a crucial role in helping to bring about the Green Revolution. Multilateral institutions such as the International Development Association have also helped us a great deal. To your scientists and technologists, and to the American people, I should like to say that the people of India will always be grateful.

## TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY

Our task today is to bring India to the threshold of the 21st century. Free of the burden of poverty, legacy of our colonial past, and capable of meeting the rising aspirations of our people. This will require sustained effort on our part.

We shall continue the emphasis on key areas such as agriculture, irrigation, infrastructure development. We have to modernise much of our existing industry, increase productivity and making it internationally competitive. We must also develop industrial capability in new fields. All this means large investments. Equally, it means the absorption of modern technology.

As a developing economy, much of the technology we need will be technology that we will generate ourselves, that will be appropriate to our situation. But at the same time there is immense scope for the application of modern technology to solve many of our crucial problems. The latest advances in biogenetics can help to further our efforts at agricultural development. Sophisticated techniques of  
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weather forecasting can make an immense difference to agricultural production. The application of computerised control system can help to optimise production and process planning in industry. The United States is an important source of technology in many of these areas. Our governments have recently reached an understanding on the export of high technology from the US to India. We see this as the beginning of a substantial partnership to our mutual benefit.

## NEW DELHI NAM SUMMIT

The-New Delhi Summit of the Nonaligned Movement made a number of proposals for the revival of the world economy in a mutually beneficial manner. These proposals remain valid and urgent today. Confidence in international economic cooperation needs to be restored.

There was a time when the world community stood firmly committed to the idea of international economic cooperation through multilateral action. The United States played a leading role in developing this consensus.

Recent years have seen a sad erosion in this commitment. Concessional assistance is drying up at a time when it is needed most. Trade barriers are going up. The livelihood of millions in developing countries is jeopardised. None of this is really beneficial to the developed countries. Greater growth in the developing world means greater demand for industrial goods and services in the developed countries. Growth enlarges markets to the benefit of all.

## WORLD PROSPERITY

World prosperity above all requires world peace, and world peace today is far too fragile. We believe that world peace is strengthened by acceptance of the principles of non-alignment. The essence of non-alignment is peaceful coexistence. We are opposed to the polarisation of the world into rival military blocs. We stand for the right of the people to choose their own ways of life and the eschewal of interference and intervention in the internal affairs of our countries.

Non-alignment is the extension of the idea of democracy to international relations. India has tried to live up to these principles by keeping out of military alliances. The enlargement of the area of non-alignment reduces the danger of global conflicts.

## DISARMAMENT

India and the Non-aligned Movement fervently advocate disarmament, especially nuclear disarmament. Our ultimate objective must be general and complete disarmament under effective international supervision. We may move towards these goals in phases, through arms control which seeks to progressively lower the level at which the balance of armaments is maintained. We are concerned about any new dimensions to the arms race. This only makes the ultimate objective more difficult to achieve. Hence our deep reservation about the militarisation of outer space.

India is apprehensive about the establishment of military bases in various parts of the world. We are directly affected by the militarisation of the Indian Ocean and the inflow of the increasingly sophisticated arms into our neighbourhood.

We desire peace, good neighbourliness and friendly cooperation in South Asia. We have taken several initiatives bilaterally to improve our relations with our neighbours. We propose to build upon the natural goodwill and sense of brotherhood of our peoples. The contours of South Asian regional cooperation have been etched. Before the end of this year, at Dhaka in Bangladesh, we expect to launch the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation.

## AFGHANISTAN

Afghanistan and South-West Asia are on all our minds. Outside interference and intervention have put in jeopardy

the stability, security and progress of the region. We are opposed to both foreign presences and pressures. The one is

advanced as a justification for the other. We stand for a political settlement in Afghanistan that ensures sovereignty, integrity, independence and nonaligned status, and enables the refugees to return to their homes in safety and honour. 'Such a settlement can only come through dialogue and a realistic consensus among the parties directly concerned. The UN Secretary-General has taken an initiative in this direction. We fully support that initiative. )

## HUMAN CAUSES

The peoples of India and the United States are not allies in security strategies, but they are friends in larger human causes - freedom, justice and peace. One of your wise and eloquent men, Justice Learned Hand asked: "What is the spirit of liberty"? and he gave the answer in these words: "The spirit of liberty is the spirit which is not too sure that it is right; the spirit of liberty is the spirit which seeks to understand the minds of the other men and women; the spirit of liberty is the spirit which weighs their interest alongside its own without bias."

## PATH OF TOLERANCE

This is the path of tolerance we urge. Let us recognize that intolerance is based on fear. What mankind needs today is abhaya, the joy of fearlessness. A verse of the Rig-Veda, our ancient book, said, and I quote:

"Breathe on us fearlessness,  
Heaven and Earth  
By the strength of the omnipresent,  
By the light of the omniscient,  
May we be free from fear!  
From the North and the South,  
The East and the West,  
Let light direct on this world  
sustenance, welfare, and ease.  
May we be granted freedom removing all fear,  
Deflecting all wrath."

## RIGHTS OF MAN

Members of the Congress, the American revolution asserted the rights of man. Liberty and equality were inscribed on the banner of history. These powerful concepts were to change the direction mankind was to take. But peace, which brings happiness, eludes us. Is it because we have frozen the world order in the mould of the eighteenth century? Tagore, our great poet, spoke of the "idolatry of geography." Nationalism, untempered by the vision of human brotherhood, is an inadequate framework for peace. Should we not strive, each in one's imperfect manner, for a new Commonwealth based on the revolutionary developments that have not ceased since your Republic was founded? Even though we are

not economically or militarily powerful and you are, this is a task that beckons us all. This noble enterprise will in a profound sense be the fulfilment of your Revolution.

#### GREATER UNDERSTANDING

I have no doubt that this visit will help to bring about greater understanding between our countries. I am deeply touched by the warm welcome I have received. My talks with President Reagan and his colleagues have been most valuable and have been characterised by open-mindedness and receptivity. I have also met a number of your distinguished scientists and entrepreneurs. Through them I have seen at first hand the great Vitality and energy of the United States and also the depth of affection for, and interest in, India. This week we have also inaugurated a Festival of India to give millions of people here the opportunity to see Indian art, dance and music, which perhaps they would normally have had no chance to experience. I hope the Festival will mark a beginning this year of deeper understanding of India and its rich and varied culture in the United States.

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#### FIRM FOUNDATION

I have been elected Prime Minister of India at a time when our nation stands poised for a new surge of growth. Our leaders in the past thirty years have established firm foundations on which we have now to build. India is an old country but a young nation: and like the young everywhere, we are impatient. I am young, and I too have a dream. I dream of an India - strong, independent, self-reliant and in the front rank of the nations of the world in the service of mankind. I am committed to realising that dream through dedication, hard work and the collective determination of our people. We will welcome all the cooperation that we can get.

I thank you once again for the opportunity of sharing my thoughts with you.

A INDIA LATVIA BANGLADESH AFGHANISTAN

**Date :** Jun 13, 1985

## Volume No

1995

PRIME MINISTER'S TOUR ABROAD

Festival of India - Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's Message

The following is the text of message from Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi at the inauguration of Festival of India in Washington, Jun 10, 1985:

The United States of America was the first colony to proclaim independence. India's independence, won 39 years ago, tolled the end of the era of empires. Love of freedom unites our two countries, transcending the disparities in power and levels of living.

The power of the United States today is such that the world watches every one of its moves. This casts a responsibility on the Americans to know more about other peoples and civilizations.

The United States and India have had a long dialogue. Many American savants became admirers of Indian thought. We in India have been influenced by American political ideas and admire the technological achievements of the United States. This dialogue must continue and become more intimate.

That is the purpose of the Festival of India, which was envisaged three years ago by President Reagan and Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. We appreciate the U.S. gesture to dedicate the Festival to Shrimati Indira Gandhi.

The Festival is a tribute not only to her but to the long line of Indian sages, artists, scientists and craftsmen who built one of mankind's most magnificent cultural realms. I am sure the Festival will gain more friends for India.

DIA USA

**Date :** Jun 10, 1985

## Volume No

1995

PRIME MINISTER'S TOUR ABROAD

Festival of India - President Reagan's Message

The following is the text of President Reagan's Message at the inauguration of the Festival of India on Jun 13, 1985:

I am pleased to announce that Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi will inaugurate the 1985-86 Festival of India. The Festival is an unprecedented nationwide celebration which will include

exhibitions, performance programmes, symposia and other educational projects in 37 states and more than 80 cities. The idea for this "Year of India" grew out of the visit in 1982 to Washington of Mr. Gandhi's mother, the late Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. At that time Mrs. Gandhi and I agreed that the Festival would be an excellent vehicle for the people of the United States to learn of one of the world's most ancient and vibrant civilizations.

We would like to commend the participating institutions, sponsoring corpora  
<pg-185>

tions, foundations and agencies of both our Government and the Government of India, which are making it possible. We welcome this unique opportunity to learn more of India's culture, society and scientific achievements.

Recalling Mrs. Gandhi's vision for India and her devotion to the arts, it is appropriate that we dedicate this Festival of India to her memory. The Festival of India will comprise an affirmation of the universal values of the fascinating and richly varied civilization which was her personal heritage as well as of the vitality of the great democracy to which she devoted her life.

DIA

**Date** : Jun 13, 1985

## Volume No

1995

### PRIME MINISTER'S TOUR ABROAD

Speech by Vice President George Bush at Dinner Hosted in Honour of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi at Houston

The following is the text of speech by Vice President George Bush at dinner hosted by him in honour of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi at Houston on Jun 15, 1985:

Ladies and gentlemen, let me say what an immense pleasure it has been for Barbara and me to have Prime Minister Gandhi and Mrs. Gandhi as our guests, and I think I speak for all of Houston, your guests here in Houston, our hometown. And having been welcomed so warmly in Delhi last year, Mr. Prime Minister, we are just very grateful to welcome you here in Houston, Texas. You may be interested to know, Sir, that to some extent you have been upstaged in this visit. I know that you have impressed

Americans everywhere, but Sonia, your Sonia, to us Mrs. Gandhi, has stolen the show in a sense, stolen the heart of America, and she's shown how dedicated she is to you and all YOU stand for, to her family, and to her country. And dedication to family and country, those are values that Americans honour and that we understand and that we treasure, and so I would simply say to Madam Gandhi, welcome to Houston.

I couldn't help reflecting, when we toured NASA today, thanks to Jim Beggs who's here, and Captain John Young who's here, and others, that we were both pilots, I back in the dark ages and you in a more modern age, but as we met some of the modern pioneers of flights, I thought back to an earlier pilot, Charles Lindbergh, who preceded both of us actually, and in his account of that historic first solo flight from New York to Paris, Lindbergh says this: "I saw a fleet of fishing boats. I flew down, almost touching the craft, and yelled at them, asking if I was on the right road to Ireland, and they just stared. And maybe they didn't hear me; maybe I didn't hear them; or maybe they thought I was just a crazy fool. An hour later I saw land." And I'd like to think that one of your reasons for coming to this country and this town is like Lindbergh calling to the fishermen to check if you're on the right road, and I'd like to think that unlike Lindbergh and the men in the boats, we hear you and you hear us.

And we want very much to see your leadership succeed, as we know it will. We want to be a part, if we can, to be a part of India's reaching its destination of prosperity. We would like very much, Sir, to be of assistance in any way possible. And I know from the scientists that India has, I know that we have a great deal to learn from you as well.

India, you know, has the third largest pool of technological talent, and surely India will do with the technological revolution what you did with the green revolution. And for those of you who aren't as familiar with India, what a magnificent job they did in going from a condition where it was extraordinarily difficult to feed this enormous population, not only to being self-sufficient, but being able to help its own neighbours and to help others around the world.

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And so we see the emerging relationship, Mr. Prime Minister, as one of reciprocity, one of goodwill, one of shared values. Yours is the largest democracy and, in a sense, we're the oldest democracy. And so, tonight, I think we in Houston are deeply honoured to have Prime Minister Gandhi with us. His talks in Washington, I can say to my friends here in this wonderful city, went extraordinarily well. And all of us who had the privilege of meeting with the Prime Minister and with his various the leaders of India who are with us tonight here, and others in the Cabinet who aren't, who stopped off in Washington, the talks went well. And there was a great deal of understanding.

And the beautiful thing about it with a man like Prime Minister Gandhi is if you have a difference you can sit and talk about it. You can do it like we do here in Texas. You can lay it out there on the table and you can discuss it. And I just happen to think that that's going to lead to great understanding between our countries.

And so, with no further ado, let me just ask all of you to join in a toast to Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, to Mrs. Gandhi, and to the wonderful friendship between India and the United States of America.

A FRANCE IRELAND INDIA

**Date :** Jun 15, 1985

## Volume No

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1995

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PRIME MINISTER'S TOUR ABROAD

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Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's Reply

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The following is the text of speech by Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi at dinner hosted in his honour at Houston on Jun 15, 1985:

Mr. Vice President, Mrs. Bush, ladies and gentlemen, I should really say friends, this is our last night in the United States, evening, and I really am deeply touched by the warmth, affection, and friendship that I have got in the US, from the people of the US. During the couple of days in Washington we've had very cordial talks, warm talks, and like the Vice President has just said, where we had differences of opinion we would just put them in front of us and were willing to be open to talk about them and discuss them, try to reduce the differences, try to understand what each other - what we thought about the particular issues. And this has, I feel, brought our two countries much closer together.

I don't claim that in three days we have solved either all the problems that we have between us or all the world's problems. But we have certainly done the ground work for moving in a positive direction, and getting closer in the areas where there are differences.

I think I must say a special word of thanks for your President

Mr. Reagan, for all the trouble he took on this visit. The talks we had were especially friendly and, like he said, I too think that we hit it off together.

I must also thank both President Reagan and Mrs. Reagan for the special interest that they took in the Festival of India. The Festival of India was an exercise thought up by my mother and President Reagan in 1982. They put it in motion, and it was an attempt to bring India to the people of the United States. We hope that you will get a chance, in Houston, to see part of it. It is - it covers every aspect of India, old India, modern India, rural India, technological India, and really shows it to you as we are, with no pretense, no cover up, no angles put on it. And we believe that it will, during the coming year, bring our two peoples much closer, much closer in understanding, in knowing each other, and that will help in bringing the world a bit closer together. Because understanding between two great countries is one of the primary things required for world peace.

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We found, on this visit, that we both have very similar ideals: Liberty, peace, freedom of speech, democracy. We are all fighting for the same goals. The only difference was in the road that we would like to take at certain points. Some differences in perspectives. The United States, a highly advanced nation, industrialized. India, a developing country with quite a different perspective.

So, these differences will be there, while the differences in our development process are there. But the similarities, the commonalities, are much greater. And that is what we are going to build our friendship on.

I think a special word of thanks is also due to the Secret Service and all the security arrangements that they made.

Our last day has been in Houston. Houston is now one of the technological centres in the world. We have already had many contacts with Houston. You have launched our satellites. Some of our satellites have been made here. We have, together, designed some of them. So, there are old contacts.

But we look forward to new contacts in new areas, new technologies, which will help us build India. India today is on the verge of rapid expansion and rapid progress. And we need help in certain areas.

About 20 years ago we were in very dire trouble with our agriculture. The US came forward and you helped us with our agriculture. And that has been one of the major success stories in the development of any country in the world. One of the areas that we have decided to work together in is to try and understand how and why our cooperation in agriculture was so successful, and

then try to jointly repeat that in third countries.

Similar cooperation in other areas will help us come together. And I see with the US and India getting closer, a bond of friendship building up, we will bring a new atmosphere of peace and cooperation in other world matters as well.

Your southern warmth, your southern hospitality, has been very touching, and we will remember it, my wife and I, for a long, long time. And I look forward to coming back to Houston for a little more time. We've barely had 12 hours here. It's not enough. And to fly the simulator, if it will be possible. My neighbour this evening told me that it's a must.

I would like to thank all of you in Houston, especially President Reagan, Vice-President Bush, and everyone else who has made this visit such a success. And I'd like to propose a toast to the health of Vice-President Bush, Mrs. Bush, to friendship between India and the United States, and to the health of President Reagan.

A INDIA

**Date :** Jun 15, 1985

## Volume No

1995

### PRIME MINISTER'S TOUR ABROAD

#### India-US Joint Statement

The following is the text of the Indo-U.S. Joint Statement issued after Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's official visit to the United States on Jun 15, 1985:

At the invitation of the President of United States of America, Ronald Reagan, the Prime Minister of the Republic of India, Rajiv Gandhi, paid an official visit to the United States from June 11-15, 1985.

The President and the Prime Minister discussed a wide range of questions relating to the world situation, to their respective regions and to their bilateral relations. They reviewed the major issues affecting peace, security, and economic development and agreed that the two governments would remain in close touch to enhance their mutual understanding. They stressed the importance of nuclear

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disarmament and welcomed the resumption of arms control negotiations as a step towards the elimination of nuclear weapons.

#### SOUTH ASIAN REGION

The Prime Minister and the President considered in detail the situation in the South-Asian region. In that context they expressed their respective views and concerns about the regional security environment. The Prime Minister highlighted the recent initiatives taken by his government and the efforts of the countries of South Asia to further strengthen regional cooperation through the SARC organization. The President welcomed the steps being taken to promote regional stability and cooperation.

#### DEMOCRATIC WAY OF LIFE

The President and the Prime Minister reaffirmed their faith in the democratic way of life. The enthusiasm and vigour with which the two peoples participated in the democratic processes last year further confirmed the historical experience of the two countries that democracy is not merely just, it provides an effective and efficient instrument of peaceful change and development.

The Prime Minister and the President noted with concern the emergence of organized terrorism as a threat to peace and democracy. They urged all governments to take appropriate steps to combat this new danger. The Prime Minister welcomed the President's desire for continued consultation and close cooperation with the Indian Government on the international dimensions of terrorist violence against India.

#### BILATERAL RELATIONS

The President and the Prime Minister reviewed bilateral relations between their two countries. They reaffirmed their desire to broaden these ties, and in this regard they pointed to the wide range of programmes and cooperative ventures, either already undertaken or currently being planned. Each reiterated his conviction that their continued high-level dialogue would strengthen the promotion of universally shared goals of peace and prosperity.

The Prime Minister and the President agreed that the current cultural festivals in both countries would make a significant contribution to improving mutual understanding, an important goal for both nations. They discussed other activities that might serve to perpetuate the spirit of the festivals, including development of cooperative programmes in education and exchange

programmes in diverse fields. They agreed that such programmes served their mutual goal of broadening people-to-people contact between their two countries.

#### SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

The two leaders agreed that the Science and Technology Initiative, begun after Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's visit in 1982, has been highly successful in fostering productive science and technology collaboration between India and the United States. It was agreed that the programme would be extended for an additional three-year period beginning in October 1985.

Encouraged by the success of science and technology collaboration to date, the President and the Prime Minister decided to initiate two new efforts. The first is a vaccine action programme to develop and produce new and improved vaccines against major communicable diseases. The second is a long-term research and technology development programme covering activities in agriculture and forestry, health and nutrition, family welfare and biomedical research and industrial research and development.

#### IMPORTANT LINKS

The Prime Minister and the President welcomed the approval of the Programme for Advancement of Commercial Technology which promises to provide important links between Indian and American-firms in scientific and technical  
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research and development areas. They endorsed the growing peaceful cooperation in space between their two countries. The President stated the United States is prepared to share with India its experience in reducing pollution of large river systems. A start has already been made with the recent exchange between pollution control specialists on the possibilities of Indo-US collaboration in the Ganga Action Plan.

India has made substantial progress over the past decades in expanding agricultural production and diversifying its industrial base. The World Bank and its affiliates have made a significant contribution to this process. The United States strongly supports the continuance of their important role in India's economic development. The Prime Minister emphasized the importance of concessional finance to developing countries to ensure sustained balanced growth. The President and the Prime Minister noted with satisfaction the recent approval of a collaborative India-World Bank-USAID National Social Forestry project to help the conservation and expansion of India's forest resources.

#### POTENTIAL FOR EXPANSION

The two leaders discussed the considerable potential for

expansion of bilateral trade and technological collaboration between the two countries. Both sides noted with satisfaction that a Memorandum of Understanding on Technology Transfer and its , implementation procedures have recently been signed and should facilitate trade and collaboration in advanced technology between the two countries. They also agreed to continue discussions on a bilateral tax treaty. Both leaders look forward to the possibility of high level trade and investment missions visiting each country in the near future.

#### SINCERE GRATITUDE

The Prime Minister expressed his sincere gratitude to the President and the People of the United States for the warm welcome accorded to him and his delegation. He renewed the invitation to the President to pay an official visit to India, which the President gladly accepted.

DIA USA

**Date :** Jun 15, 1985

## Volume No

1995

SRI LANKA

India-Sri Lanka Joint Press Statement

The following is the text of a press release of the text of the India-Sri Lanka Joint Press statement issued in New Delhi on Jun 03, 1985:

His Excellency Mr. J. R. Jayewardene, the President of Sri Lanka, paid a visit to New Delhi from 1st to 3rd June, 1985 at the invitation of His Excellency Shri Rajiv Gandhi, Prime Minister of India.

The President had several meetings with the Prime Minister and also accompanied him to Dhaka. The two leaders discussed the ethnic issue in Sri Lanka and its impact on bilateral relations.

Both sides agreed that immediate steps should be taken to defuse the situation and create a proper climate for progress towards a political settlement which would be acceptable to all concerned, within the framework of the unity and integrity of Sri Lanka.

The two sides further agreed that all forms of violence should

abate and finally cease. Every effort will be made for the  
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speedy restoration of normalcy in the Northern and Eastern Provinces. This will be conducive to the early return of Sri Lanka citizens who are in India to Sri Lanka.

The talks were cordial and frank, and were characterised by a sincere desire to cooperate in overcoming difficulties and evolving a durable political solution. They reaffirmed the traditional friendship between India and Sri Lanka.

The two leaders decided to remain in close touch with each other.

I LANKA INDIA BANGLADESH USA PERU

**Date :** Jun 03, 1985

## Volume No

1995

UNITED KINGDOM

Indo-British grant aid signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jun 19, 1985 on the signing of the Indo-British grant aid:

A grant agreement for ₹36.01 million (Rs. 57.6 crores) was signed here today between the Government of India and the Government of United Kingdom. Shri Lalit Mansingh, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Finance and Mr. Francis Richards, Counsellor, British High Commission in India, signed on behalf of their respective Governments.

This grant is eighth in the series of annual grants by U.K., provided in lieu of debt relief and will be used for financing local costs of mutually agreed projects and programmes.

The major projects, where this assistance will be used are Rihand Thermal Power Station, Amlori Coal Mines, Captive Power Plant of BALCO, Health Care project in Orissa and Forestry projects in Karnataka.

Since 1975 total British assistance to-date amounts to ₹1889.8 million (Rs. 3023.7 crores).

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DIA UNITED KINGDOM USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date :** Jun 19, 1985

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**Date :** Jul 01, 1985

## Volume No

1995

BAHAMAS

Shri Khurshed Alam Khan's Speech at Dinner in Honour of Foreign Minister of Bahamas

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jul 20, 1985 of the speech by the Minister of State for External Affairs, Shri Khurshed Alam, Khan at a dinner hosted by him in honour of the Hon'ble Clement T. Maynard, Foreign Minister of Bahamas, in New Delhi on the night of July 20, 1985:

I would like once again, Excellency, to extend to you our warmest welcome. You are not new to Delhi having been here, during the last CHOGM. I wonder if you have been able to get beyond the conference rooms and hotel suites to see a bit of this historic city.

Both of us have had a heritage of British colonialism which has left an indelible mark on our political history. The formation of the new Commonwealth has helped to smoothen historic memories and it is a tribute to the resilience of our cultures that, in the Commonwealth we have been able to sit together on the basis of perfect equality to discuss the future without any hangups from the past.

### TIES WITH THE CARIBBEAN

India's ties with the Caribbean are old. Yet they are also new and being strengthened continuously. Over the years the exchanges between our two countries have become more frequent and apart from the Commonwealth bond, we have developed considerable cultural, economic and commercial ties.

Our concerns as developing countries and as members of the Non-aligned community are similar. We have both worked together in international forums on the great issues of the day whether disarmament, development or in the social and humanitarian fields. The peril of a nuclear catastrophe will affect countries as far apart as ours without difference in magnitude and without

reference to whether it is started by one or other nuclear weapon State. This itself would be reason enough for our abiding concern in nuclear disarmament.

As developing countries we remain concerned at the problems facing the countries of the South whose debt has now reached the astronomical figure of almost US \$ 900 billion. Without a comprehensive approach, many countries would soon be on the verge of bankruptcy. The successive calls by the international community for a new International Economic Order have not met with any response. Even in the separate forums of trade, food and agriculture and at the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund we find developed countries adopt conservative and restrictive positions. The facts of inter-dependence are recognised only in name while narrow immediate interests affect the actions of the North. Only a constructive dialogue can help.

#### FORTHCOMING CHOGM

I have no doubt, Excellency, 'that the forthcoming CHOGM in Nassau in October will provide ample opportunities for renewal of personal contacts between our leaders and make a positive contribution towards strengthening the Commonwealth. Also since the meeting will be held a week before the commemorative events in New York, they would provide an important occasion for our leaders to reaffirm the value of multilateral contacts and the abiding role and contribution of the United Nations.

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On behalf of the Ministry of External Affairs and on my own behalf I wish to raise a toast to the prosperity and well-being of the Bahamas and to the friendship between our two countries; to the success of CHOGM-85 and to Your Excellency for good health and many successes in the years ahead.

HAMAS INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date :** Jul 20, 1985

## Volume No

1995

BRAZIL

Shri Khurshed Alam Khan's Speech at Dinner in Honour of H.E.Dr. Olavo Egydio Setubal

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jul 22, 1985 of the speech by Shri Khurshed Alam Khan,

Minister of State for External Affairs, at a dinner, hosted by him in honour of H.E. Dr. Olavo, Egydio Setubal Minister of External Relations of the Federative Republic of Brazil, here tonight (New Delhi, July 22, 1985):

It is with great pleasure that I extend to you and to the distinguished members of your delegation a very cordial welcome to India. I am happy to recall that in recent years relations between our two countries have been gaining some momentum. Last year we had the pleasure of receiving your predecessor H.E. Mr. Ramiro Saraiva Guerero. We had initiated some ideas for bilateral cooperation between our countries. I am happy to say that we have made further progress during your visit. However, much ground still needs to be covered. For example, the bilateral Cultural Exchange Programme that has been long envisaged remains to be initiated. While the volume of our bilateral trade has shown some growth and development and Brazil has added some new items of manufacture to her exports to India, the excessively high degree of imbalance continues and the trade exchange so far continues to be one-sided. This needs to be examined and rectified in the interests of a long-term relationship.

#### DISTANCE AND GEOGRAPHY

Though separated by distance and geography, India and Brazil share a common spirit, a love of freedom and a determination to work for global harmony and international understanding. We are both large nations with great natural resources which we have just begun to explore. Our nations have emerged from a colonial past to an era of independence and democracy. India's independence is 38 years old whereas the liberation of Brazil from colonial rule took place more than a century ago. We in India have closely followed recent developments in your country. It is with special satisfaction, therefore, that we congratulate you on the restoration of democracy in your country. Our sincere good wishes are with H.E. President Sarney who has the challenging responsibility of steering the 130 million people of Brazil along the path of economic and political recovery and progress.

#### PEACE AND PROSPERITY

On most international issues facing the world community our respective positions have been similar even though the manner in which we may have expressed ourselves may have at times differed in emphasis. You will agree, Excellency, that the present international situation is such as to cause grave concern to all thinking people. The process of development and economic growth among the various countries of the world including

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South Asia and Latin America needs to be accelerated. It is a time when all countries must unite and the sooner it is

understood that all nations whether from the South or the North, regardless of their size or level of development are inter-dependent, the sooner will it be possible for prosperity and peace to be enjoyed by all peoples in all parts of the world. The coming conference in which your delegation will no doubt be playing an active part will, we hope, make a significant contribution towards the achievement of this goal.

I am happy that your visit has provided an opportunity for wide-ranging discussions on a variety of subjects. The outcome can be described as highly satisfactory.

I am glad that Your Excellency will have the opportunity to visit some part of India other than Delhi and to be acquainted with some aspects of our history and culture. I hope that your visit has been pleasant and fruitful and that during the remainder of your stay you can learn about the aspirations of our people.

Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, I now invite you to join me in raising a toast to the health of His Excellency, the Foreign Minister of the Federative Republic of Brazil, Dr. Olavo Egydio Setubal.

I would also like to propose a toast to the further strengthening of friendly and mutually beneficial relations between the peoples of India and Brazil in the years to come.

AZIL INDIA RUSSIA USA

**Date :** Jul 22, 1985

## Volume No

1995

BRAZIL

H.E. Mr. Olavo Egydio Setubal's Speech

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jul 23, 1985 of the speech by the Minister of External Relations of Brazil H.E. Mr. Olavo Egydio Setubal at a dinner hosted in his honour, by the Minister of State for External Affairs, Shri Khurshed Alam Khan,, in New Delhi on July 23, 1985:

Allow me, first of all, to thank you for your kind words of welcome and for the warm hospitality shown to us by the Government and the people of India.

A little more than a year ago the then Minister of External Relations of Brazil paid an official visit to New Delhi. The essential purpose of that visit was the re-establishment of a high-level dialogue between Brazil and India. This purpose has been achieved. My own visit has accordingly a different meaning. Building upon the good relations already existing between our two countries, and fully aware of the unique importance of India in the network of international relations, I would like to propose on behalf of the newly-elected Government of Brazil, that the two largest democracies of the Third World work even more closely together, deepening and broadening these relations.

Cooperation has as a basic pre-condition the convergence of view of certain fundamental principles of conviviality both at the national and international level. This convergence exists in the case of India and Brazil. We share many basic goals and ideals, such as the defense of sovereignty and world peace, and the struggle for social and economic well-being, through the improvement of democratic institutions and the acceleration of development efforts. It is true that we belong to different cultural traditions. But we must acknowledge that for better or worse the same historical trends were responsible for the insertion of our two countries, during the 16th century, in the mainstream of European life.

The common perspective of countries which had a colonial past and are today the developing countries is strengthened by the coincidence of material factors, among which are the large territorial extension, the abundance of natural resources,

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a similar level of industrialization, and a broad demographic basis as well as the need to keep pace with a constantly growing population through improved living conditions.

#### SIMILAR POSITIONS

The coincidence of principles, experiences and objective circumstances have led Brazil and India to adopt similar positions in respect of the basic questions of the international political and economic scene.

Foremost among these questions is the threat of nuclear annihilation. In a statement as relevant today as when it was delivered, almost twenty years ago, Mrs. Gandhi said that "the peace among us, if it can be called peace, is an embattled one. We are confronted with the competitive build-up of nuclear armaments which threaten human survival. We hope that our dedication to tangible and realistic steps towards general and complete disarmament will help to create conditions for a lasting peace. This then is not a moment when we can combine ourselves to narrow national grooves. Indeed, we must raise the voice of humanity to assert that war is not inevitable, that there is no

alternative to peaceful co-existence which can add meaning through active international cooperation." We fully share these views. That is why Brazil has expressed its support for the Delhi Declaration of Disarmament, issued by the Summit Meeting of the six last January.

## STRUCTURAL FACTORS

Despite all efforts, the international situation of our days is in a process of constant deterioration. Deepening regional crisis - in several areas of the world and increased confrontation between the super powers are coupled with an economic crises of global dimensions which affect all countries and regions and resist orthodox therapies.

The regional crises that destabilise international life are in themselves the consequences of deep-rooted structural factors. They will not be solved on a permanent basis unless the underlying issues are tackled. In general, the socio-economical dynamics of each region is a key element in the search for legitimate solutions. Regional problems must be considered without any external interference, taking primarily into account the constructive efforts and points of view of the countries of the region.

These principles apply to situations such as those in Central America, Southern Africa and the Middle East, where, as a rule, East-West involvement tend all too often to widen the scope of conflicts, to deepen local rivalries, to encourage attitudes of intransigence, and to narrow prospects for just and lasting solutions.

As observer to the Non-aligned Movement, Brazil has had the opportunity to appreciate the efforts of India to promote the relaxation of tensions with regard to all these issues and others of a similar nature.

## ECONOMIC SYSTEM

Mr. Minister, for over half a century the world economic system has not experienced such a pervasive and lasting crisis. Its long term consequences are deeply disturbing, its immediate effects are a source of economic distress and social instability. One of the most striking features of the crisis is that it has no clear geographical frontier. In addition, it is not limited to certain sectors of the economy. The crisis is global, and the developing countries have proved to be the most vulnerable link in an interdependent system. Cooperation and dialogue are, therefore, more necessary than ever before. However, never before have international cooperation and multilateralism been so fragile.

Brazil and India are cooperating closely in trying to persuade developed countries that the risks associated with the

preservation of existing international financial, monetary and trade system are certainly higher than those that might  
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derive from a balanced restructuring of the world economy.

#### MULTILATERAL TRADING SYSTEM

Promoting a real multilateral trading system, restoring the credibility of the General Agreement as the multilateral framework for regulating the trade in physical goods and implementing the commitments already undertaken, especially those relating to developing countries, are priority tasks facing the international community. In this connection, India and Brazil, together with other less developed contracting parties, have submitted last month to the Council of GATT a statement on the improvement of World Trade relations, including their position on a new round of multilateral trade negotiations.

Brazil and India have been playing a leading role in regard to the issue of a new round of multilateral trade negotiations on goods and a round of multilateral trade negotiations on services, raised by some developed countries. In this respect, I would like to reiterate the Brazilian position that these two negotiating processes, if they are to take place, have to be prepared and conducted in a totally independent way, without any sort of trade off between them.

We are convinced that the high level of interest rates, the volatility of exchange rates and the liquidity bottlenecks affecting developing countries as a result of such trends, are issues of fundamental importance to the entire international community, and should be tackled on a priority basis. Moreover, we believe that all these issues are interdependent and that finance and trade questions should be dealt with in an integrated manner.

#### CARACAS PROGRAMME OF ACTION

Important as these North-South issues are, they should not obscure the urgency and significance of South-South cooperation. The very bleakness of the present moment may teach us new forms of economic relationship, and cooperation

among developing countries is undoubtedly the most promising of these new forms. We attach a special importance to the early establishment of a general system of trade preferences among developing countries, and are confident that the New Delhi Meeting will play a decisive role in this process. My presence as head of the Brazilian delegation is an indication of our positive attitude. You may rest assured, Mr. Minister, that despite our present economic difficulties we will do our best to ensure the success of the system, in the spirit of the Caracas programme of

action.

Mr. Minister, although we have established diplomatic relations almost since the inception of the Indian State, I am convinced that the most significant Phase in Indian-Brazilian cooperation is about to begin. Our political relations will become closer and more comprehensive as the system of bilateral consultations created during my predecessor's visit becomes fully operational. Our scientific and technological relations, the potential of which cannot be overestimated in view of our respective achievements in this area, will be strengthened and diversified with the signature today of the agreement on scientific and technological cooperation. A forum should be provided for the discussion of such issues. A sub-commission to be established within the framework of our future agreement for the setting up of a Joint Commission, would constitute that forum.

I would like to express my appreciation for the intensification of our economic cooperation and trade relations, which brings into reality the spirit of the Caracas programme of action. The imbalance in our trade relations, however, is a source of mutual concern. We hope that the first session of the future sub-commission on trade will devote most of its time to the consideration of measures to reduce that imbalance.

Finally, our cultural relations should be intensified in the framework of the 1968 Agreement, in order to facilitate the

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mutual understanding between the Indian and the Brazilian peoples.

Mr. Minister, our two countries are geographically far apart: let us demonstrate that physical distances can be overcome. We belong to different cultural environments: let us demonstrate that differences can be more enriching than similarities. Our economies are not sufficiently complementary: let us explore such complementarities as do exist, and devise ways to increase our interdependence on a broad range of areas, not necessarily limited to trade in commodities. Together, let us forge a new partnership for peace and development.

I invite all those present to join me in a toast to the health of His Excellency President Giani Zail Singh and His Excellency Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, to the increasing prosperity of the Indian people, to the ever-lasting friendship between Brazil and India, and to the personal happiness of Your Excellency.

AZIL INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC VENEZUELA

**Date :** Jul 23, 1985

## Volume No

1995

DUBAI

Air Services Talks between India and Emirates of Dubai

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jul 29, 1985 on the air services talks between India and the Emirates of Dubai:

Air services talks between India and Emirates of Dubai began here this morning to discuss matters of mutual interest in the field of civil aviation for furthering friendly and cordial relations between the two countries.

The Indian delegation to the talks is led by Dr. S. S. Sidhu, Secretary, Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation and the Emirates of Dubai's delegation is led by His Highness Shaikh Ahmed Bin Saeed Al Maktoum.

In their opening remarks, the two leaders recalled the age-old cultural bonds existing between the two countries. They stressed that ample scope exist for furthering relations between India and Emirates of Dubai particularly in the field of Civil Aviation.

DIA USA

**Date :** Jul 29, 1985

## Volume No

1995

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

Shri Khurshed Alam Khan's Speech at Dinner in Honour of FRG Foreign Minister

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jul 09, 1985 of the speech by the Minister of State for External Affairs, Shri Khurshed Alam Khan at a dinner hosted by him in honour of H.E. Mr. Hans Dietrich Genscher, Vice-Chancellor and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Germany here tonight (New Delhi, July 9, 1985):

Mr. Vice-Chancellor, Mme Genscher, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, it is a pleasure to have you, Vice-Chancellor and Minister for Foreign Affairs, in our midst. You are no stranger to India.  
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Relations between our two countries are excellent, and you will notice that since your last visit, our exchanges in several areas have intensified. Commercial exchanges and industrial collaborations have grown rapidly between the FRG and India. But even so, they do not match either our respective potentials or markets. We hope that your visit here will provide the necessary impetus to our economic relations so that they rise to the level of our political expectations as we know the prospects are enormous.

The FRG and India can do much together in the domain of international relations, so that the world is rid of the menace of terrorism and the threat of war, and human energies and talents find outlets to work for the material well-being and intellectual development of every individual. War and terrorism have never done any good to human beings. Let us now give a fair trial to peace and non-violence.

I trust that your visit to India will herald the regular exchange of high-level visits between our two countries, and greater understanding and friendliness among our peoples. We welcome these expectations.

Mr. Vice-Chancellor and Mrs. Genscher, I hope that your present visit to India will be an enjoyable one, and that you will be tempted to come back here again very soon.

May I ask you, distinguished guests, to rise and drink a toast to the health and prosperity of Vice-Chancellor and Mme Genscher and the people of the Federal Republic of Germany.

RMANY INDIA USA

**Date** : Jul 09, 1985

## Volume No

1995

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

Indo-German Avoidance of Double Taxation Agreement Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jun 10, 1985 on the signing of the agreement between India and the FRG for the avoidance of double taxation:

The Union Finance Minister, Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh and the Vice-Chancellor and Foreign Affairs Minister of the Federal Republic of Germany, His Excellency Hans Dietrich Genscher signed on behalf of their respective Governments and exchanged Instruments of Ratification of the Protocol amending the agreement for the avoidance of double taxation of income between the two countries. The protocol shall enter into force one month after the date of exchange of Instruments of Ratification and shall have effect in India in respect of income and capital assessable for any assessment year commencing on or after 1st day of April, 1984.

Speaking on the occasion the Union Finance Minister, Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh said that in the new effort of modernisation on the initiative of our Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi we look forward to the active partnership of the Federal Republic of Germany. The Finance Minister further said that our signing of this agreement is indicative of the fact that we do not want to tax each other's country doubly.

The Foreign Minister of the Federal Republic of Germany, His Excellency, Hans Dietrich Genscher said that we should have joint ventures to translate our co-operation. into reality. He said this signing is a contribution to our traditional friendship.

The protocol amending the agreement between the Government of India and the Government of Federal Republic Of Germany for the avoidance of double taxation of income was signed on June 28, 1984 in Bonn between the representatives of the two Governments.

After the protocol comes into force, the taxes covered will include, in the case of India, wealth tax also. Further, while

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computing the business profits, head office expenses will be subject to the limits provided under section 44C of the Income-tax Act. The protocol provides that the activities relating to construction, installation or assembly projects would constitute a permanent establishment only if such activities exist in the other State for period of more than six months. In the existing agreement, such activities constituted a permanent establishment irrespective of the period for which the project continued. It also provides for complete exemption in respect of shipping profits in the country of source after a period Of ten years and, in the meantime, the tax in the country of source will be reduced by 50% in the first five years and by 75% in the next five years. In respect of dividends from new investments, the rate of tax will not exceed 15% in respect of dividends paid by Indian companies. It has also been provided that the dividends derived

by residents of India from FRG will be taxed at the rate of 15% in that country. In respect of interest, it has been agreed that the rate of taxation in the country of source will not exceed 10% of the gross amount if the interest is paid to a Rank, and 15% of the gross amount in other cases. Fees for technical services would be taxable at 20% of the gross amount irrespective of whether the services have been tendered in FRG or India.

RMANY INDIA USA

**Date** : Jun 10, 1985

## Volume No

1995

### GLOBAL SYSTEM OF TRADE PREFERENCES

#### Meeting on Global System of Trade Preferences - Prime Minister's Inaugural Address

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jul 25, 1985 of the speech by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, in New Delhi on July 25 while inaugurating the Ministerial Meeting on Global System of Trade Preferences:

It is a great pleasure for me to welcome you to this Ministerial Meeting of developing countries on the Global System of Trade Preferences. You are here in the midst of our monsoon. We regard rains as auspicious. The land renews itself and farmers, go to work with a new hope. This meeting is an appropriate occasion to plant new ideas and nurture old convictions.

#### ESSENTIAL FEATURES

Trade is an essential feature of relations amongst nations. Old nations should encourage greater trade for the health of their own economies and the well-being of the international order. Trade involves an exchange not only of material goods and commodities but with them also of technology. Growth of trade maximises the potential of each country by allowing it to expand in those sectors where it enjoys comparative advantages. It also stimulates technological change and investment. Unfortunately, the colonial legacy that most of our countries have inherited has not been conducive to the development of trade amongst ourselves to its full potentials. It has left us with trade patterns which emphasised trade between developing and industrial countries, often with the neglect of trade amongst developing countries. During colonial times, links even with close neighbours had weakened and many potentially valuable types of economic

exchanges were left unexploited.  
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## NAM AND GROUP OF 77

Now that the developing countries have regained control over their destinies, it is time that we gave special attention to renewing commercial and economic exchanges amongst ourselves. The community of newly free developing countries has always favoured a more equitable international order which implies greater cooperation amongst all countries. This has been a recurring theme in the summits of Non-alignment Movement. Non-alignment and the Group of 77 have worked in a mutually reinforcing way to develop concrete proposals to strengthen cooperation in trade and other areas. GSTP concept is, therefore, grounded soundly in the aspiration of our people and in historical necessity.

We are gathered here to renew our support to it. While all countries should be affected by the global economic crisis, the developing world has been hit a bit particularly badly. Indeed, there is today a development crisis where per capita income in many developing countries have fallen to levels lower than they were at the start of the decade. For others the crisis has suffered in the form of severe debt and external financial problems. In almost all developing countries, economic growth has slowed down and scope for enlarging human welfare has been reduced. India is among the few fortunate exceptions. But none of us can view the existing trends in the world economy with any complacency. While some industrial countries did experience the recovery, this recovery has not been broad-based and, in any case, now seems to be faltering. The benefits flowing from it have been limited and certainly not widely felt in the developing countries. Many developing countries have been sunk deeper into debt and while short-term solutions have avoided financial collapse, a long-term solution to the debt problem which does not undermine the development process is nowhere at hand.

For many of the poorest developing countries the development crisis shows no signs of alleviation. Industrial countries instead of becoming more responsive to the problems facing the developing world, have become more rigid. There is a disturbing retreat from the commitment to multilateralism which characterise the consensus on development issues that has crystallised in the 60's and 70's. These difficulties underscore the fact that the world economic crisis are structural and not cyclical. The international economic system is marked by serious malfunctioning both in areas of money and finance and in area of trade, And this hurts the developing countries in important respects.

## FINANCIAL FLOWS

Financial flows to developing countries have been declining. In fact, there was a net resource transfer from developing to

developed countries last year. Concessional financial flows which are particularly important for low income countries have been badly squeezed. The monetary system remains unable to promise stable exchange rates or ineffective adjustment process. The multilateral trading system, the functioning of which has left much to be desired is now itself threatened. Actions are being taken outside the framework of the General Agreement. Developed countries continue to crop up sectors in their own countries where comparative advantage has moved towards developing countries. In important areas such as textiles we have seen the deviation from GATT rules, which were meant to be temporary have been perpetuated over decades.

## RESTRICTIONS ON TROPICAL PRODUCTS

Agriculture and tropical products remain under severe restrictions to the disadvantage of developing countries. These experiences have not built confidence in the functioning of the system. On the contrary, they reveal an important structural weakness. These developments have confirmed what we have always stressed that while cyclical ups and downs have their importance, the basic cause of the economic malice lies deeper and must be dealt with directly. These are related to the structural imbalances and inequities in international economic relations that affect

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development and thus limit prospects for growth, particularly in the developing countries. These structural problems will not yield to patch work solutions. The present institutional framework both in international trade and international finance has been inadequate to resolve their problems and they need to be addressed directly by Inter-governmental action.

The Seventh Non-aligned Summit, which met in New Delhi two years ago, set forth coherent and mutually reinforcing measures to strengthen international cooperation for development. These remain valid today and it should be our endeavour to develop as broad a consensus around these measures as possible.

## SOUTH-SOUTH CO-OPERATION

In addition, we must do whatever we can to face our common problems through collective self-reliance. For this, we need not wait for the support of others. If we are to carry conviction with others, we must demonstrate our way by creating a new order in areas in which we can get, we can act ourselves. If we can enlarge and deepen economic cooperation among developing countries and strengthen collective self-reliance, our voice will be heard a little better in the councils of the world. We should also make clear that our drive for mutual cooperation among ourselves is not a form of confrontation with the North in any sense. South-South cooperation will strengthen the economic

potential of the South and would make North-South cooperation more meaningful and attractive to both North and South.

The Ministerial meeting on the generalised system of trade preferences will deal with one of the potentially most important areas of South-South cooperation, and one which has long been on our agenda. As early as the Bandung conference in 1955 newly independent countries of the Non-aligned Movement recognised the primary importance of strengthening trade linkages. The idea gained further ground in the Lusaka Summit in 1970 which called for preferential reduction in import duties in favour of other developing countries. The Arusha programme for collective self-reliance later called for the establishment of a global system of trade preferences and GSTP was formally launched in 1982 by the Ministers of G-77.

#### TECHNICAL PAPERS

A good deal of preliminary work has already been done on GSTP. A number of technical papers are ready which collectively provide practical frame work for GSTP. What is now needed is endorsement at the political level. We must give a direction to the negotiating process that will bring nearer the new system we envisage.

This meeting also provide us an opportunity to strengthen our solidarity on broader issues concerning the international trade environment. The integrity of multilateral trade regime is today under threat by practices that violate both the spirit and the rule. It is important that developing countries coordinate their views and position and adopt a unified approach to trade negotiations. Our objective must be to press for an international trading system that Promotes dynamic trade expansion of developing countries. Trade must indeed become the engine of economic development. Issues relating to money and finance are often under discussion at various forums. These issues are not before this meeting but we would do well to bear in mind the close inter-relationship that exists between money, finance and trade and use this opportunity to coordinate our positions on these issues. All of us represent the majority of the world's deprived and needy. The resolution we adopt, the formulation we devise, the declaration we might issue, have all one supreme aim, to lighten the burdens that sit heavily on the shoulders of our peoples. To get them a little more by way of income and opportunity, those who meet at international economic conferences must bear in mind that their work and actions affect the livelihood - indeed the very survival of millions. Let us so conduct our deliberations that these people can hope for some help

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in their daily battles, and all our countries will emerge economically and politically stronger.

Thank you for giving me this opportunity to address you. I have great pleasure in inaugurating this meeting.

DIA USA MALI CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC INDONESIA ZAMBIA

**Date :** Jul 25, 1985

## Volume No

1995

GLOBAL SYSTEM OF TRADE PREFERENCES

Welcome Speech by Union Minister for Commerce

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jul 25, 1985 of the welcome speech by the Union Minister of Commerce Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh at the inaugural session of the Ministerial Meeting on Global System of Trade Preferences, in New Delhi on July 25, 1985:

It is a great pleasure for me to welcome you all to this Ministerial meeting of the developing countries.

We are privileged to have with us the Prime Minister of India, Shri Rajiv Gandhi. His presence at the inauguration reflects India's deep commitment to the cause of economic solidarity and cooperation among developing countries. Such cooperation in our view should not be sought, or measured, in terms of short-term gains and losses, but should constitute an integral part of the wider process of structural change in international economic and political relations. The developing world is starting to come of age and this should open up greater opportunities for mutually beneficial cooperation. We must endeavour to guide and accelerate this process rather than simply wait for these opportunities to emerge.

This Ministerial meeting is an unusual occasion. Developing countries frequently hold meetings in the context of particular international organisations. Rarely, however, are they able to meet at Ministerial-level outside such a framework in order to consider important issues of mutual interest on which they wish to deliberate and take decisions. The New Delhi meeting on the GSTP is one such occasion. Our countries have gathered here together because they have felt that the time has come to give a new and decisive impetus to a promising initiative towards the objective of facilitating economic cooperation among developing countries. The focus of this meeting should be on the means to

strengthen our mutual economic links, particularly in the sphere of trade. Such a step in the direction of collective self-reliance would only strengthen our future development prospects and render our countries less vulnerable to the instability that has characterised the international economy in recent years.

The concept of providing favourable treatment to facilitate trade among developing countries has been under consideration for some time. Progress on it, however, has been somewhat slow for a variety of reasons. But the power of ideas is strong. This concept has evolved to a stage where many countries are convinced not only of its desirability but also of its feasibility. Over the last year much preparatory work has been completed in Geneva in regard to operational procedures and rules for the General System of Trade Preferences among developing countries. However, there remain a few important matters which required to be settled. Their resolution would give GSTP the necessary thrust to which I made reference earlier. There is also a need for an understanding on the time-frame for the actual GSTP negotiations so that the realisation of the System comes about as effectively and quickly as we would all like. A feeling had grown among developing countries over the last year that a special Ministerial meeting would be helpful in achieving these ends. We were happy to respond to this sentiment, a sentiment which you have reaffirmed by coming here to New Delhi.

The developing countries are, of course, a part of the inter-dependent world economy and the international  
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economic environment must always be kept in mind in charting our own course. For this reason, we must also review the recent economic developments and particularly those that impinge on the trading environment. Some recent trends in this respect and the state of the international economy generally give rise to concern about the medium-term prospects for the world economy. In this situation evolution of a cohesive approach to these issues would help in securing our interests in the future. I am sure, we shall be able to make good use of the unusual opportunity provided by this meeting towards this end.

Your Excellencies, these are the challenging tasks before us. Our leaders and our peoples will expect much of us. We are fortunate that the Prime Minister of India has been able to join us today to launch us on our way. On your behalf may I request Shri Rajiv Gandhi, Prime Minister of India, to inaugurate this Ministerial Meeting of the developing countries on the GSTP.

DIA USA SWITZERLAND

**Date :** Jul 25, 1985

# Volume No

1995

## HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

### Prime Minister's Statement on Foreign Tour

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jul 23, 1985 of the statement by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, in Parliament today (July 23, 1985) on his foreign tours:

I seek leave to make a statement to the House on my visits abroad since the House last met and to give Hon. Members a brief assessment of the talks I have held with the leaders of each of the countries I visited.

I paid an official visit to the Soviet Union from 21 to 26 May. I flew to Bangladesh for a day on 2 June. From 5 June to 18 June I visited Egypt, France, Algeria, the United States of America and Geneva in Switzerland.

As the House knows, our relations with the Soviet Union have throughout been excellent and my visit helped further to strengthen the friendship and mutually beneficial cooperation that exist between our countries.

I was accorded an especially warm reception in the Soviet Union. I had several meetings with Mr. Mikhail Gorbachev, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, during which he reiterated the importance which the Soviet Union attached to maintaining high-level contacts with India and to enlarging friendship and understanding with India. I, on my part, pointed out the high value which the Government and people of India attach to our ties.

#### CORDIAL AND FAIR-RANGING

Our discussions were most cordial and far-ranging covering bilateral relations and international issues of importance. In regard to bilateral relations we agreed to expand and deepen our existing cooperation in various sectors in a long-term perspective. The international issues discussed included peace and disarmament and the developments in South-East Asia, South-West Asia, West Asia, Iran and Iraq, South Africa and Central America. We also briefed them on the efforts we have been making to develop friendly relations with our neighbours, as well as

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our initiatives as the Chairman of the Non-aligned Movement. I also met Mr. Nikolai Tikhonov, Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, Mr. Andrei Gromyko, who has now become the President of the Soviet Union and was then Foreign Minister, and other leaders.

The outcome of our discussions have been set out in the Joint Statement which was issued at the end of my visit. Two agreements were signed. The first, Agreement on Economic and Technical Cooperation, provides for Soviet participation in some important projects included in our Seventh Five Year Plan, particularly in the power, coal and petroleum sectors. There is also provision for Soviet participation in the iron and steel and machine building sectors. Soviet cooperation under this Agreement is to be covered by a credit of 1 billion roubles.

The second agreement signed was on the main directions of economic, trade, scientific and technical cooperation between our countries up to 2000 A.D.

My programme included visits to Minsk in the Byelorussian Republic and Frunze in the Kirghiz Republic. At a public function in Moscow organised by the Union of Soviet Friendship Societies and the Soviet-India Friendship Society, the Lenin Peace Prize was awarded posthumously to our late Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi. A square in Moscow was also named after her.

#### VISIT VERY USEFUL

In my assessment, the visit has been very useful in enabling the leadership of the Soviet Union to get acquainted with our point of view and in taking Indo-Soviet understanding and cooperation to a new level of cordiality.

#### BANGLADESH

The purpose of my visit to Bangladesh on 2 June was to express India's sincere sympathy to the Government and people of that country over the devastation and loss they had suffered as a result of cyclone. President Jayewardene of Sri Lanka, who was in New Delhi for discussions, also went with me to Bangladesh. We had talks with Lt. General Ershad, President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh. The visit was also an expression of the growing spirit of solidarity among the countries of South Asia.

#### EGYPT AND ALGERIA

Egypt and Algeria have been close colleagues of ours in the Non-aligned Movement. Shrimati Indira Gandhi was to have visited both countries in April, 1984 but could not do so. After I assumed office, their invitations were renewed.

In Cairo, President Hosni Mubarak received me with great warmth

and cordiality. We had an in-depth exchange of views both on international and bilateral matters. Egypt was particularly appreciative of our chairmanship of the Nonaligned, our role in promoting disarmament and our efforts to bring about an early end to the Iran-Iraq war. There was agreement on the need to cooperate closely with each other and to remain in touch on the West Asia question. We also were of accord on the need to maximise bilateral economic and commercial cooperation. It was decided that the possibilities might be explored in a more concrete manner at the first meeting of the Indo-Egyptian Joint Commission, which is likely to be held in October, 1985. I also had discussions with Mr. Kamal Hassan Ali, Prime Minister of Egypt.

In Algeria I had extensive discussions with President Chadli Bendjedid, covering the entire range of bilateral and international issues. The talks were very cordial and relaxed. There was identity of views on international issues of mutual concern and we have agreed to keep in close touch, particularly on Non-aligned issues. It was agreed to set up an institutionalised system of annual exchanges between our two Foreign Offices alternatively in Algiers and New Delhi. I also had talks with the Prime Minister, Mr. Abdelhamid Brahimi.

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In order to, give a further impetus to our economic and commercial exchanges, we agreed to purchase half a million tonnes of Algerian crude. Algeria has indicated its readiness to accord high priority to the award of commercial contracts and projects to India.

On the question of Western Sahara, our sympathy and support for the Polisario was reiterated. I received Mr. Mahfoud Ali Beiba, Prime Minister of the SADR and Member of the Executive Committee of the Polisario. It was made known to him that, following the SADR's participation at the 20th OAU Summit in November 1984, upgradation of our relations had been under active consideration.

## FRANCE

My visit to France followed a series of high-level exchanges since President Giscard d'Estaing's visit in January 1980, the late Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's visit to France in November, 1981, President Mitterrand's visit to India in November 1982 and Shrimati Indira Gandhi's short transit stop-over in Paris in September, 1983. My visit proved to be very useful and reinforced the foundation for a more dynamic bilateral relationship.

President Mitterrand and I took stock of the world situation and the imperative need to promote international peace as well as greater co-operation between the developed and developing countries. I also had extensive discussions with the Prime Minister, Mr. Laurent Fabius.

In my meeting, I stressed the need to develop the political and economic aspects of our bilateral relationship in a balanced manner. The French displayed marked receptivity to our point of view.

Two accords were signed during the visit: one on the setting up of an Indo-French Centre for Promotion of Advanced Research in India and the other for French assistance in the conversion of urban wastes into energy, and depollution of the Ganga river. Overall Indo-French economic cooperation in a number of fields is expected to be significantly enhanced.

I inaugurated the Festival of India on June 7. As Members are aware, the Festival will continue until mid-1986, and, already, it has had a marked impact on the French public.

In Paris I also addressed the UNESCO and reiterated our support to the work which that Organisation is doing.

USA

My visit to USA from June 11 to 15 was most useful.

I had an opportunity to exchange views with President Reagan on major international issues and also on matters of immediate concern to India like reports of Pakistan's plans to produce nuclear weapons and the activities of some terrorist elements. The talks were characterised by warmth and openness.

I welcomed the desire of the President for close cooperation with us on the international dimensions of terrorist violence against India.

#### HIGH-LEVEL CONTACTS

I found both in the President and his advisers a great deal of interest and understanding in regard to what we are trying to do in India. Even where we have differences in policy or in approach, I got the feeling that we could still discuss the issues and work together. We value these high-level contacts and would like to continue the dialogue. I believe there is good scope for building on these foundations to broaden our understanding and cooperation.

Hon'ble Members would have seen the text of the joint statement which was issued at the conclusion of my visit to the United States, which lists out some areas of economic, scientific and technological cooperation. We have identified some specific areas of collaboration, like extending the science and technology initiative for another three years, initiat-

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ing a vaccine action programme, and a long-term research and technology development programme, and a programme for the advancement of commercial technology.

#### JOINT MEETING OF CONGRESS

India was honoured by the invitation extended to me to address a joint meeting of Congress. I also had meetings with other important members of the Administration as well as prominent scientists, leaders of the Press and the media and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce,

Both in Washington and in Houston, there were functions with the Indian community. Vice-President Bush graciously accompanied us to Houston, where I paid a brief visit to NASA. A major event in my programme was the formal inauguration of the Festival of India, which was dedicated to the memory of Shrimati Indira Gandhi. President Reagan has referred to the Festival as "an unprecedented nationwide celebration".

Hon'ble Members would have seen reports about President Reagan's recent surgery. I am sure the entire House would join me in conveying to him, to Mrs. Reagan and to the American people our best-wishes for his full and speedy recovery.

#### GENEVA

On the way back from the United States I broke journey for a day in Geneva where I was accorded the privilege of addressing the International Labour Organisation. In my address I reiterated India's commitment to ameliorating the conditions of our workers in both the organised and unorganised sectors and to urge greater action on the part of I.L.O. in the service of unorganised workers all over the world.

DIA USA BANGLADESH ALGERIA EGYPT FRANCE SWITZERLAND IRAN IRAQ SOUTH AFRICA  
COMMONWEALTH OF INDEPENDENT STATES(CIS) RUSSIA BELORUSSIA SRI LANKA CHAD  
CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC PAKISTAN

**Date :** Jul 23, 1985

## Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Memorandum of Settlement

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jul 25, 1985 of the Memorandum of Settlement on Punjab placed in the Parliament today (July 25, 1985) by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi:

#### 1. COMPENSATION TO INNOCENT PERSONS KILLED

1.1. Along with ex-gratia payment to those innocent killed in agitation any action after 1.8.82, compensation for property damaged will also be paid.

#### 2. ARMY RECRUITMENT

2.1. All citizens of the country have the right to enrol in the Army and merit will remain the criterion for selection.

#### 3. ENQUIRY INTO NOVEMBER INCIDENTS

3.1. The jurisdiction of Shri Justice Ranganath Mishra Commission enquiring into the November riots of Delhi would be extended to cover the disturbances at Bokaro and Kanpur also.

#### 4. REHABILITATION OF THOSE DISCHARGED FROM THE ARMY

4.1. For all those discharged, efforts will be made to rehabilitate and provide gainful employment.

#### 5. ALL INDIA GURUDWARA ACT

5.1. The Government of India agrees to consider the formulation of an All India GURUDWARA Bill. Legislation will be brought forward for this purpose in consultation with Shiromani Akali Dal, others concerned and after ful-  
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filling all relevant constitutional requirements.

#### 6. DISPOSAL OF PENDING CASES

6.1. The notifications applying the Armed Forces Special Powers Act to Punjab will be withdrawn. Existing Special Courts will try only cases relating to the following type of offences:

- (a) Waging war
- (b) Hijacking

6.2. All other cases will be transferred to ordinary courts and enabling legislation if needed will be brought forward in this Session of Parliament.

#### 7. TERRITORIAL CLAIMS

7.1. The Capital Project Area of Chandigarh will go to Punjab. Some adjoining areas which were previously part of Hindi or the Punjabi regions were included in the Union Territory. With the

capital region going to Punjab the areas which were added to the Union Territory from the Punjabi region of the erstwhile State of Punjab will be transferred to Punjab and those from Hindi region to Haryana. The entire Sukhna Lake will be kept as part of the Chandigarh and will thus go to Punjab.

7.2. It had always been maintained by Smt. Indira Gandhi that when Chandigarh is to go to Punjab some Hindi speaking territories in Punjab will go to Haryana. A Commission will be constituted to determine the specific Hindi-speaking areas of Punjab which should go to Haryana, in lieu of Chandigarh. The principle of contiguity and linguistic affinity with a village as a unit will be the basis of such determination. The Commission will be required to give its findings by 31st December 1985 and these will be binding on both sides- The work of the Commission will be limited to this aspect and will be distinct from the general boundary claims which the other Commission referred to in para. 7.4. will handle.

7.3. The actual transfer of Chandigarh to Punjab and areas in lieu thereof to Haryana will take place simultaneously on 26th January 1986.

7.4. There are other claims and counter-claims for re-adjustment of the existing Punjab-Haryana boundaries. The Government will appoint another commission to consider these matters and give its findings. Such findings will be binding on the concerned States. The terms of reference will be based on a village as a unit, linguistic affinity and contiguity.

## 8. CENTRE-STATE RELATIONS

8.1. Shiromani Akali Dal states that the Anandpur Sahib Resolution is entirely within the framework of the Indian constitution; that it attempts to define the concept of Centre-State relations in a manner which may bring out the true federal characteristics of our Unitary Constitution; and that the purpose of the Resolution is to provide greater autonomy to the State with a view to strengthening the unity and integrity of the country, since unity in diversity forms the corner-stone of our national entity.

8.2. In view of the above, the Anandpur Sahib Resolution in so far as it deals with Centre-State relations, stands referred to the Sarkaria Commission.

## 9. SHARING OF RIVER WATERS

9.1. The farmers of Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan will continue to get water not less than what they

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are using from the Ravi-Beas system as on 1.7.1985. Waters used

for consumptive purposes will also remain unaffected. Quantum of usage claimed shall be verified by the Tribunal referred to in Para 9.2. below.

9.2. The claims of Punjab and Haryana regarding the shares in their remaining waters will be referred for adjudication to a Tribunal to be presided over by a Supreme Court Judge. The decision of this Tribunal will be rendered within six months and would be binding on both parties. All legal and constitutional steps required in this respect be taken expeditiously.

9.3. The construction of the SYL canal shall continue. The canal shall be completed by 15th August 1986.

#### 10. REPRESENTATION OF MINORITIES

10.1. Existing instructions regarding protection of interests of minorities will be recirculated to the State Chief Ministers. (PM will write to all Chief Ministers).

#### 11. PROMOTION OF PUNJABI LANGUAGE

11.1. The Central Government may take some steps for the promotion of the Punjabi language.

This settlement brings to an end a period of confrontation and ushers in an era of amity, goodwill and cooperation, which will promote and strengthen the unity and integrity of India.

Rajiv Gandhi  
Prime Minister of India

Sant Harchand Singh Longowal  
President  
Shiromani Akali Dal

Dated, the 24th July, 1983.

DIA USA OMAN UNITED KINGDOM

**Date :** Jul 25, 1985

## Volume No

1995

KOREA

Shri Khurshed Alam Khans Speech at Dinner in Honour of H.E. Mr. Won Kyung Lee

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jul 19, 1985 of the speech by the Minister of State for External Affairs, Shri Khurshed Alam Khan, at a dinner hosted by him in honour of H.E. Mr. Won Kyung Lee, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea here tonight (New Delhi, July 19, 1985):

It is both an honour and a pleasure for me personally to welcome you and other members of your distinguished delegation here this evening. The occasion has added significance because this is your first visit to India as Foreign Minister although I believe Your Excellency is no stranger to India having visited us during the last Asian Games as Sports Minister.

The cultural and historical links between Korea and India go back to centuries. It was sometime in the 6th century that Buddhist monks from Korea visited India and on their return, spread Lord Buddha's message of love, peace compassion and piety. We are happy that the legacy of these early contacts between our two countries in the cultural and religious fields can still be seen in some parts of your country.

#### BILATERAL RELATIONS

Recalling the recent past, India has been closely associated with developments on the Korean peninsula since your independence. Bilateral consular relations were established with your country in  
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1962 and these were raised to the Ambassador level in 1973, indicating India's great interest in developing relations with the Republic of Korea.

We share with the people of Korea the conviction that the heart and spirit of man are indivisible and, therefore, wish that through peaceful efforts and without any outside interference the reunification of Korea may one day be achieved. We had welcomed the efforts made in 1972 to start a dialogue on the Korean question and the initiatives taken by your Government subsequently. Pending the achievements of this cherished goal of reunification, it is important, in our opinion, for both sides to reduce tension in the Korean peninsula and to take appropriate measures not only to ensure peaceful coexistence, but also to strive for a degree of fruitful cooperation and exchanges in social, cultural and economic fields. We in India as friends of the Korean people wish you well in your endeavours.

#### PEACE, FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION

As Your Excellency would be aware, India's policy since its independence has been one of peace, friendship and cooperation.

This principle underlines the ideal of Non-alignment - the cornerstone of India's foreign policy. We consider Non-alignment as an extension of our freedom. Proceeding from this basic premise, India has always sincerely endeavoured to forge close, friendly, cooperative and mutually beneficial ties with our neighbouring countries and with the different parts of the world. India has been a founder member of the Nonaligned Movement, which today embraces nearly 2/3rd of the community of nations. We are fully conscious of our responsibilities as the current Chairman of the Non-aligned Movement.

#### ECONOMIC VITALITY

As an Asian country our relations with fellow Asian countries naturally acquire a special significance for us. We have constantly striven for friendly, peaceful and cooperative relations, not only with our immediate neighbours, in the South Asian region, but with the rest of Asia as well, of which the Republic of Korea constitutes an important and significant part.

It is a matter of satisfaction for us that in our bilateral relations there are no outstanding problems between our two countries. We can, therefore, devote our full energies in strengthening and expanding the mutually beneficial cooperation which we have been steadily building up over the years. We would hope that the imbalance in our trade will be speedily rectified by both countries. The remarkable technological and industrial progress and economic vitality demonstrated by the Republic of Korea has received the admiration of the world and is, indeed, an example of growth and progress for many developing countries.

#### SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROGRESS

Both our countries are committed to peace and to bringing about socio-economic progress of our peoples. As developing countries striving towards cooperation and self-reliance there is a great deal that we can do together, in promoting the welfare of our peoples.

Excellency, we are living today in a highly troubled world marked by regional and global tensions. On the economic side, the gap between the rich and the poor, the developed and developing is only increasing. All this calls for some rethinking and sincere and honest efforts to work for a just and equitable international order including economic order. In the developing world, given the progress which our two countries have respectively achieved, we can perhaps join hands and share the fruits of progress with others. The Republic of Korea and India are perhaps eminently qualified to work together for the larger benefit of the developing world and for ensuring a better future for mankind.

. Seoul is the venue of the next Asian Games in 1986, and the Olympic Games

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in 1988. You have our best wishes for the successful hosting of both these major international events.

Excellency, your visit to India will, I am confident, contribute significantly to our growing friendship and cooperation. I have no doubt that both our countries are conscious of the need and scope for enhancing mutually beneficial cooperation in various fields particularly economic, commercial and technical.

May I now request our distinguished guests to join me in proposing a toast to the Republic of Korea, His Excellency the Foreign Minister of Korea, other distinguished members of the visiting delegation and to the growing friendship and cooperation between our two countries and our peoples.

REA INDIA USA

**Date** : Jul 19, 1985

## Volume No

1995

KOREA

Text of Speech by W. Won-Kyung Lee

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jul 19, 1985 of the speech by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea, H.E. Won-Kyung Lee, at a dinner hosted in his honour by Shri Khurshed Alam Khan, Minister of State for External Affairs, here tonight (New Delhi, July 19, 1985):

On behalf of my delegation and on my own behalf, I would like to express my sincere gratitude for a sumptuous dinner and the friendly remarks made about our country.

Excellency, India sounds quite familiar to the Korean people. India also connotes many things for the Korean people. Your great country appears in our people's mind as the land which has profoundly influenced us in the spiritual realm and has rendered help to us on various occasions as well.

With such a long-standing attachment for India, we have always been naturally desirous of further developing our relations with India.

In this sense, I am happy to note that our ties have been remarkably promoted to our mutual benefit and satisfaction. Apart from the trade imbalance, there is no vexing aspect in our relations. Instead, we share common desires and the will to further strengthen our bond of friendly cooperation.

#### NOTABLE RELATION

We are not neighbouring countries. We are not identical in the circumstances where we find ourselves. This may have led us now and then to take a different perception on certain issues. However, we have forged a notable relation with still ample room for expansion. It is my sincere wish to see our relationship placed on a higher plane.

Excellency, the Korean people were horribly shocked when the late Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi passed away in a cowardly and heinous act.

#### GREAT TRADITION

But we were heartened to know that India has quickly regained her normalcy, demonstrating again her great tradition as the biggest democratic country in the world.

We understand that with the introduction of a more efficient policy under the prominent leadership of H.E. Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, the Indian people are making considerable progress in national development. It is our earnest hope that India will continue to succeed in attaining prosperity and unity among diversity.

India is widely respected for her genuine devotion to world peace and the well-being of mankind. In view of the conflicts and competition characteristic of

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the present international situation, India's role is highly appreciated by the world community.

#### DIRECT TALKS

In the Korean peninsula, a durable peace is not yet established. Recently, the dialogue was resumed between South and North Korea. However, we are not hasty in regard to the prospects of the dialogue, since we are well aware of the motivations behind North Korea's response to our appeal for the resumption of the dialogue.

Nevertheless, we will strive in good faith and with patience for the continuation of the dialogue, because direct talks are the only possible way for the realisation of peaceful reunification.

We ardently hope that the international community assists us in the success of the inter-Korea dialogue by creating an atmosphere conducive to the end. In this connection, I would like to stress that the discussion on the Korean question in the international fora including the Nonaligned conferences will not be beneficial to the progress of dialogue between South and North Korea.

Excellency, I am delighted to visit your great country. During my stay, I have felt, on every occasion, the warm friendship of the Indian people towards the Korean people. Whenever I met with leaders of your Government, I was happy to feel their enthusiasm for the strengthening of our relations. Though my stay is rather brief, I shall return to Seoul with a pleasant memory of my visit.

Distinguished guests, may I now ask you to join me in a toast to the good health of President Giani Zail Singh, to the good health and success of State Minister Khurshed Alam Khan, to the prosperity and happiness of the people of India and the eternal friendship between India and Korea.

REA INDIA USA NORTH KOREA

**Date :** Jul 19, 1985

## Volume No

1995

KOREA

India and Korea Sign Agreement to Avoid Double Taxation

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jul 19, 1985 on the signing of an agreement between India and Korea to avoid double taxation:

A convention for the avoidance of double taxation and the prevention Of fiscal evasion with respect to taxes on income was signed here today between India and the Republic of Korea.

The convention was signed by Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh, Union Minister for Finance and Mr. Won Kyung Lee, visiting Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea.

Speaking on the occasion the Finance Minister said that the signing of this agreement would step up the modernisation process of the country initiated by the Prime Minister.

The convention will be ratified and the instruments of ratification will be exchanged at Seoul. The convention shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after the date of exchange of the instruments of ratification.

In India, this convention will have effect in respect of tax withheld at the source on amounts paid or credited to nonresidents on or after the first day of April 1984, in respect of other taxes for previous years beginning on or after the first day of April, 1984.

Under the convention, double taxation will be avoided by the credit method according to which the country of residence will allow credit for the taxes paid in the country of source against its own taxes.  
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REA INDIA USA

**Date :** Jul 19, 1985

## Volume No

1995

PAKISTAN

Inaugural Session of Indo-Pakistan Joint Commission - Text of Shri Khurshed Alam Khan's Speech

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jul 02, 1985 of the speech by the Minister of State for External Affairs, Shri Khurshed Alam Khan at the inaugural session of the second meeting of the Indo-Pakistan Joint Commission here today (New Delhi July 2, 1985):

The second meeting of the Indo-Pakistan Joint Commission is a welcome occasion. It is a matter of satisfaction for me to get the opportunity to participate in this meeting and it gives me great pleasure to extend a warm welcome to Your Excellency and to the members of your delegation. I wish you all a pleasant stay in our country. I earnestly hope that the discussions between our two delegations will be constructive, mutually satisfactory and fruitful.

In agreeing to set up the Joint Commission, our late Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi, who was its moving spirit and your President had visualized the Joint Commission to provide an institutional framework for fostering growing contacts and

cooperation between our two countries and peoples in various areas of mutual interest and benefit. The importance we attach to our relations with your country is evident from the fact that the agreement for setting up the Joint Commission was the only bilateral agreement signed during the seventh Non-aligned Summit in New Delhi.

Thirteen years ago, on this day in Simla we had set before ourselves the task of promoting friendly and harmonious relations and the establishment of durable peace in the sub-continent on the basis of sovereign equality and complete non-interference so that both countries could devote their resources and energies to the pressing task of advancing the welfare of their people. The Indo-Pak Joint Commission symbolises the Simla spirit and has before it the same goals. On the anniversary of the historic Simla Agreement, we rededicate ourselves to its objectives and spirits.

#### MEETING OF FOUR SUB-COMMISSIONS

We made a good beginning when the Joint Commission was launched in June, 1983. The meeting of the four sub-commissions in January, 1984 gave some further impetus to this endeavour. We are happy that some useful, though modest, progress has been achieved so far. The attention of the peoples of our two countries will be focussed on our deliberations over the next two days. Our earnest hope is that these deliberations will make some concrete contribution towards fostering new areas of cooperation and new bonds of friendship between our peoples.

The four sub-commissions which will separately meet in the next two days will discuss a vast range of subjects. From our side, we have experts who will be discussing matters such as the finalisation of a protocol on shipping, mutual collaboration between industrial organisations in both countries, cooperation in agricultural activities, improvement in railways, tele-communication and postal services as also collaboration between the experts of both our countries in the all important field of health and the eradication of communicable diseases. Public interest in both countries will centre in our discussions, regarding travel facilities, cooperation in the cultural field and the improvement of trade relations between India and Pakistan. Our endeavour would be to concretise various proposals and ideas and reach mutually satisfactory agreements. Our objective is to increase contacts and cooperation where they exist and to explore new avenues for such cooperation. Our approach is positive and I wish to assure you that any new

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ideas or proposals that you may have will receive our most constructive consideration.

UNIQUE FORUM

The four sub-commissions provide a unique forum for Indian and Pakistan experts and officials dealing with a variety of subjects which have a direct bearing on the day-to-day life of the common man in either country. The meeting of the sub-commissions on this occasion will provide another opportunity to our officials and experts for freely exchanging thoughts and ideas and for considering old as well as new proposals which should be of direct benefit to our two peoples.

Both Pakistan and India have an immense pool of talent in the scientific, technological artistic and other areas. Our interaction in various fields can only go to reinforce these talents and provide them with fresh avenues of thought thereby multiplying the effects of this already large reservoir of talent in both our countries. At the same time, our cooperation in fields which may at first sight appear more mundane and down-to-earth such as travel and consular facilities are also of immense importance since the relaxation and normalisation of our procedures in these sectors provide immediate relief to the ordinary people of India and Pakistan.

#### STARTING POINT

Protocols and agreements are important but they are not an end in themselves. They represent the starting point in a joint endeavour. We have to look beyond the signing of agreements; we have to ensure that decisions taken by the Joint Commission through mutual agreement are implemented expeditiously in letter and in spirit. Various agencies of the two governments concerned with their implementation have to ensure timely action in pursuance of these decisions. The two Foreign Ministers have a crucial role to play as coordinating agencies.

The people of India sincerely desire cordial, cooperation and good neighbourly relations with your country, devoid of past suspicions, mistrusts, and recrimination. I am confident that our discussions will be marked by cordiality and will be productive and useful so that we can take another step forward towards the achievement of the goals for which the Joint Commission was established. In this endeavour I bring to you all the good wishes of Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi and the Government and people of India, I once again welcome Your Excellency and the members of your delegation.

KISTAN INDIA USA MALI

**Date :** Jul 02, 1985

**Volume No**

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1995

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PAKISTAN

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Shri Khurshed Alam Khan's Speech at Dinner in Honour of Foreign Minister of Pakistan

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The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jul 02, 1985 of the speech by the Minister of State for External Affairs, Shri Khurshed Alam Khan at a dinner hosted by him in honour of H.E. Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, Foreign Minister of Pakistan here tonight (New Delhi, July 2, 1985):

It is a matter of great satisfaction that the second meeting of the Indo-Pakistan Joint Commission in New Delhi coincides with the 13th anniversary of the Simla agreement which is indeed a milestone in the history of our relations. On 2nd July, 1972, we had mutually agreed to take to the path of progressive normalisation and promotion of friendly and harmonious relations; we had resolved to sort our differences through negotiations; we had committed ourselves to the principles of peaceful co-existence, respect for each other's territorial integrity and sovereignty and non-interference. In order to achieve progressive restoration and normalisation of relations, we had agreed to take various steps. You will agree, Excellency that the second meeting of the Joint Commission provides

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the most appropriate occasion for re-dedicating ourselves to the letter and spirit of the Simla Agreement.

#### SIMLA AGREEMENT

The task that we are together trying to achieve under the aegis of the Joint Commission is but a continuation of the goal we had set before ourselves under the Simla Agreement. We made a useful though modest, beginning two years ago and our earnest hope is that this meeting will give a further impetus to our efforts to move forward.

As our Prime Minister has stated on several occasions, we want to see a new atmosphere in our relations. We anxiously seek a positive turn in our relations devoid of the past mistrusts and misgivings. There is a reservoir of immense goodwill amongst our people for your country and your people. I wish to assure Your Excellency that we approach the deliberations in the Joint Commission in this positive and constructive spirit.

I once again extend to Your Excellency and members of your delegation a warm and friendly welcome.

Friends, with these few words, I would like to request you all to join me in drinking a toast to the health of His Excellency, the

Foreign Minister of Pakistan, and to the well-being and prosperity of the people of Pakistan.

KISTAN INDIA MALI USA

**Date :** Jul 02, 1985

## Volume No

1995

PAKISTAN

### India and Pakistan Conclude Agricultural Cooperation Agreement

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jul 04, 1985 of the agricultural cooperation agreement between India and Pakistan:

An Indo-Pakistan agreement, for cooperation in the field of agricultural research and development was concluded here today.

The agreement was formally signed by the Union Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development, Shri Buta Singh and the Pakistan Minister for External Affairs, Sahebzada Yakub Khan, on behalf of their respective countries.

The agreement envisages cooperation and collaboration between the two countries through their executing agencies viz, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and Pakistan Agricultural Research Council (PARC) in the field of exchange of germplasm and breeding materials, exchange of scientific literature, information and methodologies; exchange of scientists and technologies and their participation in seminars, symposia, workshops; import and export of scientific equipment as available and required in programmes of, common interest.

Representatives of both the countries will meet once a year, alternately at New Delhi and Islamabad, to formulate work-plans for the succeeding year.

The agreement stipulates publication of research findings as also creation of facilities for exchange of scientists and technologists and their proper placement as also for the grant of fellowships to students and scientists for study and research in the respective institutions of the two countries.

Under the agreement, inter-institutional links will be established to facilitate advancement of objectives of the

agreement. A joint follow-up committee has to be set up, to meet alternately at New Delhi and Islamabad once a year, to see to the proper execution of the Agreement.

The conclusion of the agreement between the two countries is one more step in the series of steps to foster greater understanding and bilateral cooperation between India and Pakistan and to develop good neighbourly relationship between the two countries.  
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KISTAN INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC USA

**Date :** Jul 04, 1985

## Volume No

1995

PAKISTAN

Text of Shri Buta Singh's Speech

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jul 04, 1985 on the Indo-Pakistan agriculture cooperation agreement:

An agreement on cooperation in the field of agriculture between India and Pakistan was signed here today.

The agreement was signed by the Union Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development, Shri Buta Singh and the Pakistan Minister for External Affairs, Sahebzada Yakub Khan.

Speaking on the occasion, Shri Buta Singh said:

Your Excellency, it is indeed a privilege and a matter of personal satisfaction for me to sign this agreement on cooperation in the field of agriculture between the Government of India and the Government of Islamic Republic of Pakistan. Signing of this agreement registers a positive step towards further strengthening and promoting bilateral cooperation and understanding between our two countries. It should be a matter of great pleasure for all of us to see that this agreement which was first thought of during the first meeting of the India-Pakistan Joint Commission meeting held in June, 1983 is now finalised and signed during the second meeting of the India-Pakistan Joint Commission during its three-day deliberations. It is interesting to note that the present meeting is coinciding with the 13th anniversary of the historic Simla agreement signed in 1972.

This happy occasion gives me an opportunity to reassure and reaffirm the sincere desire of the people of India to generate and sustain cordial, cooperative and good neighbourly relations with the people of Pakistan. OUR two countries have a common historical background and cultural heritage. Agriculture is the main support for the economic development of both countries. We have very much in common as far as climatic conditions, cropping systems, land use patterns and ecological set up are concerned. India has developed one of the largest infrastructures in the field of agricultural research and education and we would be indeed happy to share our experience and knowledge with Pakistan based on reciprocity and mutuality of interests.

#### RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

The agreement which is being signed today covers the areas of agricultural research as well as development. It envisages bilateral cooperation through exchange of scientists and technologists, germ-plasm and breeding materials, scientific literature, information and methodologies, participation in seminars, symposia, workshops etc. and import export of scientific equipment.

The specific details of cooperation under this agreement will be developed by way of an annual workplan through mutual consultation and interaction between the concerned experts of the two countries. Representatives of both the Governments will meet alternately each year in New Delhi and Islamabad to formulate the workplan.

A joint follow-up committee set up under this agreement will follow-up the execution of this agreement and suggest necessary measures for its development.

Pakistan and India share some important breeds of cattle (Sahiwal and Red Sindhi) and buffalo (Nili-Ravi). We can develop cooperative research and development programmes for their improvement through exchange of semen of superior bulls or taking up joint progeny testing programmes for bulls of these breeds, utilising the organised farms of these breeds in these two countries.

In the field of crop science, India would be interested in sharing experience in horticulture with particular reference to temperate and arid zone fruits and in citrus research. Irrigation distribution system

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may be another area of common interest in the field of soil science.

I have no doubt in my mind that this agreement will form the

basis for a durable and harmonious relations between India and Pakistan, and we will be watching with keen interest the development of further cooperative activities in the field of agriculture between our two countries in an atmosphere of cordiality and constructive approach.

KISTAN INDIA USA PERU LATVIA

**Date :** Jul 04, 1985

## Volume No

1995

SOVIET UNION

Indo-Soviet Sports Protocol for 1985 and 1986 Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jul 22, 1985 on the signing of an Indo-Soviet sports protocol for 1985 and 1986-

The Government of India and the U.S.S.R. signed a sports protocol for 1985 and 1986, here today. Shri R. K. Jaichandra Singh, Minister of State for Youth Affairs and Sports signed on behalf of India and H.E. Mr. AL V. Gramov, Chairman, Committee of Physical Culture and Sports on behalf of his Government.

As per the protocol, a joint committee of experts consisting of two senior experts from each country will be set up to examine the feasibility of improving existing facilities and faculties in one of the regional centres of the Netaji Subhas National Institute of Sports (NSNIS) with a view to upgrading that centre as a centre of excellence in regard to appropriate sports discipline.

The joint committee of experts will prepare a feasibility report and submit it, within six months from this date, to both the Governments for their further consideration.

The protocol also agreed to have the following exchanges in 1985:

The USSR will send three coaches in the disciplines of weightlifting athletics and synhchronised swimming for a period of two months each. The coaches of weightlifting and synchronised swimming will come to India in September-October.

Four specialists, one each in bio-mechanics of sports, psychology of sportsmen and two specialists in methods of coaching for a

period of 30 days to render assistance to the Netaji Subhas National Institute of Sports (NSNIS), Patiala and the Lakshmi Bai National College of Physical Education (LNCPE), Gwalior, have already visited India in 1985.

The Committee on Physical Culture and Sports under the Council of Ministers of the USSR will assist the LNCPE, Gwalior, and establish institutional contact with the Research Institute for Child Adolescence Physiology of the USSR, Academy of Paedagogical Sciences, Moscow, and selected institutes of physical culture in the USSR for exchange of published literature, preferably in English. Also one Grand Master of repute will come to India for coaching Indian chess players at Mount Abu for a period of one month (November-December). A 15-member team composed of acrobatic sports and modern (artistic) gymnasts will visit India for a period of 12 days for exhibition performances (October-November), besides visits by many other teams.

During 1985, India will send one athletics (track and field) coach to study for  
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six months coaching course under the State Central Institute of Physical Culture, a 11-member sports gymnastic team for training and competitions and some other teams.

During 1986, the USSR will send among others, upto six coaches (specialists) for a period of upto two months in basketball, swimming, boxing, archery, track and field and volleyball and one expert in sports medicine for a period of 3 days for National Institute of Sports, Patiala.

During 1986, India will send among others, a 12-member free-style wrestling team for a period of upto 4 days for Joint training and to participate in international competitions (February-March), a 10-member boxers team to participate in international competitions (dates to be agreed upon by mutual consultations), and a 22-member field hockey team (men) for a period of 10 days for joint training and competition in April). Besides, as per the protocol, copies of quarterly issues of Chess India in exchange of sports magazines and other material relating to the promotion of chess in the USSR will take place.

DIA USA RUSSIA

**Date :** Jul 22, 1985

**Volume No**

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1995

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## SWEDEN

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### Swedish Assistance Agreement for a Social Forestry Project in Bihar Signed

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The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jul 05, 1985 on the Swedish assistance agreement for a social forestry project in Bihar:

An agreement regarding Swedish assistance for a social forestry project in Bihar was signed here today between India and Sweden by Shri M. S. Mukherjee, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Finance and Mr. Rolf Gauffin, Charge d'Affairs of the Swedish Embassy in India on behalf of their respective Governments.

The project will give impetus to improving the living conditions of the indigent part of the rural population in the Chota-Nagpur and Santhal Parganas in Bihar. The project aims at increasing the production of fuelwood, small timber, fodder, minor forest produce for the rural population, creating job opportunities for the poor in the project area and providing land to the landless farm people. The total value of Swedish economic assistance to India annually is S. Kr. 340 million, approximately equal to Rs. 48 crores.

Sweden has been assisting India in a number of projects in the forestry sector including the Tamil Nadu social forestry project and the Orissa social forestry project. The current agreement on social forestry project further expands Indo-Swedish cooperation in the field of social forestry.

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EDEN INDIA UNITED KINGDOM USA

**Date :** Jul 05, 1985

## Volume No

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1995

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## TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

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### Dinner in Honour of Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago- Shri Rajiv Gandhi's Address

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The following is the text of a Press release issued in New Delhi on Jul 29, 1985 of the speech by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, in New Delhi on July 29, 1985 at the dinner hosted in honour of the Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago:

It is a great pleasure to have you in India, Prime Minister. You were here for the Commonwealth meeting two years ago. Now you have travelled across half the globe to demonstrate your goodwill for us. This gives us an opportunity to show our regard for you and our, friendship for your people.

The thousands of miles between our two countries do not really separate us. Nor the great difference in size.- We have so much in common. Both are societies of great ethnic diversity, out of which we have built a distinctive identity. Both have gone through the experience of colonialism. We are still suffering from its after-effects. But that very experience has forged many links. We both play and love cricket. Your sport heroes are household names in our country, and ours, I hope, in your land. Sugarcane cultivation took a good number of Indian families decades ago to your country. They are proud citizens of Trinidad and Tobago, contributing to the wealth and progress of your country. Indian names and Indian languages are common in your country.

#### JOY OF LIVING

There is one thing about your people that endears them to all. - the joy of living. It comes out so beautifully in your music which is adored by millions across the world, especially the young. It is as if the creative vitality of an ancient people, long suppressed by colonialism, had burst forth into song. In many ways both your people and ours are going back to their roots to discover the sources of their strength.

I remember how delighted our late Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, was to visit your beautiful land in 1968. She was greatly moved by the warmth of the welcome. We have also been touched by the sympathy expressed by your Government and people on the occasion of her death last year.

#### CRICKET

There are no problems between us. Our only "confrontations" have been on the cricket field. We are involved in a common pursuit of shared objectives. We are both active in the United Nations. Currently both countries are members of the Security Council. We are both Non. aligned. We believe in a world in which peoples should have the freedom to decide their own policies without having to bow to any dictate other than the dictate of peace and human brotherhood. We stand for peaceful co-existence and peaceful resolution of disputes. We are also working together for ensuring that no people, our own or others, are forced to live in poverty or are denied the benefit of modern technology.

#### BREAKTHROUGH IN EXPORTS

Distance comes in the way of our developing greater economic relations. However, in the recent past, your country had made a significant breakthrough in exports to India. This proves that even when two economies are complementary they can have exchanges. There is great scope for identifying new avenues of commercial and economic exchanges. The Agreement on Scientific and Technical Cooperation between our two coun-  
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tries that will be signed during Your Excellency's visit, will, I am sure, open up new vistas of cooperation.

It is hard for developing countries individually to withstand the impact of international crises or the pressures of the developed world. But if we stand together, we shall be better able to secure our interests. South-South solidarity will be a good supplement to North-South cooperation. I am sure that India and Trinidad and Tobago will not only enlarge bilateral relations but work together for the New International Economic Order.

Ladies and gentlemen, may I invite you to join me in a toast to the health and happiness of the Honourable George Michael Chambers, Prime Minister of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago; to the continuing well-being and prosperity of the people of Trinidad and Tobago; and to friendship between our two countries?

INIDAD AND TOBAGO INDIA USA

**Date :** Jul 29, 1985

## Volume No

1995

USA

Reported Training in a Mercenary School in USA - Statement by Minister of State in Rajya Sabha

The following is the text of a Press release issued in New Delhi on Jul 25, 1985 on the statement by Shri Khurshed Alam Khan on the reported training in a mercenary school in USA in the Rajya Sabha in response to a Calling Attention Notice:

The Mercenary Training School is the Reconda School at Huey Ville, which is 30 miles from Alabama, USA. It is run by Mr. Frank Camper. Four extremists, supporters of Khalistan, namely, Balraj Singh, Lal Singh, Avraj Singh, and Sukhwinder Singh, reported for a training course in November 1984 in the School. Of these, Balraj Singh received an eye injury and could not

complete the course. They expressed a desire to Mr. Camper to be trained in small arms, use of explosives, street fighting, assassination, etc. They also wanted to be trained in blowing of bridges; hotels, nuclear facilities and other vital installations in India. They also conveyed that they would like to be trained in chemical sabotage, so that they could create a situation something similar to the one that occurred in Bhopal.

The evidence collected by FBI from this training course shows that this was part of a larger conspiracy. The arrest of 5 persons in the first week of May 1985 by the New Orleans Police under different charges viz. conspiracy to possess and receive explosives, possession of unregistered firearms, conspiracy to assassinate an internationally protected person, etc. goes to confirm this. Of the five arrested, Sukhwinder Singh had received training in the Camper school. Lal Singh had also received training there and he is wanted by the FBI in connection with the same case, An indictment for conspiracy has been filed by the US authorities in the District Court, Louisiana, on May 9, 1985. The case is pending.

Our concern at the training given to the extremists elements has been conveyed to the US at various levels - both operational and diplomatic - in meetings with the State Department in USA. The publicity given to the Camper School has led to considerable concern in the USA and the Senate Subcommittee on Terrorism, headed by Senator Delton, is repor-  
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tedly thinking of investigating the whole matter. Our Embassy in Washington is in touch with the Senate Subcommittee. The US position is that these were not terrorists' training schools but Mercenary schools giving regular military type of training and that the schools conform with State Laws. They are examining how far Federal law can be better applied to regulate such schools. The Government have raised this matter forcefully with the US Authorities.

A INDIA UNITED KINGDOM

**Date :** Jul 25, 1985

## Volume No

1995

VIETNAM

50,000 Tonnes of Wheat for Vietnam

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jul 28, 1985 on the signing of a loan agreement of 50,000 tonnes of wheat by India to Vietnam:

The Government of India has extended a loan of 50,000 tonnes of wheat to the Government of Socialist Republic of Vietnam. The loan agreement was signed here today by Smt. Otima Bordia, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Finance and His Excellency Mr. Hoang Anh Tuan, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Vietnam on behalf of their respective Governments.

This is the fourth commodity loan being extended to Government of Vietnam. The earlier three commodity loans were given in 1977, 1978 and 1980 for 1,00,000 tonnes of wheat, 3,00,000 tonnes; of wheat and 50,000 tonnes of rice respectively.

Speaking on the occasion, Smt. Otima Bordia said that this agreement is a part of our mutual co-operation and long standing friendship. H.E. Mr. Hoang Anh Tuan, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Vietnam termed this agreement as a big step toward strengthening friendship and he looked forward for more assistance from India.

ETNAM INDIA

**Date :** Jul 28, 1985

## Volume No

1995

YUGOSLAVIA

Indo-Yugoslav Trade Agreement

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jul 29, 1985 on the signing of a trade protocol between India and Yugoslavia:

India and Yugoslavia signed a trade protocol here today.

The 15th session of the Indo-Yugoslav Joint Committee met in Delhi between July 25th and 29th, 1985 and discussed the issues relating to trade, industrial and third country cooperation and other economic matters. The Indian delegation <pg-221>

was led by Commerce Minister, Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh and

the Yugoslav delegation was led by Dr. Milenko Bojanovic.

Both sides recognised that the level of trade does not reflect the requirements of the two economies or the potentialities. It was not commensurate with the close traditional and political relationship between the two countries. The linked deal mechanism which had been designed to raise the level of trade and diversify it on a more balanced basis was also discussed in detail and it was decided to set up an Expert Group to look into the problems coming in the way of attaining increased levels of trade. Some procedural bottlenecks were identified and remedial measures have been taken.

On the question of third country projects and industrial cooperation, considerable ground was covered. Both sides noted with satisfaction that there has been very good development of industrial cooperation between the two countries in many fields. It was decided by both the sides to take necessary steps in order to further intensify and develop these contacts.

With regard to the third country projects, both sides agreed to keep closer contact with each other and to cooperate from the pre-tendering stage.

As usual, the talks were held in an atmosphere of extreme cordiality and mutual understanding.

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GOSLAVIA INDIA USA

**Date :** Jul 29, 1985

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**Date :** Aug 01, 1985

# Volume No

1995

AFGHANISTAN

Seventh Meeting of Joint Commission - Text of Statement by Minister of State for External Affairs

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Aug 06, 1985 of the speech by the Minister of State for External Affairs, Shri Khurshed Alam Khan at the inaugural session of the seventh meeting of India-Afghanistan Joint Commission here today (New Delhi, August 6, 1985):

It gives me great pleasure to welcome Your Excellency and members of your delegation. It is a matter of great satisfaction for me to have this opportunity of participating in the seventh meeting of the India Afghanistan Joint Commission. I wish you all a pleasant stay in our country, and I hope that our two delegations will have useful discussions which will contribute towards further strengthening of the friendly relations between our two countries.

The friendship between our two countries and peoples has a long tradition and has stood the test of time. Our two peoples greatly value this friendship which has not been affected by transitory changes. I am confident that this friendship will continue to grow in the years to come to our mutual benefit.

The institution of the India-Afghanistan Joint Commission has proved useful in the development of mutually beneficial cooperation between the two countries in various areas of common interest of our peoples.

## MINISTERIAL LEVEL MEETING

The decision taken by our Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, to raise the Joint Commission to Ministerial level, like our earlier decision to reactivate the Joint commission machinery in May 1982, is indicative of the importance we attach to our relations with your country. It is also indicative of our desire to encourage cooperation between our two countries with a view to fulfilling our shared objective of ensuring the well-being of our peoples.

During the discussions in the next three days, it will be our endeavour to carry forward the programme of cooperation between the two countries that already exist in a manner which would

serve the above purposes but even more than that which would benefit the peoples of Afghanistan and India in accordance with their genuine needs and expectations.

We have watched with interest and sympathy your endeavours at national reconstruction. We have in a very modest way extended our cooperation in this endeavour. I wish to assure you that, subject to our own constraints, we will continue to do so to the extent possible.

It is a matter of great satisfaction that projects like the Institute of Child Health, the Industrial Estate and the Indian Classical Music Centre in Kabul have come to symbolise Indo-Afghan cooperation under the aegis of the Joint Commission. I believe that, instead of diffusing our attention and resources, we should concentrate on a few mutually agreed projects of direct benefit for the common man and give our fullest attention for their success. While we will be guided by your suggestions and wishes, I am sure that you will agree with this overall approach.  
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#### MUSIC CENTRE

Our relations in the cultural field have always been very close. We are glad that the Indian Classical Music Centre in Kabul has been received well by our Afghan friends. It is a matter of satisfaction that a new Cultural Exchange Programme is being signed to coincide with your visit. I have no doubt that the new programme will further accelerate cultural contacts between our two countries.

Trade has been an important aspect of our relations. Of late there have been some difficulties and our officials had met from time to time to discuss details with a view to finding mutually satisfactory solutions. I hope that discussions in this field during the Joint Commission meeting will contribute towards finding satisfactory solutions.

After the inaugural session, in keeping with the past practice, a Working Group consisting of officials from both sides will meet to discuss details. They will report to us from time to time in the next three days.

Excellency, I would like to conclude my remarks with the expression of our confidence that this meeting of the India-Afghanistan Joint Commission will make a positive contribution towards further expansion of the friendly relations between our two countries and peoples.

I once again extend to Your Excellency and members of your delegation a very warm welcome and a pleasant stay in our country.

**Date :** Aug 06, 1985

## Volume No

1995

AFGHANISTAN

Text of Statement of Afghanistan's Minister of Foreign Affairs

The following is the text of a Press release of the text of the statement of His Excellency Mr. Shah Mohammad Dost, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan at the inaugural session of the seventh meeting of the India-Afghanistan Joint Commission:

Allow me, at the outset, to express our deep appreciation for your kind words about my country and for your good wishes for the Afghan people. We are also profoundly touched by the warm and friendly welcome accorded to us in the beautiful city of New Delhi. We believe that this is both a demonstration of the traditional Indian hospitality and a manifestation of the friendly relations that happily exist between our two neighbouring countries.

### BONDS OF FRIENDSHIP

This close friendship, we are convinced, is not a result of political convenience, but stems from the will of our two people who during long centuries of living close to each other have cemented bonds of friendship which transcend any political consideration. Indeed our long historical, cultural and religious ties have always dictated that we should remain close friends and cooperate with each other.

### ARCHITECT OF JOINT COMMISSION

We are pleased to note that your leaders have always shown a great interest in Afghanistan. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru played a significant role in strengthening the bonds of friendship between our two peoples and countries and was, in fact, the initiator of the treaty of friendship between Afghanistan and the late Shrimati Indira Gandhi, whom we will always remember as a dedicated champion of world peace and peaceful cooperation among nations as well as the cause of non-alignment, who rendered great services to the friendly Indian people, had a keen interest in, and a profound knowledge of Afghanistan. In fact, she was the

architect of this Joint Commission the seventh meeting of which we are opening, now.

We are confident that under the leadership of His Excellency Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, the tradition of close  
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friendship and mutually beneficial cooperation between our peoples and countries will further grow and flourish. At the same time, I want to assure you, Excellency, that our leader, Comrade Babrak Kamal, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party, of Afghanistan and President of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA and under his leadership the Party and Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan attach great importance to our ties of friendship and mutual cooperation with the Republic of India. We will do everything to further expand and consolidate these relations and cooperation in the interest of our two people and to the benefit of peace and security in our region and the world over.

#### NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT

The Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and India are both firmly committed to the objectives and principles of the Non-aligned Movement. This is yet another reason for us to cooperate with each other. As friends, we are particularly pleased for the constructive role being played by India in the Non-aligned Movement as its current leader. We are also glad that due to its peaceful policy and its active role in the international relations, India has always enjoyed a prestigious place in world arena.

Excellency, friends, we are following keenly the developments in our region. We note with concern that in pursuance of their nefarious designs, certain circles are endeavouring to destabilize a number of the countries of our region. Unfortunately, our country and to a certain degree you are among the targets chosen by the aggressive and adventurist circles. However, free, independent and non-aligned countries will never allow such dirty games to bear any fruit. The similarity of views that exist between our governments are not accidental. The fact is that we have a common interest in the preservation of peace, security and stability in our region and in the world. We both strive for peaceful cooperation among nations and for normal friendly relations among all the countries of the world, particularly among neighbours. Similarly we believe that we have common friends and common adversaries. We are also glad to note that similarity of views concerning many regional and international issues has enabled us to have wide cooperation in different international fora.

#### Success TOWARDS SELF-RELIANCE

We are pleased for the great achievements of the friendly Indian people in different fields. Your efforts and success towards self-reliance in the field of agriculture and for the industrialization of the country are admired by the Afghan people. We have no doubt that the new plans and targets set by your government for the further development of the country will be fully implemented and the Indian people will score yet greater successes.

Excellency, friends, it is in the light of such facts and with the feelings of friendship and goodwill that the seventh Afghan-Indo Joint Commission for Economic, Trade and Technical Cooperation, begins its work. We are pleased that after rather a long time, the periodical meetings of our Joint Commission is being held at the Ministerial level. It is a manifestation of the interest that both sides have to work for the Joint Commission.

My Government attaches a great importance to our Joint Commission and to its seventh session. We believe that it is going to prove the beginning of a new chapter in Afghan-Indo cooperation. Here, I would like to express the appreciation of my Government to the Government of India for the assistance rendered to us in the framework of the Joint Commission.

Concerning the work of the present session of our Joint Commission, we have put a number of concrete proposals at the disposal of your Government. We hope that these proposals will be favourably considered by your side.

While drawing these proposals, we have taken the means and possibilities of both sides into consideration. We assure you that we will see to it that the decisions of our Joint Commission are implemented.

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We in our part- are considering measures for the constant monitoring of the progress made in the implementation of these decisions with a view to solve any possible problems that might arise and to ensure their timely implementation.

During the work of our Commission, we will be signing a programme of cultural exchanges for the years 1985-1987, which will enhance the level of cultural exchange between us that already exist.

We are looking forward to call on the leaders of your country. These meetings, we are sure, will have a positive bearing on the happily existing friendly relations between our two peoples and countries. During our stay here, we will also meet and exchange views with a number of other friends. This will be a continuation of important exchange of views that we have had from time to time both in Kabul and in New Delhi.

To end my statement, I am pleased, Your Excellency, to invite you

to pay a friendly visit to the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan at a convenient time.

GHANISTAN INDIA USA

**Date :** Aug 06, 1985

## Volume No

1995

AFGHANISTAN

Cultural Exchange Programme Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Aug 07, 1985 on the signing of a cultural exchange programme between India and Afghanistan:

A programme of cultural exchanges for 1985-87 was signed here today between India and the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. Shri Y. S. Das, Secretary, Department of Culture signed on behalf of the Government of India and H.E. Mr. Mohiuddin Shahbaz, Deputy Minister, State Planning Committee, Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, signed on behalf of the Afghanistan Government.

To strengthen the ancient cultural bonds between the two countries, India and Afghanistan had signed a cultural agreement in October, 1963. In furtherance of its objectives, programmes of specific cultural exchanges have already been concluded and implemented. This cultural exchange programme is the fourth in the series and will come into force immediately. It envisages exchange of academics, archivists, historians, artists, performing groups, journalists, sports teams, professionals in areas of management consultancy, delegations to explore possibilities of scientific and technical co-operation, books and periodicals, micro films of rare books and art publications etc.

The programme also envisages award by India of 10 scholarships to Afghan nationals, doctoral as well as visiting fellowships to Afghan scholars and fellowships for training in public cooperation and child development. India will also provide Afghan nationals training facilities in repair and preservation of historical monuments, in care and conservation of books, manuscripts and archives etc. and in sports coaching. Besides this, India will assist Afghanistan in preservation, repair and maintenance of historical buildings and monuments and excavation of historical sites.

Provision has also been made for cooperation in joint research and teaching programmes, strengthening of the programme of Afghan studies in India and supply of text books and holding of film weeks.  
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GHANISTAN INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC USA

**Date :** Aug 07, 1985

## Volume No

1995

CYPRUS

Indo-Cyprus Cultural Exchange Programme Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Aug 01, 1985 on the signing of a cultural exchange programme between India and Cyprus:

An Indo-Cyprus programme of cultural and educational exchange for the year 1985-87 was signed here today.

This programme envisages cooperation and exchanges in the fields of educational, art and culture, sports, mass-media, handicrafts, tourism, more particularly through exchange of academics, scholars and experts on different aspects of education and exchange of artists, archaeologists, performing troupes and journalists between the two countries.

The agreement was signed by Shri K. D. Gupta, Joint Secretary, Department of Culture, on behalf of India, and H.E. Mr. Antonlos J Vakis, High Commissioner for Cyprus, on behalf of his country.

The programme further envisages participation in each other's conferences and organisation of a joint symposium, exchange of exhibitions of arts and craft and exchange of information, books and publication in different fields and encouraging cooperation in the field of tourism between the two countries.

It is also proposed to exchange radio and television programmes.

PRUS USA INDIA

**Date :** Aug 01, 1985

## Volume No

1995

DENMARK

Danish Assistance for Orissa Rural Water Supply Project

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Aug 21, 1985 on the Danish assistance for Orissa rural water supply project:

An agreement has been signed between India and Denmark under which the Government of Denmark will be giving assistance of Rs. 7.55 crores for Phase-I of the Rural Water Supply Project in Orissa which will be implemented during 1985-87. The total cost of the project is about Rs. 33.43 crores out of which Phase-I is likely to cost Rs. 8.95 crores.

Under Phase-I of the project besides other activities, 1195 new hand pump schemes and 421 rejuvenation schemes will be taken up in the coastal districts of Puri, Cuttack and Balasore in Orissa.

The agreement was signed in Copenhagen (Denmark) on August 16, 1985, by Shri Lalit Mansingh, Joint Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, on behalf of the Government of India, and Mr. Kaj Baago, Ambassador of Denmark in India, on behalf of the Government of Denmark.

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NMARK INDIA USA

**Date :** Aug 21, 1985

## Volume No

1995

ECUADOR

Statement by Minister of State in Lok Sabha

The following is the text of a press release of the statement by the Minister of State for External Affairs, Shri Khurshed Alam, Khan ' in Lok Sabha on Aug 05, 1985 on a calling attention notice of Shri Vishnu Modi and four others regarding the reported

recognition being given to the so-called Khalistan Government in-exile by the Government of Ecuador and the steps taken thereof:

"Government have seen press reports that a delegation of three prominent Ecuadorian personalities namely Dr. Carlos Julio Arocemena, Chairman of the National Revolutionary Party, Dr. Cristobal Montero, an official of the Ecuadorian Foreign Office and Mr. Patricio Buendia, a lawyer, which is presently in London, has announced that the Government of Ecuador would soon recognise the so-called Government of "Khalistan" and that the Government of Ecuador, according to the press reports, have also agreed to give some land to some Sikhs who can set up a Government-in-exile of the "Republic of Khalistan". Further it was reported that Dr. Chauhan had received an invitation to visit Ecuador.

The matter was immediately taken up by us with the Government of Ecuador. I had sent a cable in this regard to the Ecuadorian Foreign Minister in which I had conveyed inter-alia that "any (such) statement or support to the so-called 'Khalistan' would amount to interference in the internal affairs of India and would amount to questioning the unity, territorial integrity and sovereignty of the Republic of India." I said that we would accordingly deeply appreciate if the Republic of Ecuador would urgently clarify the correct position in this regard. The Indian Missions in London, Cairo, Bogota and our Permanent Mission in New York were also asked to take up the matter with their counterparts urgently. Our Embassy in Bogota (Colombia) is concurrently accredited to Ecuador and the Ecuadorian Ambassador in Cairo is concurrently accredited to India.

The Foreign Minister of Ecuador in his telex reply has categorically stated as follows:

"With reference to your Cable dated July 29, please permit me to inform you that the Government of Ecuador has not sent any official delegation abroad to make any kind of contact with any persons belonging to the Sikh movement.

Dr. Carlos Julio Arocemena Menroy has travelled to the city of London in his private capacity and his actions and contacts are in a purely private capacity and do not in any manner indicate any commitment of our national position which is the only one recognised by the Government of Ecuador. Ambassador Cristobal Montero, who at this moment is on vacation, is currently in a purely private capacity in the British capital.

Government of Ecuador has Acknowledged the legitimacy of the Sovereign Government of India and as such reiterates to your Excellency our desire to maintain most cordial and friendly relations with your Government.

We also take this opportunity to inform you that the Government of Ecuador has not maintained contacts nor has acknowledged a single movement composed by ethnic Sikh elements.

We have also been informed by the Embassy of Ecuador in New Delhi that the Government of Ecuador have issued an official statement confirming the contents of their Foreign Minister's reply. The Embassy of Ecuador has also informed us that the Government of Ecuador has reiterated the "official invitations of the Ecuadorian Government are solely  
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extended to Heads of constituted and recognised Governments. The separatist Sikh group has neither been nor will it be, recognised by the Ecuadorian Government; therefore, the said group is not a legal entity for receiving official invitations."

While we welcome the clarification of the official position of the Government of Ecuador, I would like to express our surprise that three prominent citizens of Ecuador have chosen to make such uncalled for and irresponsible statements on a matter which is strictly a domestic one of India and to have offered support for extremist and secessionist movement based outside India. Their action is not in keeping with the friendly relations that exist between India and Ecuador, a fellow member of the 'Non-Aligned Movement. We welcome and reciprocate the desire expressed to us by the Government of Ecuador for maintaining and fostering cordial relations with the Government and people of India and that it is their objective to promote through mutual accord such actions as may lead to substantial improvement in the bonds between the two countries in cultural, economic and cooperative fields.

UADOR CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC UNITED KINGDOM USA INDIA COLOMBIA EGYPT

**Date :** Aug 05, 1985

## Volume No

1995

FRANCE

French Technical Know-How to Manufacture EPABX

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Aug 21, 1985 on the selection of a French company for technical know-how:

A French Company, Jeumont Schneider has been selected by the Government as one of the three collaborators for transfer of technology for EPABX/EPAX. So far nine parties have submitted

foreign collaboration proposals with this company.

Out of the nine companies, three are in public sector and six in private sector. The public sector companies are: Indian Telephone Industries Ltd., U.P. Electronics Corporation Ltd., and West Bengal Electronics Industrial Development Corporation Ltd. The private companies are: Blue Star Ltd., Usha Computers and Peripherals Ltd., Escorts Ltd., Mahindra and Mahindra Ltd., Larsen and Toubro Ltd., and Artel Communication (P) Ltd. Each company has been allotted 50,000 lines per annum capacity.

Indian Telephone Industries Limited (ITI) is one of the parties which has submitted proposal for obtaining the technical know-how. It will manufacture EPABX/EPAX in its factory with the know-how of Jeumont Schneider.

The arrangement calls for agreements being entered into between the collaborators and the private sector companies directly.

This information was given today in the Lok Sabha in a written reply by the Minister of State for Science and Technology, Shri Shivraj Patil.  
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ANCE RUSSIA INDIA USA

**Date :** Aug 21, 1985

## Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

President's Independence Day Message

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Aug 14, 1985 of the text of the Independence Day Message of the President, Giani Zail Singh:

I greet you all, my fellow citizens, on the eve of the 38th anniversary of our independence. I extend my good wishes for your well-being and prosperity.

On this day we remember with gratitude the great sacrifices made by our people to make the country free from foreign rule. I salute all those who participated in the freedom movement with utmost devotion and spirit of sacrifice. With our efforts and hard work, we have been able to consolidate our freedom. We have

to guard this hard-won freedom with utmost vigilance against any possible threat. We have also to see that fruits of this freedom reach every section, every class of our-people.

#### DEMOCRATIC FOUNDATION

Since I addressed you on the last Republic Day, we have had elections to the Legislative Assemblies of some States in March this year. Closely following upon the earlier election to the Lok Sabha in December last year, these have further strengthened the democratic foundation Of Our Polity. Our Constitution based on socialism, secularism and democracy has withstood the stresses and strains caused by passing events.

#### AGREEMENTS

In recent times, we witnessed the emergence of violence and terrorism on an increasing scale, posing a serious threat to the democratic process and to the unity and stability of the country. I have said repeatedly in many forums that resort to violence to solve any problem or redress any grievance has no place in our democratic polity. The only democratic method is the one through discussion and mutual give and take. The recent memorandum of settlement concerning the Punjab problem has been received by the nation with a sense of great relief. It is a victory of the democratic process. This has been possible thanks to the initiative and statesmanship of Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi. The patriotism and reasonableness shown by the Akali leadership are also praiseworthy. I have no doubt that it will bring peace, stability and progress in this sensitive border State and strengthen the unity and integrity of the country. It is also a hopeful sign that after a few months of turmoil in Gujarat over the issue of reservation, normalcy has now been restored. I believe the current discussion on the problem of foreign nationals in Assam will also result in a satisfactory solution. India is a country with many languages and religions. The recognition and tolerance of diversity is an essential ingredient of our national consciousness. Unity in diversity has been the message of India's history over the centuries. Social consciousness must be aroused and harnessed against violence and the cynical attitude of treating human life cheaply.

#### HIGH TECHNOLOGY

The Union Budget for the year 1985-86 coincides with the launching of the seventh Five Year Plan. Thanks to the initiative and vision of Prime Minister, the Plan has been given the final shape. A number of measures have been announced in order to give further push to the productive forces in the economy. I am confident that these steps will yield beneficial results and create the necessary environment for the country to move confidently to a better future. A matter of pride to us is the fact that India is on

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the way to attaining a greater degree of self-sufficiency in oil, within a foreseeable future. Equally impressive has been our endeavour in the field of science and technology - space, nuclear energy, exploration of Antarctica and so on. India has reached a stage of growth where she can absorb high technology and surge forward to greater success.

It is only with higher production and a wide and well-administered distribution system that the prices of essential commodities can be held in check. Even the smallest rise affects large numbers of the poor. The tendency to take advantage of shortages has to be vigilantly resisted through active and sustained cooperation between Government and the people.

#### EDUCATION POLICY

I am glad that in the strategy for modernisation of Indian society, high priority has been given to the need for having a fresh look at the education policy. Education constitutes the basic foundation for the growth and progress of society; it is the means through which youth is trained to serve the cause of social and economic changes. In these days of fast changing technology and means of production, nations that do not pay heed to this basic requirement and ignore the spirit of the age will lag behind. Education must equip the students for leading a useful life and making their contribution to the society. At the same time, it should also aim at developing in them an attitude of tolerance, open-mindedness, freedom from prejudice and hospitality to new ideas. Unless the system of education is blended with the values that the society needs, the educational frame-work becomes irrelevant and causes grave distortions and imbalances. Value-oriented education is the ideal system where balanced growth of the individual with knowledge, wisdom and character becomes possible. Education is also the principal means available with us to inculcate among the students the great ideals of justice, equality, fraternity and freedom inscribed in our Constitution. They have to know about the freedom struggle and the supreme sacrifices made by countless patriots from all parts of the country. Our women can contribute a great deal to strengthen the fabric of the nation; special attention needs to be paid to their education. I hope that the new education policy will take all these factors into consideration.

#### PEACE AND NON-ALIGNMENT

Peace and non-alignment are the basic principles of our foreign policy as enunciated by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, the first Prime Minister of Free India. This policy was carried forward with dynamism and vision by Shrimati Indira Gandhi. Her election as Chairperson of the Non-aligned Movement marked the high point of international recognition of India's role in world affairs. The

policy has received further impetus with the bold and imaginative steps taken by Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, for strengthening the forces of world peace and a more equitable world economic order. His recent tours in several foreign countries have served to create better understanding of India's position on major international issues. It has created greater goodwill for India. India's point of view regarding the threat to humanity from escalation of nuclear arms is being appreciated by all. Fresh initiatives have been taken by the Government to strengthen friendly relations with our neighbours. The efforts made by the Government in promoting a dialogue between the concerned parties for solving the ethnic crisis in Sri Lanka have also been welcomed.

We are wedded to a policy of peace in the world. At the same time, we cannot ignore threats to our freedom and sovereignty from any quarter. We have to equip our Armed Forces with up-to-date technology and scientific methods, so that the country will not be found wanting if freedom is at peril, unity at stake and integrity in danger. I have had many occasions to meet the personnel of our Armed Forces and other security forces, who are serving the country with courage and devotion. They deserve national appreciation.

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With these few words, I conclude by appealing to my country-men to close the ranks, rally round, and march forward with a united voice and purpose. We must always remember that the nation's unity and integrity are sacred and inviolable, and must be preserved with all our might". JAI HIND

DIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC SRI LANKA

**Date :** Aug 14, 1985

## Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Prime Minister's Address from the Red Fort on Independence Day

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Aug 15, 1985 of an English rendering of the address of the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi from the ramparts of the Red Fort here today (New Delhi, August 15, 1985):

Countrymen, we are today celebrating the 38th anniversary of

India's independence. On this occasion, I extend my greetings to all citizens, in every village and town, to our farmers and workers, to our mothers and sisters, to the children Of India, to our Armed Forces and to all Indians living abroad.

Thirty-eight years ago, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru for the first time unfurled the tricolour at this very Red Fort. Indiraji should have been here today but she has been snatched away from us. The task has fallen on me. I did not see the struggle for independence. When the tricolour was unfurled here for the first time, I was only three years old. Today, two-thirds of the people of India are like me, who have not participated in the country's struggle for independence. A new generation has come to the fore. The struggle for independence is as much our inheritance as the Himalayas, the Ganges, the Plateau of Deccan, Ajanta, Taj Mahal and Mahabalipuram, the arts, philosophy and science of India. The independence struggle, along with all these, is part of India's heritage.

#### SACRIFICES BY FREEDOM FIGHTERS

Who is not filled with pride when thinking of the Buddha, Kabir, Nanak and Gandhiji? We are filled with pride when we think of the sacrifices by our freedom fighters who trailed a new path of truth and non-violence during our freedom struggle.

We have achieved considerable progress in the last 38 years. During these years, we have been able to lift nearly 63 per cent of our population above the poverty line. A new middle class has emerged. We have become self-sufficient in foodgrains. The entire world wonders at the way we have been able to mould and advance our science and technology, our independent foreign policy, our democracy, liberty and secularism. And we have been able to achieve this despite the three or four wars we had to face, preserving all the time the unity and integrity of India. We have been able to do it because we were shown the right path by Gandhiji, Panditji and Indiraji. The journey, however, is still very long and difficult. We have to battle with poverty and eradicate it altogether. This is the only path for us to follow and we have to eliminate poverty with all the strength at our command.

#### SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

How was it that India could achieve all this while many other developing countries have fallen on the wayside, embroiled in their own difficulties? We could do it because we took recourse to science and technology for the amelioration of poverty. We saw to it that science and technology were applied in the right manner. The initiative was taken by Panditji, by constructing huge dams, setting up large steel mills and other plants and encouraging the promotion of science. He focussed his attention on the poor and on the farmers of India. The foundation laid by

Panditji enabled the farmers to treble their production with the help of science and technology. This saved our independence and we were able to face the world with pride and confidence.

#### NEW IMPETUS

Indiraji gave a new impetus to the eradication of poverty. In the last few  
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years the percentage of people brought above the poverty line has gone up from 49 to 63. In the last few weeks I have travelled over various parts of the country. I have gone to tribal districts and villages and visited hutments of the Harijans. I have travelled from the hills to the desert of Rajasthan. The problems of the poor were identical. In the cities too, I have visited the hutments, of the poor. The purpose of all this was to find how we could improve our programmes and streamline the administration to ensure that the poor people of India are able to receive full benefits from these programmes. The path we have followed is the same which was shown to us by Panditji - to take science and technology to the hearths and homes of the poorest of the poor. We are considering how this objective can be achieved and how science and technology can be utilised to provide the maximum benefit to the poor. For instance, we do not find a drop of water in the deserts of Rajasthan. We can, however, use satellite pictures to locate underground water. Similarly, we can provide improved seeds to the farmers to increase production. We would like to see that power, water and other inputs reach farmers and workers to help increase production and make the country stronger. The country will forge ahead only when rural India is able to march forward. We intend to apply all our strength for the advancement of our villages.

#### EVEN PROGRESS

We must see that regional imbalances in the growth of various parts of the country are removed and all the states progress evenly. We shall ensure that all citizens of the country - Harijans, tribals, the youth and the minorities get full opportunity to contribute their mite towards India's progress. It is towards this end that we have formulated the seventh Plan which aims not only at economic development but the total advancement and strengthening of the Indian polity. The framework of this Plan will be shortly before you. It is our hope that the country will progress substantially under the Plan and that in the course of these five years we shall advance more than what we have been able to during all these years.

#### INDIGENOUS COMPUTER

There is no change in our principles. Following the path shown to us by Gandhiji and Panditji, we want the development process to

reach every nook and corner of our country. Gandhiji talked of Swadeshi. Panditji opened the vistas of science and technology for us and India moved ahead. Today, when we talk of Swadeshi, we do not mean Khadi alone. We mean indigenous industry, indigenous computer and power from indigenous atomic energy sources. The meaning of Swadeshi has undergone a sea-change in the last 38 years and it goes to prove how much progress India has made. This is what we are proud of.

## EDUCATION

However, much we might progress and develop economically, I would think that we have not really progressed if, in the process we lose our inheritance, our traditions, our culture and civilization. We have to see that along with economic development, we develop and strengthen our character. It is for this purpose that during this very month we shall present to you a new format of education which, we hope, will bring about new awareness in the entire country and will provide a new impetus to country's progress. We have to see that the work of development of human resources moves ahead with full vigour.

There are many obstacles across our efforts, the biggest of them are internal dissensions based on religion, caste, language or region. We must make sure that these dissensions do not acquire extremist dimensions. We have also to ensure that such disputes do not weaken the foundations of our democracy. They weaken the country and act as a drag on its progress.

Many people have fallen victim to extremism. Thirty eight years ago, Gandhiji fell victim to it and Indiraji only ten months ago. Communal conflicts have done immense harm to the country and we have to root out communalism from the

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midst of us all. They have taken toll of Gandhiji and Indiraji. Whenever big leaders like Gandhiji and Indira Gandhi die, its impact is felt all over the world. Indira Gandhi was not the leader of India alone. The entire world recognised her as a leader of the oppressed. There have been few leaders who were able to make such a name for themselves in the world. Today the country has to make a pledge to end communal differences and raise its voice against terrorism. We have to make sure that we use our energies for creating an atmosphere in which we can live like brothers.

You thrust a responsibility on me 41 weeks back. In these 41 weeks, we have done many things to redeem our pledges. The biggest challenge confronting us was to maintain the unity and integrity of India. Ten months ago, the world was watching whether India will disintegrate into pieces. Today, that question just does not arise. The world now finds a strong India. We had the problem of terrorism in Punjab. We took steps and, a few

weeks back, an agreement was signed. We hope that complete peace will be restored in Punjab and the State will make rapid progress on the road to development. The tension that existed has eased and the country can now move rapidly ahead.

#### ASSAM AGREEMENT

The other problem was of Assam. It had been there for many years and a solution had eluded us. I am happy to tell you that last night, or rather early this morning at about 3 a.m., an agreement was signed between the Assam students and the Government of India. We hope that with the signing of this agreement, another element of tension will be removed and the country will be able to devote its attention to development.

During the elections, we had promised that we would wage a battle against corruption. We have taken a couple of steps and we are in the process of taking a third one in this direction. First of all, we brought the anti-defection bill at the first opportunity, got it passed and implemented it, removing thereby a great infirmity from our politics. Secondly, we allowed political parties to accept donations. This will minimise corruption. We are now ready to take the third step and introduce the Lokpal bill. We hope this bill will be presented soon and a major cause of complaint will be removed.

#### PURITY OF GANGA

We had also pledged to cleanse the Ganga. The purity of Ganga is a matter which touches every Indian heart. Yet the Ganga is getting polluted because we are dumping a great lot of rubbish into it. We are taking firm and swift action to cleanse the Ganga. Likewise, we have vast expanses of wasteland in the country. We are going to plant crores of trees in the waste lands to be able to provide firewood for the poor and fodder for cattle. Recently, we have modified our textile policy. In restructuring this policy our endeavour is to see that our weavers are able to sell more and earn larger profits.

#### PEACE IN OUR NEIGHBOURHOOD

We had also pledged to strive for peace in our neighbourhood. We initiated talks with Sri Lanka and these talks are being continued today in Bhutan. We hope that just as we have been able to resolve the problem in Punjab and Assam, we will also be able to bring about peace in Sri Lanka. This will lead to an easing of tension in the South and our people will be less worried. We are trying to improve our friendly relations with Bhutan, Nepal and China. We are also talking to Pakistan and have made some progress. However, there is one thing which is coming in the way. Their atomic energy programme makes us feel that Pakistan is moving towards developing an atomic bomb. If there is to be complete friendship and confidence between the countries,

Pakistan should reconsider this programme.

In the last few months I went to Russia and to the United States of  
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America and held the Indian flag higher. Today, every citizen of India can stand upright and look the world in the eye. India is independent in every respect and strong and cannot be subjected to any pressure.

#### SUPPORT To FREEDOM MOVEMENTS

In certain parts of the world, the struggle for freedom started along with the freedom struggle launched by Congress. When Congress won freedom, many countries of Africa and Asia were able to gain their independence. But in South Africa, where Gandhiji had first launched his movement, the people are still enslaved and oppressed. We have extended our full support to our brothers and sisters in South Africa who are battling for their independence. We wish that other countries too, especially the developed countries, will extend similar support to them. We must recognise the kind of slavery practised in South Africa and see that it comes to an end at the earliest.

All our pledges and all the measures we might take will all be nullified if we fail to remove poverty in our country. We have therefore to pay special attention to poverty alleviation programmes. Wherever there are deficiencies, our effort will be to rectify these and extend our programmes. Where extra help is needed we are ready to give it. We are reviewing these programmes and will shortly bring forth a modified programme structured in a manner that will ensure greater benefits to the poor and lesser financial involvement of the administration. We hope that the 63 per cent lifted above the poverty line will grow into a larger proportion rapidly in the coming years so that we are really able to proclaim to the world that poverty has been eradicated from India.

Today, on August 15, every citizen of the country should pledge to dedicate his life for strengthening the nation and the values it stands for. Hand in hand let us move forward, faster to achieve our goals. Once again I extend my greetings to you on our Independence Day Jai Hind.

DIA USA SRI LANKA BHUTAN NEPAL CHINA PAKISTAN RUSSIA SOUTH AFRICA

**Date :** Aug 15, 1985

**Volume No**

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

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Home Minister's Statement on Assam Accord

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The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Aug 16, 1985 of the text of Suo Moto Statement made by the Home minister, Shri S. B. Chavan, in Parliament today regarding.

As the House is aware the Prime minister in his address to the independence day, announced that a settlement has been reached on the issue of Assam in the early hours of August 15. This happy accord represents the fulfilment of the assurance given by the Prime Minister in his broadcast to the nation on January 5, 1985 that foreigners' issue in Assam and that the give-and-take of the conference table can yield victories which confrontation cannot".

I now proceed to read the text of Memorandum of settlement.

MEMORANDUM OF SETTLEMENT

"Government have all along been most anxious to find a satisfactory solution to the problem of foreigners in Assam. The All Assam Gana Sangram Parishad (AAGSP) have also expressed their keenness to find such a solution.

2. The AASU through their Memorandum dated February 2, 1980 presented to the late Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi, conveyed their profound sense of apprehensions regarding the continuing influx of foreign nationals into Assam and the fear about adverse effects upon the political, social, cultural and economic life of the State.  
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3. Being fully alive to the genuine apprehensions of the people of Assam, the then Prime Minister initiated the dialogue with the AASU/AAGSP. Subsequently, talks were held at the Prime Minister's and Home Minister's levels during the period 1-1980-83. Several rounds of informal talks were held during 1984. Formal discussions were resumed in March, 1985.

4. Keeping all aspects of the Problem including constitutional and legal provisions, international agreements, national commitments and humanitarian considerations, it has been decided to proceed as follows:

FOREIGNERS ISSUE:

5.1 For purposes of detection and deletion of foreigners,  
1.1. 1966 shall be the base date and year.

5.2 All persons who came to Assam prior to 1.1.1966, including those amongst them whose names appeared on the electoral rolls used in 1967 elections, shall be regularised.

5.3 Foreigners who came to Assam after 1.1.1966 (inclusive) and upto March 24, 1971 shall be detected in accordance with the Provisions of the Foreigners Act, 1946 and the Foreigners (Tribunals) Order, 1964.

5.4 Names of foreigners so detected will be deleted from the electoral rolls in force. Such persons will be required to register themselves before the Registration Officers Of the respective districts in accordance with the provisions of the Registration of Foreigners Act, 1939 and the Registration of Foreigners Rules, 1939.

5.5 For this purpose, Government of India will undertake suitable strengthening of the governmental machinery.

5.6 On the expiry of a period of ten year following the date of detection the names of all such persons which have been deleted from the electoral rolls shall be restored.

5.7 All persons. who were expelled earlier, but have since re-entered illegally into Assam, shall be expelled.

5.8 Foreigners who came to Assam on or after March 25, 1971 shall continue to be detected, deleted and expelled in accordance with law. Immediate and practical steps shall be taken to expel such foreigners.

5.9 The Government will give due consideration to certain difficulties expressed by the AASU/AAGSP regarding the implementation of the Illegal Migrants (Determination by Tribunals) Act, 1983.

#### SAFEGUARDS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

6. Constitutional, legislative and administrative safeguards, as may be appropriate, shall be provided to protect, preserve and promote the cultural, social, linguistic identity and heritage of the Assamese people.

7. The Government take this opportunity to review their commitment for the speedy all round economic development of Assam, so as to improve the standard of living of the people. Special emphasis will be placed on education and science & technology through establishment of national institutions.

#### OTHER ISSUES:

8.1 The Government will arrange for the issue of citizenship

certificates in future only by the authorities of the Central Government.

8.2 Specific complaints that may be made by the AASU/AAGSP about irregular issuance of Indian Citizenship Certificates (ICC) will be looked into.

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9. The international border shall be made, secure against future infiltration by erection of physical barriers like walls, barbed wire fencing and other obstacles at appropriate places.

Patrolling by security forces on land and riverine routes all along the international border shall be adequately intensified. In order to further strengthen the security arrangements, to prevent effectively future infiltration, an adequate number of check posts shall be set up.

9.2 Besides the arrangements mentioned above and keeping in view security considerations, a road all along the international border shall be constructed so as to facilitate patrolling by security forces. Land between border and the road would be kept free of human habitation, wherever possible. Riverine patrolling along the international border would be intensified. All effective measures would be adopted to prevent infiltrators crossing or attempting to cross the international border.

10. It will be ensured that relevant laws for prevention of encroachment of government lands and lands in tribal belts and blocks are strictly enforced and unauthorised encroachers evicted as laid down under such laws.

11. It will be ensured that the relevant law restricting acquisition of immovable property by foreigners in Assam is strictly enforced.

12. It will be ensured that Birth and Death Registers are duly maintained.

#### RESTORATION OF NORMALCY:

13. The All Assam Students Union (AASU) and the All Assam Gana Sangram Parishad (AAGSP) call off the agitation, assure full cooperation and dedicate themselves towards the development of the country.

14. The Central and the State Government have agreed to:  
(a) Review with sympathy and withdraw cases of disciplinary action taken against employees in the context of the agitation and to ensure that there is no victimization;

(b) frame a scheme for ex-gratia payment to next of kin of those who were killed in the course of the agitation;

(c) give sympathetic consideration to proposal for relaxation of upper age limit for employment in public services in Assam, having regard to exceptional situation that prevailed in holding of academic and competitive examinations, etc. in the context of agitation in Assam;

(d) undertake review of detention cases, if any, as well as cases against persons charged with criminal offences in connection with the agitation, except those charged with commission of heinous offences;

(e) consider withdrawal of the prohibitory orders/notifications in force, if any.

15. The Ministry of Home Affairs will be the nodal Ministry for the implementation of the above."

I would like to inform the House about two other relevant matters:

Firstly, the AASU and AAGSP had strongly represented about electoral rolls currently being prepared. Government have agreed to the following:

(a) the Election Commission will be requested to ensure preparation of fair electoral rolls;

(b) time for settlement of claims and objections to be extended by 30 days, subject to this being consistent with the election rules; and

(c) the Election Commission will be requested to send Central Observers.

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Secondly, in order to accelerate the industrial and educational development the Government of India have agreed:

(a) to establish an oil refinery in Assam. Government will render all possible assistance in terms of institutional and Bank finance to facilitate the establishment of a refinery in the Private Sector.

(b) Central Government will render full assistance to the State Government in their efforts to re-open:

(i) Ashok Paper Mill

(ii) Jute Mills.

(c) An I.I.T. will be set up in Assam.

I am confident that this House will share our hope that this settlement will usher in an era of harmony, goodwill and prosperity for the people of Assam.

I take this opportunity to make a fervent appeal to all sections of the people of Assam and also members of this House to co-operate in bringing about normalcy and goodwill and also in implementing the provisions of this settlement.

DIA USA FRANCE

**Date :** Aug 16, 1985

## Volume No

1995

JAPAN

Prime Minister's Statement on 40th Anniversary of Hiroshima

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Aug 06, 1985 of the text of the statement of the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, on the occasion of the 40th Anniversary of Hiroshima:

The use of the atomic bomb on Hiroshima forty years ago brought a wholly new dimension to the extent to which man was prepared to destroy man in order to secure victory in war. It also introduced a fundamental change in the nature Of the world. The victims of the holocaust at Hiroshima can never be forgotten as long as human sensibilities survive and mankind is conscious of its civilization.

Today by a strange reversal of logic, nuclear weapons of ever increasing destructive capability are being produced and stockpiled on the ground that they preserve stability and peace in this world. Can there be any legitimacy for the possession of such weapons? Can their use be ever justified under any circumstances? The people of the world must rise to assert themselves against this unmitigated evil. We must redouble our efforts to completely eliminate nuclear weapons and to secure concrete measures of disarmament. The promise of the United Nations can only be sustained by active commitment on the part of all nations of the world.

PAN INDIA USA

**Date :** Aug 06, 1985

## Volume No

1995

JAPAN

40th Anniversary of Hiroshima - Text of Vice-President's Statement

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Aug 06, 1985 of the speech by the Vice-President Shri R. Venkataraman at the 40th Anniversary function of Hiroshima organised by India International Centre here today (August 6, 1985):

I congratulate the India International Centre on taking the initiative to organise this meeting which, in reality is a service  
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to the memory of the innocent people of Hiroshima who were the victims of the first atom bomb in the world. This is also an appropriate occasion to analyse the implications of the invention of this weapon of destruction and the possibility of its wanton use to cripple and destroy the human race. I wish to chronicle briefly the responses to the Hiroshima event, which was followed closely by another at Nagasaki, this week.

At the outset I should like to recall the events just before and after the mushroom cloud rose upwards over Hiroshima and Nagasaki casting a pall of gloom over the victor and the vanquished. In June 1945, V Day was celebrated in Europe to mark the end of hostilities in the Western theatre. In some ways, this was a pyrrhic victory as many, if not all countries of Europe, had been reduced to mere rubble. The peoples everywhere were indescribably weary, most of them foraging, for food. When searing flash of the atom bomb explosion blinded the Hiroshima and Nagasaki people, the Japanese military machine also collapsed in the Eastern theatre of war. Thus, the six-year World War II, the most devastating war in recorded history, came to an end.

### REVULSION AGAINST WAR

During the immediate post-war years the revulsion against war, which had laid low millions of people and inflicted death and devastation all around, was so intense that public opinion favoured outlawing it. Those who had supported war as an instrument to safeguard freedom, human dignity and territorial

integrity argued that World War II was a war to end all wars. When the atom bomb, the ultimate in brute force, as Mahatma Gandhi called it, was used, human beings were stunned by the infinite potential of mass destruction. Intellectuals of all disciplines, scientists, philosophers, humanists, religious leaders and warlords - all of them called for a total ban on the use of this frightful weapon. Among those who advocated its abolition as an item in the arsenals were the discoverers and deliverers of the bomb on Hiroshima - they disowned their invention and expressed profound grief and shock that their talent as scientists and air pilots had been harnessed to shower death on people indiscriminately. Clement Attlee, the British Prime Minister, declared, that since wars begin in the minds of men, we must fight it on the intellectual plane as well. Albert Einstein, Robert Oppenheimer, Bertrand Russell and many others raised their powerful voices against wars and the atom bomb. For them, resurrection of cities, development of the backward regions of the world, succour to the weak, deprived and the diseased all over the world, irrespective of political boundaries were the imperatives for that glorious, immediate post-war period.

#### MESSAGE OF MAHATMA GANDHI

For all these people, the message of Mahatma Gandhi, who stood for truth and non-violence was a beacon of light in a darkening world. Though Gandhiji's basic tenets were mainly applied in the Indian sub-continent, their popularity had spread far and wide. His low, feeble voice against violence reverberated all over the world, and nations bruised and battered, longed for enduring peace. When Gandhiji heard about the atom bomb, his response was unique. Shielded by the shining armour of truth and non-violence, infused with an unshakable faith in human destiny, Gandhiji asked people to shed fear, even the fear of the atom bomb. A few samples of Gandhiji's reactions, which I quote, are tinged with radicalism and are of relevance even today.

Conversing with a press representative Gandhiji said:

"I did not move a muscle when I first heard that the atom bomb had wiped out Hiroshima. On the contrary, I said to myself, 'unless now the world adopts non-violence, it will spell certain suicide for mankind'."

On 30th June, 1946, in an editorial in Harijan on "Atom Bomb and Ahimsa", he commented:

"The moral to be legitimately drawn from the supreme tragedy of the bomb  
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is that it will not be destroyed by counter bombs, even as violence cannot be countered by violence. Mankind has to get out of violence only through non-violence. Hatred can be overcome

only by love. Counter hatred only increases the surface, as well as the depth of hatred".

In 1947, Gandhiji had advised scientists to resist political pressure for production of the atom bombs "unto death" on moral and spiritual grounds. After listening to Nehru, who described the unimaginable horror and endless devastation this device made, Gandhiji, in the words of Nehru, "with deep human compassion, loading his gentle eyes" and with a look of revelation, remarked: "Now I realise the full significance of the holy mission for which God had created me and armed me with the mantra of non-violence".

#### PARABLE FROM THE GOSPEL

Yet another story - almost a parable from the gospel of any great religion, was Einstein's chronological resume of the evolution of the Gandhian technique of nonviolence simultaneously with the atom bomb, both of which were parallel developments. In August 1942, we had launched our "Quit India" movement, and the U.S. scientists had succeeded in splitting the atom and were about to develop the bomb that very year. Among his last message to us, Gandhiji had declared with his rocklike conviction that "peace will not come out of a clash of arms, but out of justice lived and done by unarmed nations in the face Of odds." Without doubt, this is the ultimate truth and any historical or empirical wisdom we may stumble upon is fallacious and illusory.

At about the time that we in India, were still struggling for our freedom, newspapers as well commented on the use or rather the misuse of these horrifying inventions. On August 9, 1945, "The Hindu" in the editorial, "The Mighty Atom", wrote:

"The development of modern technology and its application to war brings out more clearly every day the futility of resorting to war in order to settle disputes among nations ... Even though five years of continual warfare has hardened the moral sensibilities of the 'warring nations', a wave of horror has passed over the world at the news of the incredible power of this instrument of death."

Not merely in India but all over the world the media in varied idioms began to ask repeatedly whether humanity was not about to indulge in a total death wish. Naturally, the world public opinion was unambiguously against wars, war weapons and the atom bomb.

#### HORRENDOUS DIMENSIONS

Since that time, the progeny of the atom bomb has proliferated geographically as well as in the death - dealing ways placed in the hands of military strategists. No longer is war yet another form of diplomacy. It has acquired truly horrendous dimensions.

Hydrogen and neutron bombs, triple warheads, gigantic missiles and highly sophisticated weapons for strategic defence initiatives, called "Star Wars", are the descendents of the Hiroshima bomb, the tragic culmination of the efforts of all those who are bent upon perfecting monstrous weaponry, which could destroy not only all arsenals of weapons but also human, animal and plant life.

The infrastructure of nuclear warfare has of late acquired a frightful dimension in the shape of the cruiser and pershing missiles which have drastically reduced the "delivery" time of nuclear warheads on their targets. This sophistication leaves the target no time even to react to the attack. Such expansions in the technology of genocide benumb us.

#### THE NEW CALENDAR

I have tried to bring to your notice in a language of the common people of common concern, how "this leap" in the area of arms technology in 1950-80 has not only led us into the dark period of human history, but has also given substance to the darkest of the dark dooms

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day forecasts. I recall that Arthur Koestler, a novelist, life scientist and a mystic was persuaded by these dismal developments to evolve "The New Calendar", which he labelled as P.H., instead of B.C. and A.D. thus dating the day of reckoning from the Hiroshima Day. According to Koestler's thinking, we are at the threshold of 41 P.H. or Post Hiroshima year. To some of us this may appear to be just a form of literary whimsicality, but what Koestler wrote in his last major work "Janus", under the title "Prologue: The New Calendar" has elements of truth and cogency. Writes Koestler: "If I were asked to make the most important date in the history and pre-history of the human race, I would answer without hesitation, 6 August 1945. The reason is simple. From the dawn of consciousness until 6 August 1945, man had to live with the prospect of his death as an individual; since the day when the first atomic bomb outshone the sun over Hiroshima, mankind as a whole has had to live with the prospect of its extinction as a species."

Though human mortality lurks around the corner every minute of the day, we have been taught to believe in the immortality of the human race. This is no longer true. We must go back to Gandhi and learn from him that truth and nonviolence, compassion and humanism, brotherhood and equality, freedom of expression and freedom from oppression, alongwith spiritual and moral laws, are the eternal values of human life.

Around the world, military commentators are engaged in a heated debate on the appropriate responses to nuclear threats. There are the pro and anti bomb lobbies, each claiming logic and reason on

its side. In some ways, it is pointless to enter into this debate, because it seems to ignore the nuclear fall-out which certainly could not be contained by the user once this shocking weapon is released by the delivery system. For atmospheric or environment changes controlled by nature or the forces beyond us can bring irreparable harm to those who use a nuclear device as well as those against whom it is used. In my view, we should have to educate ourselves as much as others that the possession of nuclear arms does not ensure invulnerability of a nation. It is a colossal delusion to imagine that nuclear arms add to economic or moral strength or that it affords security to a nation.

It is my conviction that nuclear disarmament is imperative and should precede general disarmament. I feel that there can no longer be a limited use of nuclear weapons. Once it is unleashed, the entire world will be engulfed, irrespective of the user's intent.

There is a growing literature in all the languages of the world on what happened in Hiroshima on this day forty years ago. Its after effects are visible even now among those who were exposed to radiation. It is documented that more than 200,000 people died, more were maimed or deformed by the death rays of the atomic bomb at Hiroshima. In the late 1940s and early 1950s every one was aware of the disastrous consequences of the death-dealing bomb. But somehow, human consciousness is now resigned to the possible nuclear destruction of the world.

By addressing you today on the Hiroshima Day, I should like all of us to recapture the spirit of the late 1940s, remember the message of Mahatma Gandhi, and heed the voice of all those who had been profoundly unhappy over the development of these weapons of destruction. We must strengthen the world public opinion against nuclear arms, and once again reinforce our political will to outlaw and ban them. If World War II was intended to end all wars, the invention of nuclear weaponry should pave the way towards a stage-by-stage end to all arms. What mechanisms, diplomatic or technological, should be developed to achieve this objective is a matter of detail. Protocols, conventions or treaties, backed by nuclear or near-nuclear powers, could form part of a package for world nuclear disarmament.

It would, I think, be only right to refer to a silver lining on the mushroom  
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cloud. The Soviet Union's unilateral moratorium on nuclear testing beginning from tomorrow is to be welcomed. It is the Gandhian tradition to appreciate gestures of goodness ungrudgingly. In that spirit, President Reagan's offer to join the Soviet Union in halting all underground test after completing its current series of explosions is also to be welcomed.

Human ingenuity which has conquered elements and space cannot remain a helpless spectator in the face of certain destruction. If we do not act now to save the universe from nuclear destruction, there will be no posterity even to curse us. May wisdom dawn on the present generation!

PAN INDIA USA

**Date :** Aug 06, 1985

## Volume No

1995

JAPAN

Indo-Japanese Tie-Ups in Electronics

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Aug 14, 1985 on Indo-Japanese tie-ups in electronics:

Indian firms propose to have collaboration with Japanese manufacturing organisations in various fields. In the field of tele-communication foreign collaboration approvals with Japanese companies have been granted for multi-access rural radio systems, satellite communication sub-systems and two-way radio communication systems.

In the area of components technical collaboration with Japan is proposed for colour picture tubes, ferrites, VCR decks, capacitors and colour TV deflection components.

In the field of computer and control systems, India proposes to have tie-ups with various Japanese firms for data acquisition systems, industrial control systems and floppy disc drives.

A few collaboration agreements in the area of industrial controls and floppy drives have already been signed between Indian and Japanese parties.

This information was given today in Lok Sabha in a written reply by the Minister of State for Science and Technology, Shri Shivraj Patil.

PAN INDIA RUSSIA USA

**Date :** Aug 14, 1985

## Volume No

1995

LIBYA

Cultural Agreement Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Aug 24, 1985 on the signing of an Indo-Libyan cultural agreement:

An Indo-Libyan cultural agreement was signed on 24th August in Tripoli. The agreement was signed by Shri Khurshed Alam. Khan, Minister of State for External Affairs, on behalf of the Government of India and by Enginer Juma'h Salem Al-Arbash, Secretary of the General People's Committee for Electricity, on behalf of the Government of Libya. The agreement envisages measures to promote cooperation in the fields of culture, education, mass media and sports. The conclusion of this agreement is a reflection of the mutually shared desire of the two countries to further strengthen the already excellent ties between them.

Shri Khurshed Alam Khan who arrived on August 23 earlier met the Libyan leader Col. Mua Mar Al-Qathafi.  
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BYA INDIA USA

**Date :** Aug 24, 1985

## Volume No

1995

MAURITIUS

Third Session of Indo-Mauritian Joint Commission Concludes -Closing Statements by CO-Chairmen

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Aug 31, 1985 on the closing statements by co-chairmen at the third session of the Indo-Mauritian joint commission meeting:

The third session of the Indo-Mauritian Joint Commission concluded here today. The minutes of the Joint Commission were

signed by the two co-chairmen. On behalf of India, the minutes were signed by Shri Khurshed Alam Khan, Minister of State for External Affairs and on behalf of Mauritius by Dr. The Honourable Beergoonath Ghurburrn, Minister of Economic Planning and Development.

The Minister of State for External Affairs, Shri Khurshed Alam Khan in his closing statement said:

"I would like to express my happiness at the successful completion of this session of the deliberations of the Indo-Mauritian Joint Commission, which has been conducted in a spirit of cordiality and friendship- and a desire to further the progress and prosperity of the people of India and Mauritius. A marked commonality of approach has underpinned our shared efforts at expanding and intensifying areas of cooperations, which, during the last few days, have received an immense boost in both qualitative and quantitative terms.

It gives me deep satisfaction to note that India has agreed to execute a variety of project proposals recommended by Mauritius. Quite apart from our traditional forms of assistance such as the deputation of technical experts for short, medium and long-term assignments, the conducting of feasibility studies and surveys, and the provision of an increased number of training facilities at Indian technical institutions, which have all received a further thrust during the session, we have also branched off into new fields where our resources can be nurtured and harnessed for the betterment of our two countries. India will be setting up several biogas plants, and supplying sophisticated machinery and audio-visual materials in Indian and other languages. Simultaneously, we have also identified small-scale industrial projects for implementation, which will create employment opportunities for a number of Mauritians.

#### SPHERES OF COOPERATION

We are pleased to note that there has been an increase in the assistance provided to Mauritius, and thus we have come a long way from the time of the establishment of this Joint Commission. Spheres of cooperation now include such sectors as industry, education, transport and communications, health-care and information. It is now the sixth year since the first session met here, in New Delhi. During this period, our steadfastness of purpose designed to generate mutual advancement in social, political and economic fields, has been the keynote marking these meetings.

I assure you, Excellency, that we have spared no effort to further consolidate the edifice on which stands the enduring relationship enjoyed by our two peoples. We had this session as a further step in our quest to build a better tomorrow, through the optimum utilisation of our available resources, and as yet

another milestone in the bilateral relations between our two countries."

#### STATEMENT OF MAURITIUS MINISTER

In his closing statement, the Honourable Dr. Beergoonath Ghurburrun, Minister of Economic Planning and Development said:

"It is a pleasant duty for me to address you on the closing session of the  
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Joint Commission. The last two days have been hectic and have been spent in serious negotiations and hard work. The outcome, however, justifies the effort and you have demonstrated, once again, by the size of the aid package that we will be signing in a few minutes, India's concern and willingness to assist us in our struggle for economic development.

This joint commission mechanism between our two countries is fulfilling the dream of South-South cooperation in meeting the challenge and crying needs of development. Your Excellency, in this noble endeavour of cooperation, the Republic of India has not been found wanting. Your Government has given a glittering example of providing that a country should not necessarily be rich and opulent to assist its less fortunate neighbours. This desire to share and to assist a fellow human being, is it not the basic tenet of the Hindu religion? As is said in the ancient text - The Upanishad:

"Full of love for all things in the world, practising virtue, in order to benefit others, this man alone is happy."

That your country has today accepted to further assist us by providing more financial means to sustain our development efforts constitutes yet another remarkable gesture for which the Mauritian people will remain grateful. We will continue to benefit from the training facilities in India made available to Mauritians through the Special Commonwealth African Assistance Plan and other training schemes. Specialists in various fields will also come to Mauritius to assist us in our development endeavours.

Although trade ties between our two countries have existed for a long time, industrial ventures between our business communities have been somewhat limited. I hope that in the wake of this Joint Commission more Indo-Mauritian private sector joint ventures will see the light of day. I make, therefore, a special request, through you, to the Indian business community to look to Mauritius for partners to extend their offshore industrial manufacturing activities.

#### JOINT VENTURES

I need not emphasize here that our economic policies allow such joint ventures to play a leading role in the production process and development programme of the country. Collaboration with foreign organisations within the framework of the country's development strategy is always encouraged. The various fiscal and other measures announced in the last budget speech represent yet another effort to stimulate investments between Mauritian entities and foreign partners. At the level of our respective Governments, we are setting the example - once the remaining issues are settled - by going ahead with the Joint Shipping Venture which will enable Mauritius, a new comer to the shipping scene, to benefit from the long experience of the Shipping Corporation of India.

Before closing, let me return to the domestic front. In our national development strategy, characterised by imagination, inventiveness, vision and passion, we are in fact setting the threshold very high - and this, in spite of very severe constraints. We are grateful for your assistance in this enterprise of ours.

We are happy to have been in this beautiful city - the visit alas has been too short. Many of us, I am sure will be visiting your country again to relish, in greater leisure, its charms. I also take this opportunity to give you a rendezvous in Mauritius for the next Joint Commission in 1986 at a date to be agreed mutually."  
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MAURITIUS USA INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC RUSSIA

**Date :** Aug 31, 1985

## Volume No

1995

MAURITIUS

Opening Statements by Indian and Mauritius Co-Chairmen

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Aug 29, 1985 on the plenary meeting of the Indo-Mauritian Joint Commission:

The plenary meeting of the third session of Indo-Mauritian Joint Commission commenced here today. Making an opening statement the

Minister of State for External Affairs, Shri Khurshed Alam Khan said:

"Your Excellency, Dr. Beergoonath Ghurburrin and friends from Mauritius. I and my delegation extend to you a warm welcome to this, the third session of the Indo-Mauritian Joint Commission on Economic, Technical and Cultural Cooperation. The years following its first session in 1979 have been dynamic and fruitful for our bilateral relations. Over the next few days, we shall be further cementing these links through specific programmes of cooperation between our two countries.

Mauritius and India share an unique ethnic, linguistic and cultural heritage which necessitates a vigorous exchange of ideas, technologies, expertise and experiences, that could quantitatively and qualitatively blossom into a model for bilateral economic cooperation among developing countries. These relations are, of course, underpinned by a commonality of views on major international issues, especially those which are of mutual interest to our countries. The proximity of our geographical location further serves to strengthen the bonds between us.

#### AREAS OF CO-OPERATION

A few months ago, we had the honour of welcoming His Excellency Prime Minister Anerood Jugnauth, during whose visit detailed discussions were held between our two Governments and steps were taken to further concretise areas of cooperation. Our desire to build upon the existing structure of cooperation stems from our warm feelings for the people of Mauritius and we shall try and assist you to the extent we can, in your efforts to achieve economic self-reliance.

#### SPECIFIC PROGRAMMES

The suggested areas of cooperation before us envisages specific programmes in spheres as diverse as agriculture, small and medium-scale industry, renewable sources of energy, education and manpower development, communications and meteorology. Your Excellency, India, as you are aware, is also a capital importing country, but nevertheless we are doing our utmost to increase our interaction with our fellow developing countries in the context of South-South Cooperation. It is our conviction that the beginning we made during the first session of the Joint Commission was further consolidated during the last Session in February, 1984, and will, during the next few days, stimulate economic and technical cooperation to a level in consonance with the close relations between our two nations. We shall leave the officials of the two sides to identify and finalise proposals for implementation.

Once again, Your Excellency, I extend a cordial welcome to our

country to you and your delegation.

#### MOST ARDENT DEFENDER

The following is the text of the address by Honourable Dr. Beergoonath Ghurburrun, Minister of Economic Planning and Development:

It is with the greatest pleasure that I address you on the occasion of the third Indo-Mauritian Joint Commission, as leader of the Mauritian delegation. Your warm words of welcome augur well for a successful meeting. I bring with me the warm greetings and friendly wishes of the people of Mauritius who hold India close to their hearts, in spite of the separation of more than a century and the vast expanse of the Indian Ocean that keep us apart. On behalf of my delegation, I would like to  
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express the sense of privilege that we feel to be here today and thank you for the generous hospitality extended to us since our arrival in your capital.

Much has happened since our respective delegation met in February 1984 for the second session of the Joint Commission. You have lost a highly respected Prime Minister in tragic circumstances; the national community has lost one of its greatest statesmen; and in particular, we ourselves from the poorer and under-privileged countries, who are seeking to redress deep-rooted inequalities in North-South Relations, have lost one of our most ardent defenders. It is most fitting that the 1984 Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding should have been awarded posthumously to Shrimati Indira Gandhi, As has been said very eloquently "in doing so, we are in reality honouring the award as much as, we are honouring her".

#### INDIA'S IN-BUILT RESILIENCE

The vacuum created by her untimely demise has been filled rapidly and smoothly. India, Mr. Minister, demonstrated once again her in-built resilience and deep-rooted homegeneity, thus giving the lie to the doomsayers prophesying chaos and breakdown. Your present Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, has inherited the mantle of his mother and his grandfather before her, and he has lost no time in establishing himself firmly on the international scene as a statesman which the world has to reckon with.

#### COUNTRY OF INSPIRATION

It is only right and fitting that India should be heard on the international stage. India has, throughout the centuries, been a country of inspiration and enlightenment to the world. Today, it is one of the economic success stories of our times - and this, despite its enormous population and despite natural calamities

and disasters which beset her. Your successful record of economic development within the framework of a working democracy provide useful lessons for the rest of the developing world. We, in Mauritius, have also developed a system based on democratic ideals, in spite of the fact that we have achieved independence only some 15 years ago. We are painfully aware of the constraints that a democratic framework imposes on policy makers. We are, therefore, well-placed to appreciate the enormity of the task that your Government and people have accomplished while safeguarding the democratic fabric of your society.

#### PROCESS OF DEVELOPMENT

You are now caught in an inexorable process of industrial development. You have developed an indigenous capacity for science and technology, in particular in the area of intermediate technology which is more in tune with the needs of the developing world than the advanced technologies, being flagged indiscriminately by the developed nations. You are now self-sufficient in food production, a fact which was considered quite impossible some decades ago.

The horrors of nuclear catastrophe are ever present in our minds. For peace-loving peoples the world over, the initiatives taken by you for nuclear disarmament and for promoting the peaceful uses of nuclear energy are laudable indeed. We, in Mauritius, are particularly concerned that the Indian Ocean should be kept as a zone of peace. My Prime Minister, Shri Anerood Jugnauth, has reiterated our stand that it should be clear completely of super power rivalry. We lend our unreserved support to efforts aimed at calling an international conference on the Indian Ocean at the earliest date.

#### CONDEMNATION OF APARTHEID

We salute the declaration made by Shri Rajiv Gandhi on the recent escalation of violence in South Africa. My Prime Minister has strongly condemned the apartheid regime in South Africa and confirmed our Government's stand by the side of the Black majority whose rights and aspirations have been trampled for so long by a gang of unprincipled racists. The wheels of progress cannot be stopped. The last remaining shackles of colonisation on the African continent constitute a slur on

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humanity itself. We hope that the day is not far off when we can welcome our black brothers and sisters in South Africa to their rightful place in the family of nations.

The holding of this third - session is yet another manifestation of your Government's concern for its less-endowed neighbours and friends. The assistance and cooperation that we have received in such diverse fields as agriculture, the development of small-

scale industries and the construction of a 120-bed hospital, to say nothing of such things as wrestling, Indian classical dance and drama-constitute adequate proof-if-proof were needed that Indo-Mauritian cooperation is alive and well.

#### CAPITAL GOODS

As a supplier of equipment and capital goods, India was relatively unknown in Mauritius. The question was not one of quality or price competitiveness. It was more often rather a matter of information, or lack of it. In some cases, where information was available regarding suitable products from established Indian manufacturers, strong lobbies were mounted by the representatives of European and other suppliers. Indeed, for quite sometime, the utilisation of the First Lines of Credit was completely stalled. But gradually your suppliers and manufacturers have become better known and, in this process the Projects and Equipment Corporation - P.E.C. has played a significant role. The Government of Mauritius would be happy to see Indian suppliers of consumables and goods other than capital and equipment achieving a certain degree of visibility on the Mauritian domestic market. We can ease this process considerably if we extend the coverage of future lines of credit to allow for the supply of such goods.

#### PRIVATE SECTOR

We welcome greater technical and industrial cooperation between our two countries. We hope the cordial relations between our two Governments will encourage your private sector industrial and business interests to look to Mauritius for partners to launch joint ventures. My Government is committed to a programme of industrialization and is looking to its friends for the capital as well as for the technology that it lacks. The significant achievements of your private sector in a wide range of fields lead us to believe that some of the energies can be developed between our respective countries. We invite Indian investors to set up joint ventures in Mauritius and we shall endeavour to ease the way for them to the extent possible.

Given the openness of our economy and our heavy dependence on external trade, Mauritius has been particularly hit by the protectionist policies of the industrialised nations. Our people have been subjected to a series of unpopular measures resulting in a reduction in their purchasing power and a general lowering of the standard of living. They have, to a large extent, accepted these measures with docility. However, irrespective of all their initial goodwill, no population can be called upon, year in and year out, to make continuing sacrifices. The Government is conscious of the crying need for more jobs and is actively taking measures to promote the creation of productive employment opportunities, whole development strategy is built around this idea.

Your Excellency, the projects, that we will be studying to get in the coming two days have been carefully selected and form part of our overall Structural Adjustment Programme. Emphasis has rightly been placed on the productive sectors but we have not neglected the social dimension. These concerns are reflected in the range of project proposals submitted for your consideration. Your Excellency in the small scale sector, your experience in rural sanitation and primary health care, your pioneering efforts in gobar gas - these are the areas where assistance is required and where we want to tap your brains.

#### CULTURAL HERITAGE

No nation can survive if it neglects its cultural and educational heritage. Like you in India, we also do not suffer from the drab uniformity of a state culture or of a state religion. We live in a rich multilingual environment subjected to cross-cultu-  
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ral influence. We encourage the free flowering of all religions and all cultures traditionally represented in Mauritius. The quintessence of Indian aid to Mauritius is the Mahatma Gandhi Institute which is a national centre for the performing arts. It is our fervent wish that this can be complemented by the establishment in Port Louis of a Cultural Centre which will be accessible to all Mauritians and would stand out as an eloquent testimony to the secular nature of the Mauritian state.

In the next few days, our respective delegations will, no doubt, pour over the dossiers and give them the close scrutiny that they deserve. I hope that at the end of the day, the only possible conclusion that they can draw from their patient, time-consuming, and very worthy exercise, is that they would forget that they belong to two different delegations representing two different countries. At heart, Excellency, we are one and we have never been closer than now.

URITIUS USA INDIA SOUTH AFRICA RUSSIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date :** Aug 29, 1985

## Volume No

1995

NEPAL

Inter-Government Committee Meeting

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Aug 30, 1985 on the Agreed Minutes of the Eighth Indo-Nepal Inter-Governmental Committee Meeting:

In pursuance of letters exchanged at the time of the signing of the Treaty of Trade, Treaty of Transit and Agreement of Cooperation to Control Unauthorised Trade 1978, the Inter-Governmental Committee held its eighth meeting in New Delhi from 28th-30th August, 1985. The Nepalese Delegation was led by Shri D. P. Gautam, Secretary, Ministry of Commerce, His Majesty's Government of Nepal. The Indian delegation was led by Shri Prem Kumar, Secretary, Ministry of Commerce, Government of India.

2. The leader of the Indian Delegation, Shri Prem Kumar, highlighted the close relations between the two countries which were an example of good neighbourliness for the entire world. He referred, in particular, to the facilities being granted by the two countries to each other in the economic and commercial fields. These included duty free entry for Nepalese goods into India and preferential entry for Indian goods into Nepal, as also the facilities being given by India for goods-in-transit from and to Nepal. The leader of the Nepalese Delegation, Shri D. P. Gautam, also referred to the desirability of strengthening and developing the relationship between the two countries so as to bring about a dynamic economic relationship of constructive interdependence. He also appreciated the facilities being made available to Nepal by India under the Treaties of Trade and Transit. He added that Nepal was eager to cooperate in a forward looking programme for deepening the economic and commercial relations between the two countries.

3. The two leaders reviewed the working of the Indo-Nepal Treaties of Trade, of Transit and the Agreement for Cooperation to Control Unauthorised Trade. They noted with satisfaction that the exports of each other country to the other had continued to rise in 1983-84 and 1984-85 under the aegis of mutual system of preferential access incorporated in the Treaty of Trade. It was, however, felt that a concrete programme needed to be worked out to increase and diversify commercial exchanges as also to augment Nepalese production and export base. The two leaders were also of the view that the terms of access to each other's markets should be constantly improved and the supply of scarce bulk commodities by India to Nepal should be further rationalised. They also laid considerable stress on intensifying exchange

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of information, administrative cooperation to prevent and control unauthorised trade, particularly in sensitive items.

#### PROCEEDINGS OF WORKING GROUPS

4. The separate Working Groups on Trade, Transit and Unauthorised Trade were set up to undertake detailed work. The Committee noted

with appreciation the effort, expertise and constructive approaches brought to bear by the delegations of the two sides in the Working Groups and agreed that the decisions and recommendations in their reports should engage the immediate attention of the two Governments so as to ensure their expeditious consideration and implementation.

5. In the assessment of the Committee, the proceedings of the Working Groups had led to certain major achievements. It was noted that both Governments had committed themselves to a positive approach in the promotion of Indo-Nepal Joint Ventures, which would add a new dimension to their economic and commercial relations. The areas for such joint ventures have been identified and both sides have agreed to take various supportive measures to create a favourable framework. They have also agreed on a concrete programme for undertaking and encouraging feasibility studies for certain projects and organising an Indo-Nepal Investment Promotion Meeting. The two sides will also facilitate participation in projects in one country by parties of the other. Both sides have agreed to introduce a new system for supply of coal by India to Nepal on a public sector to public sector basis. The Indian authorities while pointing out some issues relating to market access for their products into Nepal, have agreed to further liberalise duty free access for Nepalese industrial products by exempting five more products in the leather sector from proforma procedures. The two sides have agreed to monitor and check unauthorised trade across the border, and intensify vigilance and exchange of information in this regard. Useful discussions were also held and rationalisation of transit facilities. It was noted with satisfaction that the insurance rates for Nepalese goods-in-transit had been reduced to 0.25 per cent at the request of Nepal.

6. It was decided that the next meeting Of the Committee shall be held in Kathmandu on dates to be decided by mutual consultations.

Signed on 30th August, 1985.

On behalf of the HMG, Nepal

(DAMODAR PRASAD GAUTAM)

Secretary

Ministry of Commerce

His Majesty's Government of Nepal.

On behalf of the Government of India

(PREM KUMAR)

Secretary

Ministry of Commerce

Government of India

PAL INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date :** Aug 30, 1985

## Volume No

1995

PAKISTAN

Pakistan Attempt to Develop Nuclear Bomb - Statement of Minister of State

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Aug 08, 1985 of the statement by the Minister of State for External Affairs, Shri Khurshed Alam Khan, in the Lok Sabha today on a Calling Attention Notice by Shri S. M. Bhattam and four others, regarding the situation arising out of Pakistan's attempt to develop nuclear bomb and supply to them of Kryton Electronic Triggers by the United States of America:

The non-peaceful dimension of Pakistan's nuclear programme has been a matter  
<pg-249>

of concern for India. Contrary to the claims by Pakistan's leaders, available evidence and public statements by Pakistan scientists suggest that Pakistan has been pursuing the objective of acquiring the wherewithal to manufacture nuclear weapons. Government have also been concerned at the regrettable attitude of certain countries which have chosen to turn a blind eye to these moves by Pakistan which could only have the effect of encouraging it to go ahead in this direction.

### CLANDESTINE PROCUREMENT

Reports which have appeared from time to time in the international media in this regard, particularly about the clandestine procurement of nuclear equipment and components by Pakistan, have reinforced our apprehensions. Of immediate relevance are the case of a Pakistani national who was caught in the process of smuggling kryton from the United States to Pakistan and the recent report by the ABC correspondent John Seal! that Pakistan had carried out a non-nuclear explosion using

krytons of U.S. origin. While the U.S. State Department has been unforthcoming on the revelations made by Scali, we hope that the United States, resulting from the Prime Minister's discussions with President Reagan, will exercise its influence to dissuade Pakistan from pursuing the course.

Our concerns on this subject which have been conveyed on different occasions to the Government of Pakistan at various levels were reiterated during the recent visit of the Foreign Secretary of Pakistan.

Government are concerned at the likelihood of Pakistan acquiring nuclear weapons which would result in a qualitative change in the security environment in our region. India remains committed to developing nuclear technology for peaceful purposes. However, we cannot but take into account these developments in our neighbourhood which have grave implications for our security. I wish to assure the House that Government have been keeping, and will continue to keep, constant vigil on all developments having bearing on the country's security.

KISTAN INDIA USA RUSSIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date :** Aug 08, 1985

## Volume No

1995

PAKISTAN

Reported Pakistan Move to Acquire and Develop Nuclear Weapons

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Aug 07, 1985 of the statement by the Minister of State for External Affairs, Shri Khurshed Alam Khan in the Rajya Sabha today in response to a Calling Attention Notice raised by Shri J. K. Jain and 33 others regarding the nuclear threat faced by the country in the context of the reported move of Pakistan to acquire and develop nuclear weapons:

The non-peaceful dimension of Pakistan's nuclear programme has been a matter of concern for India. Contrary to the claims by Pakistan's leaders, available evidence and public statements by Pakistan scientists suggest that Pakistan has been pursuing the objective of acquiring the wherewithal to manufacture nuclear weapons. Reports which have appeared from time to time in the international media in this regard, particularly about the clandestine procurement of nuclear equipment and components by

Pakistan, have reinforced our apprehensions.

Our concerns on this subject which have been conveyed on different occasions to the Government of Pakistan at various levels were reiterated during the recent visit of the Foreign Secretary of Pakistan.

Government are concerned at the likelihood of Pakistan acquiring nuclear weapons which would result in qualitative change in the security environment in our region. India remains committed to developing nuclear technology for peaceful purposes. However, we cannot but take into account those developments in our neighbourhood which have grave implications for our security. I wish to assure the House that Government have been keeping, and will continue to keep, a constant vigil on all developments having a bearing on the country's security.  
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KISTAN INDIA RUSSIA USA

**Date** : Aug 07, 1985

## Volume No

1995

PAKISTAN

Indo-Pakistan Joint Press Statement

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Aug 11, 1985 on the Indo-Pakistan joint press statement:

The Foreign Secretary of Pakistan, Mr. Niaz A. Naik, paid a visit to India from July 29 to August 1, 1985 at the invitation of the Foreign Secretary of India, Shri Romesh Bhandari.

Mr. Naik was received by the Prime Minister of India, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, the Chairman, Policy Planning Committee, Shri G. Parthasarthy and the Minister of State for External Affairs, Shri Khurshed Alam Khan. He had wide-ranging discussions on a number of bilateral, regional and international issues with Shri Bhandari.

Mr. Naik conveyed cordial greetings and good wishes from the President and the Prime Minister of Pakistan to the Prime Minister of India who reciprocated the sentiments.

The Foreign Secretaries noted with satisfaction that meetings at

different levels between the two countries were becoming regular and frequent. The President of Pakistan and the Indian Prime Minister had met in Moscow last March and would have opportunities for further meetings during the 40th anniversary session of the United Nations next October and at the South Asian Summit in December. The Foreign Minister of Pakistan had visited Delhi twice and held talks with the Indian leaders in April and July 1985 and the Foreign Secretaries of the two countries had met four times this year. These meetings contributed positively to the promotion of better understanding and confidence.

There was a candid review of various aspects of India-Pakistan relations in a cordial and constructive atmosphere. They reaffirmed the importance both Governments attach to the common objective of developing and maintaining friendly ties between the two countries on the basis of sovereign equality, non-interference and mutual benefit. They also discussed the implementation of the decisions taken at the second meeting of the India-Pakistan Joint Commission. .

The two Foreign Secretaries availed of the opportunity to further exchange views on the Indian proposal for a Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation and the Pakistan's proposal for a non-aggression pact. Both sides sought further clarifications and agreed to continue efforts aimed at the conclusion of a comprehensive treaty between the two countries.

It has been agreed that exchange of Ministerial level visits would further contribute to promotion of mutually beneficial cooperation in areas of common interest. Mr. Niaz Naik renewed the invitation of his Government to Shri Khurshed Alam Khan, Minister of State for External Affairs, to visit Pakistan. The invitation was accepted with thanks. Mutually convenient dates for the visit will be finalised through diplomatic channels.

Mr. Naik extended an invitation to Shri Romesh Bhandari to visit Islamabad. He accepted the invitation with pleasure. The visit will take place at a mutually convenient date.

The Foreign Secretary of Pakistan thanked the Government of India for the gracious hospitality extended to him and members of his delegation during their stay in India.

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KISTAN INDIA USA ITALY RUSSIA

**Date :** Aug 11, 1985

**Volume No**

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1995

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PAKISTAN

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Indo-Pakistan Talks on Air Services

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The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Aug 23, 1985 on the air services talks between India and Pakistan:

India, and Pakistan have agreed to permit PIA and Indian Airlines to operate their Karachi-Bombay-Karachi and Bombay-Karachi-Bombay services respectively through Air Bus. Presently the two Airlines operate four flights per week on these routes of which three are Air Bus services and one through Boeing 707.

This was decided at the conclusion of a two day meeting of delegations from India and Pakistan here today. The Indian delegation to the talks was led by Air Marshal CKS Raje, Director General of Civil Aviation. The Pakistan delegation was led by Air Marshal Khurshid Anwar Mirza, Director General, Civil Aviation Authority of Pakistan.

During the talks, the two delegations also discussed ways and means for greater operation of tourist and additional flights particularly between Lahore and Delhi whenever necessary. In this regard it was agreed to consider operation of additional flights during the world hockey cup matches in Pakistan in 1986. The matters relating to straightening of air routes were also discussed during the discussions between the two delegations.

KISTAN INDIA USA

**Date :** Aug 23, 1985

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## Volume No

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1995

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SARC

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Prime Minister's Message on Second Anniversary of SARC Declaration

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The following is the text Of a press release issued in New Delhi on Aug 01, 1985 of the message of the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi on the occasion of the second anniversary of the signing of the SARC Declaration:

I am very happy that we are today celebrating the second anniversary of the signing of the SARC Declaration. In these two years, SARC has grown from a concept into a reality. I am confident that it will help us lay down the infrastructure necessary for cooperative development in South Asia.

The development of friendly relations with our neighbours is the cornerstone of India's foreign policy. Common bonds of history and culture bind the countries of South Asia. We may have problems, as all regions do, but we are determined to overcome them in the search for peace and stability.

I look forward to meeting the Heads of State and Government of SARC countries in Dhaka in December this year. I am sure that the Dhaka summit will usher in a new era of friendship and cooperation in South Asia.  
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DIA USA BANGLADESH

**Date :** Aug 01, 1985

## Volume No

1995

SOUTH AFRICA

Statement by Shri Khurshed Alam Khan on Apartheid

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Aug 20, 1985 of the statement made by the Minister of State for External Affairs, Shri Khurshed Alam Khan in the Lok Sabha (August 19) on Apartheid in South Africa:

The despicable system of Apartheid must be the starting point of any discussion of the South African situation. Apartheid was devised by the white minority to perpetuate its supremacy over other communities, who form 85% of the population of South Africa. The United Nations has rightly described Apartheid as a crime against humanity. The rights and freedoms defined in the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights are denied to non-whites. Colour discrimination extends not only to employment and habitation, but to public transport, public places like cinemas, museums, sports stadia, restaurants and parks and gardens. People of different races may not even be carried to hospital in the same ambulance. Political parties serving the interests of the oppressed majority, in particular, the African National Congress

and also the Pan Africanist Congress, are banned and have to operate from exile.

Among the many reprehensible features of Apartheid is the creation of the so-called "homelands" or "Bantustans" for the Africans. Though they comprise 73% of the total population, the Bantustans have been allocated only some 13.7% of the total area of the country. These are among the poorest areas which contain no major known deposits of minerals, no major industries or sea ports. Millions of Blacks and coloureds are permitted to live and work in "White" areas but only so long as this source of cheap labour is required by the ruling minority. Africans might be thrown out at any time if they are considered surplus to the requirements of White employers or have become old or sick. These Black residents have no political rights and must carry Passes which have to be produced on demand. Every day thousands of persons are arrested for contravention of the Pass Laws.

#### NEW SURGE

Opposition to Apartheid in the international community as well as within South Africa is well-known. There is, however, a new surge within South Africa supported by workers in mining and other industries. People are coming out openly against the regime and are defying its laws designed to perpetuate its tyranny. White repression has increased in a futile attempt to put down the movement. In the last year or so, hundreds of people have been killed in police firings. Thousands have been imprisoned and scores have perished while in custody as a result of police brutalities. It is not possible to estimate how many are being held in prison without trial but the number is very large. The dauntless spirit of the anti-Apartheid movement is symbolised in the person of Nelson Mandela, a winner of Jawaharlal Nehru Award, for International Understanding, who has spent 23 years in the notorious Robben Island Prison.

International opposition to Apartheid initiated by Gandhiji has also been gathering strength over the years. It was India which first brought the question of racial discrimination in South Africa before the United Nations in 1946. Since then, a powerful international consensus has developed against the racist principles of the Apartheid system.

It is unfortunately a fact that there is yet no unanimity about the need for imposing economic sanctions against South Africa. Certain important Western powers

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with considerable investment in South Africa are not to apply economic sanctions against South Africa. The latest events in South Africa have also demonstrated that the so-called policy of constructive engagement does not provide a viable alternative to effective action by the international community under Chapter 7

of the U.N. Charter.

### COSMETIC "REFORMS"

In an attempt to confuse domestic and international opinion, the racist regime in South Africa has announced a series of cosmetic "reforms" which in no way reduce the rigours of Apartheid or confer real rights to the majority. Last year the racists introduced certain so-called "constitutional reforms" and created a tricameral legislature to give a semblance of representation to the Coloured and Indian communities. The new Parliament has 178 Whites, 85 Coloured and 45 Indians, each group supposedly empowered to discuss and legislate on matters pertaining to its own community. In fact, however, real power remains in the hands of the White minority. The majority of the population has no franchise. The attempt has proved to be a failure as is obvious from the fact that only a small minority of the Indians and Coloured electorates (about 20% of the Indians and 30% of the Coloureds) participated in the elections in August, 1984. The vast majority boycotted the so-called elections, thereby rejecting the invitation of the racist regime to become junior partners in their own suppression.

The latest instance of the nefarious efforts of the racist regime to divide the oppressed masses concerns the recent disturbances in the township of Inanda, near Durban, earlier this month. Members will have seen reports about these disturbances, which were apparently triggered off by the murder of a black human rights lawyer, Mrs. Victoria Mxenge. People attending the memorial service for Mrs. Mxenge were attacked by some hooligans. In the ensuing disturbances, some 65 people, including a few people of Indian origin, are reported to have lost their lives. The turbulence also spilled over to the nearby Phoenix Settlement set up by Mahatma Gandhi in the 1890s and some buildings associated with Gandhiji were destroyed. The racist regime showed no inclination to intervene and restore peace and order. Its police did nothing to protect the lives and properties of people, including those of Indian origin, when they were attacked by anti-social elements. There is ample reason to suspect the hand of the South African Government and their hired agents in the disturbances. I would like to inform the House that this perception is shared by the ANC and leaders of other African States.

We are confident that the people of South Africa will see through the transparent attempts of the racist regime to create artificial divisions in their ranks. The racists' manoeuvres cannot stop the march of history. The oppressed people of South Africa will carry their united struggle to a successful conclusion.

I would like to assure the House that India will spare no efforts in mobilising world public opinion in support of the South

African people's just struggle for a better, more equitable and humane order under conditions of full freedom.

UTH AFRICA INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC MALAYSIA SEYCHELLES

**Date :** Aug 20, 1985

## Volume No

1995

SOUTH AFRICA

Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's Appeal for Unconditional Release of Nelson Mandela

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Aug 19, 1985 of the appeal by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, to all Governments to secure the unconditional release of Nelson Mandela and his colleagues:

The recent escalation of violence in South Africa is a matter of profound concern to the international community. Hundreds, if not thousands, of innocent lives have been lost, the poor majority Black population has been further impoverished the denial of human rights or any kind of freedom has been further accentuated by the imposition of a state of emergency in several districts inhabited by Black people. All this is the direct result of the policy of Apartheid practised by the racist South African regime.

Violence is implicit in the theory and practice of racial bigotry, which is the essence of Apartheid. To struggle against this tyranny is the natural and just response of the oppressed people of South Africa; it is our common cause. The man who personifies this struggle and its sufferings is Nelson Mandela, who has now been in solitary confinement for 23 years in a notorious prison in South Africa. It is astonishing that the South African Government expected this idealist to accept a number of humiliating conditions as the price for his release. They perhaps thought that after all these years of incarceration his spirit would be broken and he would settle for his personal "freedom" at the cost of his life long ideals. His answer to the offer of a conditional release made by the government in February this year is a moving testimony to his indomitable will. His reply, read out by his daughter at a rally, was: "I am in prison as a representative of the people and your organisation, the African National Congress, which was banned. What freedom am I

being offered while the organisation of the people remains banned. I cherish my own freedom dearly but I care even more for your freedom from apartheid. I cannot sell my birthright nor am I prepared to sell the birthright of my people to be free".

South Africa must be made to see reason. It must be made to release Nelson Mandela unconditionally. The only way this can be done is to totally isolate the racists. It is futile to hope that cooperation in any manner with that regime will give anyone leverage or influence to change things for the better.

I, therefore, earnestly appeal to all Governments to secure the unconditional release of Nelson Mandela and his colleagues, and to sever all contacts with the racists regime in Pretoria.

OUTH AFRICA INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date :** Aug 19, 1985

## Volume No

1995

SOUTH AFRICA

Prime Minister's Statement on South Africa

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Aug 14, 1985 of the text of the statement by the Prime Minister on the recent violence in South Africa:

I am distressed at the reports of violence involving Africans and people of Indian origin in South Africa. The Government and people of India, and the Indian National Congress which led our Independence Movement, have had a historical and emotional link with- the situation in South Africa. It was in South Africa that Mahatma Gandhi tested and tried out the instrument of Civil Disobedience and Non-violent resistance. He was concerned about the rights and welfare equally of Indians and Africans.

India was the first country to raise its voice against Apartheid in the United Nations. India considered that its independence was not complete unless all other countries suffering under colonial yoke, especially in Africa, also achieved their emancipation. We have never discriminated among people of different religions or colour.

The South African authorities are resorting to extreme methods to curb the winds of change. The persistent and tireless efforts of

the progressive forces in the world are having their impact, as we were confident they would. The manoeuvres of the South, African regime must not be  
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allowed to sow discord among the African and Asian populations. This is the time when all the non-white people of South Africa, and even these sections among the whites who oppose Apartheid, should close their ranks and fight unitedly to vanquish the racist policies. The people of India will be with, them.

UTH AFRICA INDIA USA

**Date :** Aug 14, 1985

## Volume No

1995

SRI LANKA

Dr. H. W. Jayewardene Visits New Delhi

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Aug 31, 1985 on the visit to New Delhi of Dr. H. W. Jayewardene:

Dr. H. W. Jayewardene, leader of the Sri Lanka delegation to the Thimpu talks, stopped in New Delhi on his way to Colombo at the invitation of the Government of India. Dr. Jayewardene was in New Delhi from August 23 to August 31. During his stay he called on the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, on two occasions.

Dr. Jayewardene had detailed and constructive discussion with the Foreign Secretary, Shri Romesh Bhandari. A comprehensive paper has been drawn up covering all issues of importance and relevance. This detailed draft could serve as the basis for negotiations towards a mutually agreed accord by the parties concerned.

I LANKA INDIA USA ITALY

**Date :** Aug 31, 1985

## Volume No

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1995

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SWEDEN

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Indo-Swedish Agreement on Development Cooperation Signed

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The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Aug 18, 1985 on the signing of the Indo-Swedish agreement on development cooperation:

India and Sweden have signed an agreement on development cooperation under which Sweden will give bilateral aid equivalent to Rs. 50 crores (SKR 350 million) per annum to India during 1985-86 and 1986-87. This represents an increase from the previous level of aid of SKR 340 million per annum.

Of this, an amount of Rs. 7.2 crores (SKR 50 million) will be utilized for general import of goods and services from Sweden and Rs. 14.4 crores (SKR 100 million) for imports from Sweden in the energy sector.

The agreement also makes for a provision of Rs. 28.8 crores (SKR 200 million) per annum for financing local cost projects in sector like forestry, drinking water supply, health etc., etc. Sweden has significantly increased allocation for these

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sectors from the old level of Rs. 17.2 crores (SKR 120 million).

Development assistance from Sweden is on 100 per cent grant basis. Besides the above agreement for SKR 350 million per annum, the Swedish, authorities will also provide extra concessional assistance from a separate fund called BITS from which appropriate amount would be allocated for an Indian project subject to mutual agreement on ad hoc basis. India has been a recipient of Swedish economic assistance since 1964 and has received so far approximately an amount of Rs. 506 crores (SKR 3543 million). Some of the important projects I programmes financed by Sweden are National Malaria Eradication Programme, National Leprosy Control Programme, National TB Control Programme, Social Forestry Projects in Tamil Nadu, Orissa and Bihar, Groundwater Project in Kerala and Drinking Water Supply Scheme in Rajasthan. In the recent past, Swedish assistance has been secured for the high-technology project HVDC back-to-back converter station for Vindhyachal Super-thermal Power Station.

The agreement was signed here on the conclusion of the 4-day Indo-Swedish bilateral aid talks which began on 13 August, 1985. Shri M. S. Mukherjee, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Finance (Department of Economic Affairs) and Mr. Tom Tscherning, Assistant Under Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs,

Government of Sweden signed the agreement on behalf of their respective Governments.

EDEN INDIA USA UNITED KINGDOM

**Date :** Aug 18, 1985

## Volume No

1995

SWEDEN

Agreement on Social Forestry

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Aug 08, 1985 on the Indo-Swedish agreement on social forestry:

The Minister of State for Environment and Forests, Shri Vir Sen, informed the Rajya Sabha today (August 8, 1985) in a written answer to a question by Shri R. Sambasiva Rao that the agreement on the Bihar Social Forestry Project was signed on 5th July, 1985 between the Governments of India and Sweden. Under the agreement, the Swedish Government will provide assistance to the extent of rupee equivalent of an amount not exceeding SEK 80.00 million during the project period from 1-4-85 to 30-6-88. The project envisages rehabilitation of degraded forests over an area of 64,500 hectares and plantation on 93,600 hectares, besides distribution of 20.5 million seedlings.

EDEN INDIA USA

**Date :** Aug 08, 1985

## Volume No

1995

TANZANIA

Giani Zail Singh Welcomes Tanzania President

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

on Aug 25, 1985 of the speech by the President, Giani Zail Singh welcoming H. E. Mr. Mwalimu Julius K. Nyerere, President of the United Republic of Tanzania at the Delhi airport today (August 25):

On behalf of the Government and the people of India, I have great pleasure in extending to you and the distinguished  
<pg-257>

members of your delegation a warm and hearty welcome to India.

Our country is not new to YOU, Mr. President. You have been here many times. Yet every visit of yours generates a feeling of fresh warmth and closeness between our two peoples and reinforces our age-old ties. In welcoming you, we welcome a trusted friend of India and an outstanding leader of not only Tanzania or Africa but also of the Non-aligned world

Mr. President, under your dynamic leadership and wise guidance, Tanzania has progressed a great deal and has become a vibrant nation. All your energies and endeavours have been devoted to creating in Tanzania a self-reliant and progressive society, determined to overcome the problems left behind by colonialism.

NAM AND OAU

Mr. President, NAM, and OAU have greatly benefited by your contribution to their deliberations on various important international issues. The sacrifices made by the people of Tanzania under your leadership for supporting the liberation movements in Africa have earned worldwide acclaim. . It is a matter of immense satisfaction to us that on all major international issues there is an identity of views and approach between our two countries. We look forward to continued and fruitful cooperation with your country in our common search for solutions to many grave issues like disarmament and economic imbalances which affect the peace and stability of the world. We look forward also to the continued strengthening of our bilateral ties of friendship and cooperation with Tanzania.

Mr. President, I hope you and your delegation will have a happy and fruitful stay.

NZANIA INDIA USA

**Date** : Aug 25, 1985

**Volume No**

1995

## TANZANIA

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### Tanzania President's Speech on Arrival at Airport

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In reply to the welcome address by the President, Giani Zail Singh at Delhi airport, H.E. Mwalimu Julius K. Nyerere, President of the United Republic of Tanzania said:

I am very pleased to be in your capital city once again, and I thank you very much for the warmth of your welcome.

On this occasion, as so often before, I shall be staying in India a very short time indeed. My purpose is to have a final discussion with Indian Government leaders before my term of office as President of my country comes to an end, I also wish, to pay tribute to the long and firm friendship which has existed between our two countries since Tanzania became independent, and which I am confident will continue under my successor.

I have no doubt but that we shall be able to do some useful business for our two nations and peoples during the coming two days. But I know that I shall also have the opportunity again to enjoy meeting some of my own new and old friends. I thank you, Mr. President, for inviting me to your country and your capital city.

Mr. President, Mr. Prime Minister, Your Excellencies. There is no need for me to say more now; I would just like to thank You for coming to receive me.

NZANIA USA INDIA

**Date :** Aug 25, 1985

## Volume No

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1995

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## TANZANIA

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### Giani Zail Singh Hosts Banquet in Honour of Tanzania president

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The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Aug 25, 1985 of the speech by the President, Giani Zail Singh speaking at a banquet hosted by him in honour of H.E. Mr. Mwalimu Julius K. Nyerere, President of the United  
<pg-258>

Republic of Tanzania here tonight, (New Delhi, August 25, 1985):

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

We in India are deeply appreciative of the historic role you have played in the affairs of your own country, of Africa, and of the world at large. Under your leadership, the people of Tanzania have made great progress in many fields. They have built up a strong, united nation on the basis of secularism and human equality. During the colonial period, they were divided by race and by religion. Independent Tanzania rejected all forms of discrimination on grounds of race or religion. Your success in building up a united, secular state is truly inspiring. Under your guidance, Tanzania has gone a long way towards creating a just society where the basic needs of the common man are not forgotten. You have had remarkable success in combating the curse of illiteracy. We rejoice with you that some 85 per cent of your adult population is literate today. It is also noteworthy that Tanzania has succeeded in raising the expectancy from 35 to 51 years. In the initial stages of development, there is no better index of what is literally the living standard of a people.

#### DISARMAMENT

Turning to international affairs, we benefited greatly from your wisdom at the recent Six Nation Summit on Disarmament. Likewise, your counsels have been much valued in the deliberations of the Non-aligned Movement. You have piloted the affairs of the OAU as its Chairman over the past year with great skill and success.

As the Chairman of the Frontline States, you have kept the spotlight fixed on the inequities and injustices in Southern Africa. The racist Pretoria regime continues to defy world opinion and has, if anything, intensified the horrors of Apartheid by shooting down unarmed Protestors and imprisoning them in their thousands. The recent imposition of an emergency in many parts of South Africa has worsened the already sorry plight of the oppressed majority. The racist regime's wanton aggression against its neighbours continues unabated. The voice of the international community against the continued illegal occupation of Namibia still goes unheeded. The recent installation of a so-called interim administration in Namibia has been declared null and void by all the members of the Security Council. The rulers of South Africa are emboldened in their intransigence by the unfortunate stand of some powerful countries who are lending open or covert support to the manoeuvres of the racists to thwart a peaceful settlement in Namibia. India views the situation in Southern Africa with deep concern and stands by the side of Tanzania in condemning the atrocities and machinations of the racist Pretoria regime. India supports without reservation the

liberation movement of Southern Africa and applauds your country's unstinted championing of their cause.

#### INDIAN OCEAN

In Our Own neighbourhood, the Indian Ocean continues to be an area of competitive attention and increasing great power military presence, Posing a grave threat to the security and stability of littoral and hinterland States. The use of the Indian Ocean as an arena for Big Power strategic power play is a matter of immense concern to us. We earnestly hope that the Conference on the Indian Ocean, scheduled for 1986, will be held without any further postponement, to devise concrete plans for securing the implementation of the UN Declaration of 1977 for safeguarding the security, interests and peaceful development of the countries of the region.

#### NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER

The developing countries have been trying to promote a New International Economic Order to narrow the gap between them and the developed countries. We

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have laid stress on cooperation among developing countries and on the reduction of the inequities in the current pattern of international economic relations.

Relations between our two countries have always been and will ever remain close, warm and cordial. We highly value Tanzania's role in world affairs. Our mutual cooperation in the sphere of economic and technical exchanges is an example of successful South-South cooperation. There is scope for yet further cooperation and India, for its part, will always be ready to share its experiences with Tanzania in whatever field, and whenever required. President Nyerere, I would be less than candid if I were to conceal the fact that we were sad when we learnt of your decision to step down from your high office this October. Your absence will be sorely felt, not only by the Non-aligned Movement but equally in the Commonwealth, OAU and other forums. We hope, however, that we will continue to receive the benefit of your advice even after you lay down Presidential office. We wish you much success in your new capacity in your dedicated service to the people of Tanzania and to the cause of world peace.

Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, may I now request you to join me in a toast to the health and happiness of His Excellency President Julius Nyerere, to the prosperity and well-being of the friendly Tanzanian people, and to the further consolidation of friendly relations between our two countries.

NZANIA INDIA USA SOUTH AFRICA NAMIBIA CHINA

**Date :** Aug 25, 1985

## Volume No

1995

TANZANIA

Text of Mwalimu Julius K. Nyerere's Speech

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Aug 25, 1985 of the speech by H.E. Mwalimu Julius K. Nyerere, President of the United Republic of Tanzania, at a banquet hosted in his honour by the President Giani Zail Singh:

Although I am almost losing count Of the number of times I have been to India on State or Official Visits, I could not, Mr. President, forget the kindness with which I have always been received, nor the honour which has so consistently been accorded to me. Today, I make my last visit to India while being President of the United Republic of Tanzania. Once again you Mr. President, and your Government, have honoured me and my country with a very warm reception. I thank you very sincerely.

### CLOSE AND FRIENDLY RELATIONS

There have been close and friendly relations between our two countries since the independence of Tanzania; and before that between our nationalist Movements. Further, many Tanzanians have spent time in India, on behalf of our Government or business firms, or as students. And many Indian leaders in different fields have been in Tanzania; we have a considerable number of Indian experts giving valuable assistance to the development efforts of my country. The friendly relations between India and Tanzania, therefore, do not depend upon the personalities of our leaders. The friendship is between our States, and between our peoples; it arises from our recognition of common interests, and a history of cooperation for mutual benefit.

The Indian people's struggle for independence was a very long one; it started not long after mainland Tanzania was colonised by its first European invaders. But your success in 1947 was a great inspiration for the Liberation Movements throughout Africa - and not least in Tanzania. We followed your progress as an independent nation; your heroes were also our heroes. What is more, first your Nationalist Movement and then your Governments have been a consistent friend to the struggling peoples of Africa - and particularly of what was then still known as British Africa. I am extremely happy that India is still a

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strong supporter of Africa's liberation struggles - for our work is not yet completed.

#### NAMIBIA AND SOUTH AFRICA

Namibia and South Africa have still to be freed from colonialism and racism; India supports their Freedom Movements materially, economically, and politically. In the Non-aligned Movement, in the Commonwealth, and at the United Nations India's voice is always clear and uncompromising on these issues. We who are closely involved in Africa's Liberation greatly appreciate this support, especially coming as it does from so influential a Third World country. For we know its value.

Mr. President, India's leadership role in the Non-aligned Movement needs no words of praise from me; the record speaks for itself. The great Pandit Nehru was a founder Member of the Movement; your country has consistently adhered to the mainstream of it, and upheld its principles clearly and unequivocally. It was, therefore, natural that, after a stormy period marked by some internal disputation, the Non-aligned Movement should come to this capital city for its last Summit Meeting and elect India's Prime Minister as its Chairman. Let me add that the manner in which that responsibility has been carried out first by Mrs. Indira Gandhi, and now by Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, fully justifies the faith which was placed in India and its leaders.

Tanzania's own firm commitment to Non-alignment arises from the conviction that a future of genuine and assured political and economic freedom for Third World countries is only possible on that basis. And in the present international climate, the united strength of the Non-aligned Movement in upholding its principles, and promoting their implementation, is more necessary than ever before.

#### SIX-NATION PEACE INITIATIVE

There is another field where the cooperation between India and Tanzania, together with other countries, has some international importance. The Prime Minister of this country and I have joined together with four other leaders in a Six Nation Peace Initiative. Our efforts for nuclear disarmament are joined with those of millions of peoples, and some other Governments, throughout the world. For all countries, and all peoples, are threatened by the arms race, and indeed by the very existence of nuclear weapons. It is essential that we should maintain our effort even though some of the nuclear powers brush aside the call for peace which is being made. Just as with the demand for Indian independence, and indeed for justice in South Africa, persistence, married to the merits of our cause will eventually bring results.

Both India and Tanzania, however, recognise that real peace in the world can only be created on the basis of justice. This means justice for peoples and nations as well as for individuals. It means economic justice as well as political justice. India and Tanzania have, therefore, worked to promote a New International Economic Order through the Non-aligned Movement through the Commonwealth, at the United Nations, and in many other fora. The need for the fundamental reforms which are encompassed by that phrase has been made even more clear by what has happened in the world economy during the last five years. Yet unfortunately, the reaction of the most powerful Developed Nations has been a decline in internationalism and an increase in economic imperialism. Every month we see new attempts to control Third World countries through the manipulation of their need for economic support, and for relief from the debt problem -which has itself become acute through the actions of, or within, the Developed World.

#### SOUTH-SOUTH CO-OPERATION

Mr. President, the importance of cooperation between all the countries of the economic South can no longer be denied. It is necessary for its own sake; it strengthens each one of us when it is carried out on the basis of mutual respect and

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mutual support. South-South cooperation is also necessary in order to strengthen our joint negotiating position in relation to the countries and groups of the economic North. For no one is suggesting that we should - or could - cut ourselves off from them. Whether we like or not, modern technology insists upon the unity of the world. The only choice for mankind is what kind of unity we shall have.

I am, therefore, very happy that bilateral economic cooperation between India and Tanzania is of such long standing. We certainly find it very helpful indeed. For both our countries are poor and underdeveloped. But India is much more advanced technically than my own country; even in 1947 it had a small industrial sector and reasonably developed transport infrastructure. When Tanzania became independent in :1961, on the other hand, it had 2 engineers and 12 doctors among its 100 or so African graduates; I am told that Calcutta University alone produced 25,000 graduates as early as 1942. We have made some progress during the last 24 years; for example, Tanzania now has about 1,800 engineers, and 782 fully trained doctors - as well as 436 Assistant Medical Officers. But the need for further advance needs no further comment than those figures.

#### BILATERAL AID

As we have worked for development, India's bilateral help to

Tanzania has been invaluable. It has taken the form of scholarship opportunities for our citizens, of Indian experts in very many different fields of our development activities, and of very reasonable credits being advanced to us. On behalf of all the Tanzanian people, I thank you.

And let me say at once that I very much regret that India, along with other countries, has become a victim of our current inability to repay our due loans, or even to pay promptly all the interest due on them. We wish to make the payments, and in particular would like to be able to pay those friendly countries - like India - which have no responsibility for our present economic position. But the reality is that we need more investment and more development in order to rehabilitate our economy after the many blows it has received during the last six or seven years. Only after we have done that, and completed the restructuring we are at present engaged upon, are we likely to be able to resume the full payment of our obligations.

We are, Mr. President, making some progress in our efforts in this direction. The further decline of our economy was arrested last year, and we had hopes of beginning a recovery this year. Unfortunately, we are again becoming a victim of international economic injustices; the price of our major export - coffee - dropped by about 40 per cent between March and July of 1985, which cannot augur well for us. Quite clearly we must give greater priority to build up our non-traditional exports, and India has shown some interest in buying some of these potential foreign exchange earners. But even this takes investment -- and time. On behalf of my Government I can only thank you for your past assistance, your patience, and your continued assistance to us. I am confident that this will in time prove to have been of benefit to India as well as to Tanzania.

Let me, therefore, conclude by repeating my own personal gratitude for the great kindness, which I myself, and my country, have always received from the Indian people and Governments. I can assure you, Mr. President, that the forthcoming change in Tanzania's top leadership will not lead to any basic change in our policies. Co-operation between our two countries in the Non-aligned Movement, in the struggle for economic justice, and in the Peace Movement, will be able to continue. And I am confident that it will continue, and that the close friendship between Tanzania and India will go forward into a better future for all of us. I now ask you all to join me in a toast: to President Zail Singh, the Government and people of India. Everlasting friendship between our two countries. To peace and justice in the world.

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NZANIA USA INDIA NAMIBIA SOUTH AFRICA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC PERU

**Date :** Aug 25, 1985

# Volume No

1995

TANZANIA

## Tanzanian President's Speech at JNU Convocation

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Aug 26, 1985 of the speech made by His Excellency Mwalimu Julius K. Nyerere, President of the United Republic of Tanzania after receiving Honorary Degree of Laws at Jawaharlal Nehru University Convocation held here today (New Delhi, August 26, 1985):

It is with humility that I accept an Honorary Degree from the University named after Jawaharlal Nehru. For he was not only India's first Prime Minister, he was an international leader who's name is known and highly respected throughout the world. And he was much more than that in those countries which have, in our lifetime, had to struggle for their independence and which are still struggling against the poverty they inherited with it. To us, he was and is one of the heroes of the freedom struggle.

Pandit Nehru and the Nationalist Movement of which he was one of the two greatest leaders, were part of our inspiration when the freedom struggle was difficult and when setbacks were being experienced, In these parts of Africa which are still not free, leaders and students still read his words, and reflect upon the constructive manner in which he used his long imprisonments. To those African countries which are now struggling With the problems of independence in a hostile world, the writings and the actions of Pandit Nehru are still of immense importance.

Dr. Chancellor, it would be impertinent for me to come to your University and talk about this great man. Let me just say that I had the privilege of meeting him, and talking with him after my country became independent I have never forgotten.

You have honoured me with a Doctorate of Laws: but I am a teacher, not a lawyer. Yet I am associated with Law, and recognise its vital role in our societies. It is one of my major responsibilities, as President of my country, to defend our Constitution and uphold our laws. And before our independence I was prosecuted and convicted in accordance with the edicts of colonial law. I, therefore, know from experience at both extremes that the first thing about Law is that it must be based on the principles of justice; it needs to uphold, and not to hinder, the

freedom and development of men and of nations. That is the responsibility of law makers - of legislators and in a democracy, of the people.

#### RULE OF LAW

We have all been told that the Rule of Law prevails in Apartheid South Africa. If it is so, that does not make Apartheid Just; it means that the laws which are being upheld are themselves unjust. I leave it to the philosophers to argue as to whether bad law is better than no law; as a teacher, and a politician I know that one cannot serve justice by acquiescing in a whole system of laws based on injustice. And I believe that ultimately such laws cannot prevail. Sooner or later men will decide to die - and to kill - rather than live under unjust laws.

#### LAW AND JUSTICE

Law and justice are not the same thing. But peace in a society requires that they become as synonymous as is possible in this imperfect world, made up as it is of imperfect human beings. As citizens, and particularly as leaders, it is our responsibility to exert ourselves towards that end and to make law serve justice. We need to do so within the framework of existing law for as long as that is humanly possible. We need to use constitutional and peaceful methods of change whenever these exist, or can be made to exist. For violence is itself unjust, and the seed of future injustice. Experience all over the world shows that the means shape the ends. The importance of peace within nations, as within the world, can hardly be over-estimated. <pg-263>

But I repeat: if we fail to establish constitutions and laws which allow people to struggle peacefully towards greater justice, then ultimately - after all other means have failed, they will break those laws in search of justice. And if they have really exhausted all peaceful methods of securing change, and if the current situation is an intolerable affront to human dignity, then it is unjust to condemn those who take up arms for justice in the world.

When I say these things in India I am expressing what is to you a truism. The history of India in this century gives example of the Indian people's commitment to Justice, and therefore to peace.

The people of this country did not acquiesce in the indignity and injustice of colonialism. But they inspired the world by the methods with which they fought against that evil. Under the leadership of the now revered Mahatma Gandhi and the Indian National Congress they used the power of passive resistance against colonial power; they recognised and exploited the incompatibility of its preaching democracy at home and practising dictatorship in the nations over which the metropolitan power had

- by force or duplicity - secured political control.

## INDIAN STRUGGLE FOR FREEDOM

The Indian struggle for freedom was a long one; very many people suffered imprisonment, and others died in it. But the strategy of opposing the violence of injustice by the justice of human dignity and human commitment to peace led ultimately to victory and to freedom - real freedom - for this country.

Having won its independence through its people's active commitment to the fundamental principles of peace and justice, India has again and again used its great Power to Promote Peace and justice internationally. By agreeing to membership of what was then still the British Commonwealth, India became an active force for the peaceful attainment of freedom by Britain's other colonies - in particular those in Africa and the Caribbean. It has enabled us to convert the British Commonwealth into the Commonwealth of equal sovereign nations, and to make this itself a force promoting economic as well as political justice in the world.

## NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT

And in particular, the Non-aligned Movement would not have come into existence as an active force for peace and justice in the world without the leadership of India's great leader Pandit Nehru. Together with President Tito and President Nasser he created this great Movement, and after him, successive Indian Prime Ministers and other leaders have nurtured it and helped it to stay united while developing to meet the new challenges of neocolonialism and international economic injustice.

It was not by accident that India became the host of the last Summit Meeting Of the Non-aligned Movement; it was a recognition that we needed India's unifying force and positive action if the Movement was to fulfil its necessary role in working for peace in an increasingly threatening international situation. And the decision to hold the Summit in New Delhi was also a recognition that in Mrs. Indira Gandhi, the Non-aligned Movement would have an internationally respected and active Chairman. Her tragic death by violence deprived us, as it deprived India, of her experience. But in her successor our Movement has found - as it could trust India to find a Chairman of the same commitment to the great principles of Non-alignment, and thus to freedom, to peace and to justice.

I could go on. The participation, first of Indira Gandhi and now of Rajiv Gandhi, in the six-nation peace initiative gives this a level of influence which it would not otherwise have. For India is a power in the sense that Tanzania could not be. It is a power because of its large size and population, but also because of its record of active commitment to the principles which our group

seeks to promote - peace, and a chance for life for all human beings, and indeed for humanity itself.  
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## SECULAR STATE

And coming from Africa, I cannot fail to mention India's long, consistent, and active stand in the struggle against the injustices and the humiliations of discrimination against people on the grounds Of their race, their religion, or their tribe. This is a secular state, which stands for the right of all men and women to worship according to their own religious beliefs. And it is an active fighter against racism, and against Apartheid. Now as always, India stands in the front-line of international action in support of the South African people's struggle for human dignity and justice. They need your support and your understanding as they face the bullets and the tortures of the Apartheid authorities. And at the United Nations, as in the Commonwealth and the Nn-aligned Movement, as well as in India's own actions, they know that they will continue to have that support.

Mr. Chancellor, your University has honoured me today. I thank you very much. I can only say in reply that I have tried to learn from the example of India, and to work for justice within my country, within Africa, and within our common international society. It would be absurd to claim that I have never erred, or that I have never failed in my endeavours. By my oath of office I undertook to guard the constitution and the laws of my country; but I do not pretend that injustice never takes place in Tanzania - only that we have tried - as India has tried - to create systems whereby when it does take place it can be corrected by peaceful means. Today's ceremony provides me with the opportunity to re-dedicate myself, once again, to working for justice to the best of my ability. During the remaining months of my Presidency, as Chairman of my Party, and as a citizen of my country and of the world, I will do my best.

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NZANIA INDIA USA SOUTH AFRICA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date :** Aug 26, 1985

# September

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**Date :** Sep 01, 1985

## Volume No

1995

BANGLADESH

Indo-Bangladesh Agreement on Administrative Arrangements for Health Matters Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Sep 09, 1985 on the signing of an Indo-Bangladesh agreement on administrative arrangements for health matters:

The Government of India has signed an agreement with the Government of Bangladesh for arrangements relating to Health Control of sea, air and land traffic, terminating at or transiting through either country. Shri P. P. Chauhan, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, signed on behalf of the Government of India. The High Commissioner of Bangladesh in India signed on behalf of Government of Bangladesh.

The main features of the agreement are: Provision of single point checks in respect of health clearance requirements; provision of direct and rapid exchange of information regarding passengers that constitute a danger to the health of the two nations; exchange of epidemiological information regarding incidence of quarantinable diseases and other important infectious diseases in either country; to provide for collection and exchange of names and addresses of infected passengers or their contacts, travelling by ship, or , aircraft and destined to disembark in either of the countries; and quarantine of passengers by a member country on behalf of another member country if the latter does not have the facilities for the same at the intended port of entry.

BNGLADESH INDIA USA

**Date :** Sep 09, 1985

# Volume No

1995

BHUTAN

Prime Minister's Speech at Royal Banquet

The following is the text of the speech by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi at the Royal Banquet in Bhutan on Sep 29, 1985:

Your Majesty, Distinguished Guests, it is hard to believe but it is true that I had to wait for forty years to make my personal discovery of Bhutan. my grandfather was here, my mother was here three times and my wife was here. I am so glad that 'at long last I have made it to Druk Yul. And I bring you, Your Majesty, the warm greetings of the Government and people of India.

Although I am here for the first time, Bhutan is not new to me. It cannot be new to any Indian, because it ranks so high in India's list of friends. I myself have had the privilege of counting Your Majesty as a friend. We recall with warmth your recent visit to India. My journey only corroborates the truth of the statement that  
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travel makes the new familiar and the familiar new.

After my grandfather and my mother returned from Bhutan 27 years ago, they told me about their adventurous journey on horse-back and Yak-back, and of the picturesqueness of Bhutan's landscape and of its shimmering air. I have come flying on the back of a bird called helicopter. This very speed is a proof of the change that has occurred in Bhutan and in India. Under the enlightened leadership of Your Majesty's late father and now of Your Majesty, Bhutan has also taken dynamic initiatives in erasing the marks of economic backwardness, as we have in India, ever since achieving independence.

Not everything new is necessarily good and not everything old is necessarily outdated. While we are for change, we are also determined to preserve the best in our heritage. We have admired Your Majesty's leadership and your skill in harmonising change and tradition in your national way of life. In placing emphasis on the economic uplift of the people of Bhutan, you have ensured that progress does not erode the essential ethos of your country.

COMMON BENEFIT

It is a privilege for India to be involved in Bhutan's development programmes. We do not regard this as "assistance", or "aid". Rather we consider it a sharing of resources for common benefit. I should like to reaffirm our commitment to continuing participation in Bhutan's future developmental effort.

#### SPIRITUAL KINSHIP

But Indo-Bhutanese friendship is not merely an economic coming together. From the beginning of history, we have had a close spiritual kinship and cultural interaction. The eternal message of the Buddha, brought here so many centuries ago by Guru Rimpoche, links us indissolubly. This year, Your Majesty has been pleased to endow a chair for Buddhist Studies in one of our Indian Universities. We are glad that bright young people from Bhutan are pursuing studies in some of our universities. This educational give-and-take adds an enduring dimension to our relations.

For genuine progress to be achieved in our countries, we need peace in the world and stability in our region. The trust and confidence we repose in each other, the friendship we share, and the frequent consultations we hold, are a major contribution to the growth of the concept of South Asian Regional Cooperation, to which both are committed. Our relationship also shows that when there is true respect and understanding, differences of size do not come in the way of equality. It will be India's endeavour to build further on the excellent foundations that have been laid.

On behalf of myself, my wife and family, and the members of my delegation, I should like to thank Your Majesty for your warm welcome and hospitality and the kind words you have spoken about me personally and my country.

May I request you all to join me in a toast to the health of His Majesty King Jigme Singye Wangchuck, and the progress and success of the friendly people of Bhutan. I echo Your Majesty in saying Tashi Delek.

UTAN UNITED KINGDOM INDIA USA

**Date** : Sep 29, 1985

**Volume No**

1995

BHUTAN

The following is the text of the address by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, at the National Assembly of Bhutan on Sep 30, 1985:

Your Majesty, Mr. Speaker and Hon. Members, it is a high honour to address the Tshogdu, your National Assembly, which embodies the spirit of Bhutan. I bring you the greetings and good wishes of the Parliament and people of India.

Our two nations are bound together in an enduring friendship based on high re-  
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gard for each other and a sense of kinship. We are near neighbours, close to each other not only physically but in our hearts. We have a record of shared experiences stretching over centuries. The Himalayas sustain us. Our holy places are yours. Thousands of Bhutanese visit India every year as pilgrims. We have an open border between us. Like true friends, we are participants in each other's joys and sorrows. May I say how touched I and the people of India were at the national mourning that you observed when my mother passed away last year?

The story of modern India began with our struggle against subjection. Mahatma Gandhi brought us freedom through that amazing political weapon he forged - Non-Violence. And independent India, under Jawaharlal Nehru's inspired leadership, built up democratic institutions and undertook the challenging task of modernising our age-old economy through the systematic application of new scientific knowledge. Our economic development was consolidated during Indira Gandhi's Prime Ministership. Self-reliance became a reality in many sectors.

#### TECHNOLOGICAL STRENGTH

Today we have the technological strength needed for solving one by one our chronic problems as also the new challenges presented by development. We have had critics who scoffed at the slowness of our progress and who called us a soft State. Even they have come round to the view that we have built solidly and well. That it has been prudent to have based the edifice of progress on the foundations of our own national resources.

The story of modern Bhutan began with the decision of His Majesty the late King to bring Bhutan into the age of science. Under successive Five-Year Plans, Bhutan has indeed made impressive progress. May I congratulate you on your achievements and wish you further success?

No country in the modern world can live in isolation, let alone make progress. The winds of knowledge and information and the

waves of economic and technological developments blow and flow across national boundaries. Internationalism is an inescapable attribute of contemporary life. The more a country masters the art of cooperation with others, the more it will be able to withstand these winds and the waves. We in India have benefited from such cooperation. In turn we have shared our resources and skills with, other developing countries. We feel privileged to have helped Bhutan in its development endeavours. There is probably no need to recall the names of all the projects and programmes on which, India and Bhutan have cooperated, but we are glad to have been associated with the Penden Cement Plant and the construction of roads and a Microwave Link, and with the Chukha Hydroelectric project, which is nearing completion. Chukha is a significant area of cooperation, will give much needed power to India and provide Bhutan with substantial resources for development.

India will finance the improvement of the electricity distribution systems at Thimphu and Paro, the construction of mini-hydel projects at Gyetsa and Khaling in Eastern Bhutan, and other projects such, as a Broadcasting Station, and River Training Works in southern Bhutan. We have always been associated with Bhutan's planning process and financed a portion of the Plans. We shall do so with, the next Plan as well. We are at present engaged in discussions regarding the setting up of another cement plant in Dungsom, and other new areas in which our economic cooperation can be extended in your Sixth Plan.

What is development? The word is generally applied to the effort which transforms natural resources into tangible wealth through, projects which will continuously add to production. But the greatest wealth of a nation is its people. It is the people, through their trained intellect, hard work, and skills acquired, who lift a nation out of poverty and social backwardness. The basic task of develop-

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ment therefore is upgradation of human resources. Fortunately, both Bhutan and India have a spiritual heritage which has given its people inner stability and strength to withstand tribulations and temptations. If the educational system further strengthens this core while enabling them to acquire skills, then their creative faculties will get full scope for expression, to the benefit of individuals and the nation. In India we have now taken up the work of redesigning our educational system in order to achieve these twin aims.

PEACE

For a nation to achieve steady and balanced development, one of the essential preconditions is peace - peace with neighbours and peace in the world. Too many developing nations are today compelled to spend on guns what they should be doing on growing

more grain and building more houses. They are compelled to do so because of uncertainty about their security. The global policies of Big Powers are increasing tensions in various regions and fomenting distrust. National interest and the objective of resisting Big-Power politics demand that we develop a relationship of trust with neighbours. As members of the Non-aligned Movement both Bhutan and India have emphasised this approach.

Our region, sheltered by the Himalayas in the North and washed by the seas on the other three sides has a distinct personality and a shared historical tradition. We are now planning to strengthen these ties through the concept of South Asian Regional Cooperation. We are glad that Bhutan is a full participant in all the deliberations of the SARC and is using its influence towards the moderation of the political problems of the region. We appreciate the significant contribution your country has made to this process by organising the Foreign Minister's meeting of the SARC countries last May. It was an act of statesmanship on the part of Bhutan to have played host to the meetings between the different groups of Sri Lanka.

The world in which we live is becoming increasingly dangerous. The shadow of nuclear destruction hangs over all of us. The International Economic System is in disarray. These twin pressures are weighing particularly heavily on the vulnerable developing countries. The Non-aligned Movement has been passionately pleading with the nuclear weapon powers and with the economically strong to use their strength with wisdom.

India, with five other nations, recently undertook a major initiative on disarmament. While the primary responsibility for reducing and eliminating nuclear weapons lies with countries which possess nuclear weapons, we too are concerned because we have a right to live and this right will be jeopardised by a nuclear war. The Delhi Declaration has received the overwhelming support of the international community. We are glad that Bhutan has whole-heartedly endorsed it. We must work with unremitting energy to achieve the objectives of the Declaration, so that we can preserve the world for this and future generations.

The Fortieth Anniversary of the United Nations provides us with, an opportunity to redouble our efforts both in regard to nuclear weapons and in regard to the correction of the growing economic disparities among nations.

Your Majesty, Mr. Speaker, Hon'ble Members, more than fifty years ago, when we were still struggling for freedom, our great national poet, Rabindranath Tagore, spoke of the challenges that freedom brings in these words:

"Pathways of Swaraj (Independence) are difficult to traverse and take time. Aspiration and emotion must be there, but no less must

study and thought be there likewise. The economist must think, the mechanic must labour and the educationist and statesman teach and contrive. In a word, the mind of the country must exert itself in all directions."

Exerting ourselves in all directions is indeed the only choice before us.  
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In concluding, I wish to recall what my grandfather had said during his visit here in 1958:

"Some may think that since India is a great and powerful country and Bhutan a small one, the former might wish to exercise pressure on Bhutan. It is, therefore, essential that I make it clear to you that our only wish is that you should remain an independent country choosing your own way of life and taking the path of progress according to your will. At the same time, we should live with mutual goodwill. We are members of the same Himalayan family and should live as friendly neighbours helping each other. Freedom of both Bhutan and India should be safeguarded so that none from outside can do harm to it."

What can I add to these words? The same concerns and the same sentiments hold true today.

Your Majesty had said in Delhi in February this year: "At no point of time in history has the relationship between India and Bhutan been as good as it is today." This owes a great deal to the efforts Your Majesty has made. May I assure you that it will be my endeavour likewise to do everything to make Indo-Bhutan friendship ever stronger and closer in the years to come?

UTAN INDIA USA UNITED KINGDOM SRI LANKA

**Date** : Sep 30, 1985

## Volume No

1995

JAPAN

Indian Economic Mission's Visit

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Sep 10, 1985 on the visit of an Indian economic mission to Japan:

An Indian Economic Mission led by Shri L. K. Jha, Adviser to the Prime Minister on Administrative Reforms left for Japan for a week long visit. The Mission is going in response to an invitation from the Japanese Government to the Indian Prime Minister to send an economic Mission from India. It may be recalled that a Japanese Mission had visited India in November-December, 1984.

The Mission is expected to promote areas of economic cooperation and further strengthen mutual ties. It is hoped that the Mission would stimulate interests in increasing Japanese investments in India and increasing transfer of technology in management and modernisation of industry. During their stay in Japan, members of the Indian Economic Mission is expected to call on the Japanese Prime Minister, senior Ministers and Chairman and Directors of leading financial institutions. They would also have talks with Japanese Chamber of Commerce and representatives of leading business houses. Visits to selected industries as well as to the Tsukuba Expo have also been programmed.

This exchange of missions will lead to the strengthening of industrial and economic ties between the two countries and enable enlarging of areas of mutual cooperation.

The Mission, which will be led by Shri L. K. Jha, Adviser to the Prime Minister on Administrative Reforms, will include senior officers from the Ministries of Finance and Communications, Departments of Electronics and Industrial Development and representatives of public sector enterprises as well as industrialists.

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PAN INDIA USA UNITED KINGDOM

**Date** : Sep 10, 1985

## Volume No

1995

JAPAN

Japan Loan Assistance Agreement Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Sep 27, 1985 of the signing of a Japanese loan assistance agreement:

Agreement for Japanese Yen credit assistance to India of Yen

39.231 billion equivalent to Rs. 197.4 crores approximately was signed here today by the Ambassador of Japan, Mr. Takumi Hosaki, and the Finance Secretary, Shri S. Venkitaramanan, on behalf of their respective Governments.

The amount of Rs. 197.4 crores will be used to aid Gas Pipeline Project (Yen 15.8 billion or Rs. 80 crores), Aonla Fertilizer Plant Project (Yen 9.5 billion or Rs. 47.6 crores), Sardar Sarovar Hydel Electric Project (Yen 2.85 billion or Rs. 14.3 crores), Ujjani Hydro Electric Project (Yen 1.5 billion or Rs. 7.5 crores) and Telecommunications Project (VIII) Yen 9.581 billion or Rs. 48 crores.

This 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 annum.

PAN INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date** : Sep 27, 1985

## Volume No

1995

NEPAL

Giani Zail Singh Hosts Banquet in Honour of Nepalese King -Text of President's Speech

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Sep 18, 1985 of the speech by the President, Giani Zail Singh at a banquet hosted by him in honour of His majesty King Birendra Bir Bikram Shah Dev of Nepal here tonight (New Delhi, September 18, 1985):

It is my great pleasure, on behalf Of the Government and people of India, to welcome Your Majesties. it has been far too long since Your Majesties were last here in our Capital.

Nepal is more than a neighbour to us. Over the centuries, our two countries have been united in links of exceptional significance. Nepal is known to us as the land of Lord Pashupati Nath, one of the Hindu Trinity. Nepal and India are bound together since times immemorial, by ties of culture, sharing many things in common. Adi Shankaracharya went all the way from Kerala to Nepal to visit the Pashupati Nath Temple. By tradition, the main priests in the Pashupati Nath Temple, even today come from Southern India. Guru Nanak Dev Ji who believed that the whole of Humanity was the manifestation of same divinity also visited Nepal. It is these

ties based on mutual understanding and friendship that gives a unique dimension to our relations. In the words of Shrimati Indira Gandhi, "Nepal and India have lived and grown in the shadow of the Himalayas. From ancient times the wisdom of great sages has inspired our two countries. Being close neighbours it is but natural that we should be intensively attentive to each other". Because these ties are so close, our relations go far beyond being political; they also deeply touch our emotions and sentiments.

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Your Majesties, distinguished guests, friendship and understanding is a dynamic process and we have not remained content with our legacy that history has bequeathed. We look for ways and means to strengthen the relationship to meet the challenges of our modern times. Our two countries have attempted to achieve in decades the process of development that had taken centuries for other countries. We have both gained valuable experience in mutual economic cooperation. We are aware of Your Majesty's deep commitment to Nepal's development and the successes achieved under your guiding hand.

#### COLLECTIVE BENEFIT

Much has been achieved in the content and depth of our bilateral relations in recent years. India is proud to be a significant partner in Nepal's economic development, and we are ready to contribute, to the extent our resources will permit to the task of furthering the cause of economic, technological and social growth in our friendly neighbour Nepal. We are convinced there is mutual and collective benefit in this endeavour, which would strengthen the process of peace in our region and deepen our faith in one another. The potential for further cooperation is considerable. We are so interdependent that what affects one country affects the other. We can draw strength from each other's progress.

In the tensions of the international environment of today, nothing is more urgent than the need for peace and disarmament, objectives which our two countries share. As current Chairman of the Non-aligned Movement, India has worked hard for these goals and to secure a new economic order that reduces the inequalities between the developed and the developing nations. India respects the sovereignty and equal status of all nations irrespective of their size and strength.

#### PEACE AND STABILITY IN REGION

Our policy towards our neighbours is clear and consistent. It is based on Panch Sheel, the principles of non-alignment and those enshrined in the UN Charter. We are convinced that an atmosphere of peace and stability in our region, free from terrorism, violence and conflict, is essential for economic development and

prosperity. Mutual understanding, cooperation and confidence between the countries of South Asia has to be promoted. Without this, those who do not wish our region well will have opportunities to take advantage of our differences. Cooperation among South Asian nations has taken root and we hope that the Summit meeting at the end of this year in Dhaka will further this process by establishing an Association for South Asian Regional Cooperation.

Your Majesties, distinguished guests, India is determined to expand and enrich our contacts with our neighbours. Many initiatives have already been taken by us. In the case of the Kingdom of Nepal, the task is made easier because of the abundant goodwill and friendship that exist between our two countries and peoples. Both India and Nepal share common traditions and historical experiences. The relation. ship between our two countries is one dictated by geography, history and inherited legacy of shared cultural and philosophical traditions. The border between our countries is a border of peace and friendly intercourse. My Government will work to strengthen these bonds, for India wishes to be a good neighbour and a firm friend. I hope that this friendship between India and Nepal will continue to grow-ever stronger. I have no doubt, Your Majesties that these same sentiments will be echoed by all who sit around this table.

May I now request those present to rise to drink a toast to the health and happiness of His Majesty King Birendra and her Majesty Queen Aishwarya, peace, progress and prosperity for the fraternal and friendly people of Nepal, and the growth and consolidation of friendship between our two countries.

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PAL INDIA USA TURKEY BANGLADESH

**Date** : Sep 18, 1985

## Volume No

1995

NEPAL

Text of Nepalese King's Speech

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Sep 09, 1985 of the speech by His Majesty King Birendra Bir Bikram Shah Dev of Nepal at a banquet hosted in his honour by the President, Giani Zail Singh in New Delhi on September 18, 1985:

I thank you, Mr. President, for this banquet no less than for your kind words of welcome and warm hospitality with which we have been received since our arrival to New Delhi this afternoon.

I need hardly state here how we in Nepal value our friendship with India. Relations between our two peoples are not only extensive, they are also perennial. The flow of traffic of people, of goods, ideas and feelings crossing our borders to and fro is constant. In short, we are tied not only by the links of geography or history, but most important of all by a common outlook on life, a value system based on the eternal principles of Vedic philosophy. A relation so vast and extensive as this naturally poses areas for matters to be looked into as there are good prospects and potential ways to solve them. Which is why, Mr. Prime Minister, I have come to seek your understanding and help in the trust that a man of your vision and calibre at the helm Of affairs cannot fail to achieve the great objectives that India under your leadership is destined to.

#### GOOD RELATIONS

Mr. President, I am heartened to note that Prime Minister, Rajiv Gandhi has sincerely been seeking to establish good relations with all of India's neighbours. This is indeed a welcome move and we in Nepal mean to respond well. We have always harboured goodwill towards India and seek in her not only a renewal of old contacts but also the beginning of-, a new friendship that understands and appreciates our aspirations and difficulties. We also need, I believe, fresh ways of approach to further promote the cause of age-old ties between our two countries on the basis of peace, amity, mutual goodwill and respect for each other's sovereignty, territorial integrity, and the principle of noninterference. These principles are as valid today as they were yesterday and will be tomorrow. Indeed, it is only a scrupulous observance of these principles that I think can light the path of true understanding to serve as the basis of an enduring friendship between Nepal and India.

At a time when the spectre of violence and disruption haunts to destroy the peace and stability of many countries of our region and the world, it is only a quest based on these principles of peace that can serve as the beacon light of freedom. It is here that my proposal for Nepal as a Zone of Peace becomes the more urgent. In fact, the Zone of Peace proposal is not only fair, followed to its logical conclusion it also provides an honest answer to the problems posed by terrorism which both our peoples have lately been subjected to.

With only a durable structure of peace within our borders, can we release our energy to buttress the tempo of economic development. Being landlocked, largely mountainous and having lived in isolation for centuries no issue in Nepal is perhaps more

compelling than the question of fulfilling her basic needs. The Nepalese people are keen to drop the epithet of being among the least developed countries in the world. This can be achieved when we are able to concentrate our attention to address the basic problems of under-development. But it also calls for the understanding and cooperation of India and all other well-wishers of Nepal. In the Past three decades something in the building of infrastructure in Nepal has been achieved. Fortunately, the government and people of India have not merely been sympathetic, but have positively contributed to the cause of economic development, in Nepal. I feel it appropriate, therefore, to express our gratitude once again to the people and government of India for their gesture towards Nepal.

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Being close neighbours there has been a happy and long tradition of mutual cooperation between us. It is our firm belief that this can be further expanded in the years to come to the mutual benefit of our two countries. Exploitation of water resources, establishment of industrial joint ventures and expansion of mutual trade are some of the fields in which there can be useful collaboration between our countries contributing to the well-being of our people.

The spirit of regional cooperation that has been gaining momentum in South Asia during the last five years has further opened a new vista before us with vast potentials for the future. We look forward to participate in the proposed Summit Meeting of the South Asian countries to be held in Dhaka, Bangladesh, in the hope that it will add a new and constructive dimension to the history of our region.

Only last month, Mr. President, India celebrated the 38th anniversary of her independence. During these past years the Indian people, under the guidance of their wise and able leaders, have achieved impressive progress in many fields of human endeavour. Now that the present leadership is making determined efforts to steer the country into the twenty-first century with all its hopes and promises. We in Nepal look at these efforts with interest and admiration and wish India all success.

#### MANIFOLD TIES

In short, Mr. President, profound friendship and goodwill mark the manifold ties between our two countries which we hope this visit will further strengthen. In this trust and confidence to expand understanding and cooperation between Nepal and India, I ask you, ladies and gentlemen to rise and join me in a toast, to the health and happiness of His Excellency, the President of the Republic of India, to the continued peace and prosperity of the friendly people of India, and to the ever-growing friendship between the Kingdom of Nepal and the Republic of India.

**Date :** Sep 09, 1985

## Volume No

1995

### NON-ALIGNMENT

Foreign Ministers' Conference in Angola - Text of Prime Minister's Message and Speech of Shri Khurshed Alam Khan

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Sep 06, 1985 on India's participation in the Non-Aligned Foreign Ministers' Conference in Angola:

The Minister of State for External Affairs, Shri Khurshed Alam Khan, was the first Speaker in general debate at the Conference of Non-Aligned Foreign Ministers which opened at Luanda in Angola on September 4, 1985. At the outset, Shri Khurshed Alam Khan read out the following message sent by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi to the Foreign Ministers' Conference:

"Our world today is passing through an unprecedented crisis. Even the pervasive fear of a nuclear holocaust has not moved the great powers towards any meaningful disarmament. There is in fact a paralysis of will.

The economic crisis has deepened. The impact is mainly on the developing world. The burden of external debt has produced a severe resources crunch. It is already

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having grave consequences on the social and political fabric of some countries. The financial institutions can well collapse. In spite of this, the North-South dialogue on global economic issues is still to get off the ground. Indeed, the institutional framework for international cooperation is facing pressures we have never witnessed before.

In South Africa, the repression let loose by the minority regime has reached intolerable levels. We see only further bloodshed ahead. Africa is still reeling under the terrible effects of the recent famine.

The situation in Central America, the Middle East and the Gulf endangers not only their peoples but also constitutes a threat to international peace and security.

In the backdrop of this grim scenario, the Luanda Ministerial meeting faces a grave challenge. Economic, social and political pressures erode the strength of our Movement. We have no alternative but to overcome our differences and there by strengthen our unity. We have to come out with a clear reaffirmation of the principles of the Non-aligned Movement and adhere to them. We must reiterate the role of the Movement as a positive factor in international relations today.

Among the most cherished principles of the Movement has been its belief in the United Nations and the multilateral process. We regret that we see a steady drift away from multilateralism. Therefore, besides striving for our own solidarity and steadfastness, we must also reaffirm our commitment to the United Nations in this year when we celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the United Nations.

May I wish all success to the Foreign Ministers of the Non-aligned assembled in Luanda".

#### FIGHT AGAINST APARTHEID

Following is the text of the speech made by the Minister of State or External Affairs, Shri Khurshed Alam Khan:

"We are all assembled here in this beautiful capital of Angola at a time when the struggle of the people of Africa against the last vestiges of colonialism and racism is entering a crucial phase. This Ministerial Meeting of the Non-aligned Movement symbolises the solidarity and support of the Movement with the people of Southern Africa in their unremitting struggle for a tryst with destiny. It is only appropriate that we meet in the capital of a frontline State, not far from the besieged bastion of Apartheid and next door to-illegally occupied Namibia.

May I once again congratulate you on your unanimous election to the post of Chairman of this Ministerial Meeting. Your assumption of this office is a tribute to your diplomatic skill, wisdom and experience. It is at the same time a tribute to your great country, the People's Republic of Angola. The Indian delegation wishes to assure you and your distinguished colleagues of its full cooperation.

Mr. Chairman, in the untimely passing away of President Forbes Burnham of Guyana, the Non-aligned Movement has lost one of its tallest figures, an ardent champion of its ideals and objectives, a tireless fighter for the dignity and upliftment of the oppressed and the downtrodden. The Government and people of India have lost a close and respected friend. The best tribute we could pay to the departed leader is to rededicate ourselves to the principles that he espoused.

The Non-aligned Movement has consistently been a determined expression of the will of the emergent nations of Asia, Africa, Latin America and Europe to preserve and consolidate their hard-won independence, to assert their participation in the decision-making processes on global issues of concern and interest to them and to determine their destiny free from all external pressures, intervention or threats. These lofty goals are as relevant today as they were a quarter of a century ago and continue to inspire us to close our ranks and make our collective will felt through unity of purpose and action. The Nonaligned Movement continues to grow in importance as a major factor in inter-  
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national relations. The various initiatives taken by the Non-aligned Movement since its inception at the various summit gatherings have been universally recognised as a positive contribution to the cause of world peace and development. More recently since the New Delhi summit, significant steps have been taken by the Movement in the preservation of independence of nations, in carrying forward the struggle against colonialism and in the promotion of international peace and security, disarmament and development. These are a manifestation of our collective resolve to adhere to the ideals of the founding fathers of the Movement.

#### CHALLENGE To CONSCIENCE OF MANKIND

The situation in Southern Africa is a challenge to the conscience of mankind. The policies of apartheid of the racist regime in Pretoria constitute a source of tension, instability and conflict, endangering both regional and international peace and security. The recent tragic developments in South Africa as a result of the fresh wave of terror and repression unleashed by the racist regime following its imposition of State of emergency testify to Pretoria's determination to continue its reprehensible policies. Botha's statement in Durban of 15 August provided ample proof, if proof were indeed needed, that Pretoria remains wedded to apartheid, that it shall continue to turn a deaf ear to the legitimate aspirations of the oppressed majority in South Africa and to the voice of outrage of the entire international community that itself persist in its attempts to divide the struggling majority in South Africa and that it shall show no scruple in killing, maiming and detaining arbitrarily those who dare to raise their voice in protest. Recent events make it clear at the same time that the people of South Africa will not be cowed down into submission and that their struggle for a united, democratic and non-fragmented South Africa shall, before long, find culmination in final victory. We reiterate to our brothers and sisters in South Africa the assurances of our unflinching solidarity and support.

The travails of the people of South Africa cannot eclipse from our hearts the plight of the suffering people of Namibia who have

now completed a century under oppressive colonial occupation. The same abhorrent regime that persecutes its own people persists in its illegal occupation of Namibia, now close to two decades after the United Nations assumed direct responsibility over the territory. The latest attempts by that regime to set up a puppet administration in Namibia, through the so-called multi-party conference, have met with the universal contempt and repudiation that they deserve. The extraordinary Ministerial Meeting of the Coordinating Bureau of Non-aligned countries of Namibia, held at New Delhi from 19 to 21 April this year, reaffirmed the clear and consistent support of our movement of the Namibia cause and made out a concrete programme of action to advance that cause. During that historic meeting India took an important step forward by according full diplomatic status to the SWAPO representative in New Delhi, thereby reiterating our support to the Namibian cause. The United Nations Security Council convened in response to the call made by the Nonaligned at New Delhi, has once again called for the immediate and unconditional implementation of resolution 435, which constitutes the only basis for a peaceful settlement of the Namibian question. Once again, South Africa has spurned that call.

#### THREAT TO PEACE

Mr. Chairman, it is clear that South Africa could not persist in its defiance of the will of the international community for so long but for the diplomatic and moral support the wide ranging collaboration in the economic, military, nuclear and other fields that it receives from its friends and allies. The pursuit of apartheid, the occupation of Namibia and the repeated acts of aggression against dependent African States, jointly and severally, all constitute threat to peace. Yet the security council has, time and again, been paralysed into inaction on account of vetoes cast by one or more of its western permanent members against measures to isolate South Africa.

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The Pretoria regime is beyond persuasion. Policies such as those of "constructive engagement" stand plainly thus discredited and exposed, for all to see. Comprehensive mandatory sanctions under chapter VII of the United Nations Charter, are the only answer. Meanwhile, States have a moral duty to sever all links with Pretoria. My country is proud to have led the way in 1946, when we became the first to voluntarily impose comprehensive sanctions against South Africa.

#### PALESTINE

The people of Palestine continue to languish without the homeland that is their right. The region of the Middle-East continues to be a focus of tension due to Israel's aggressive and expansionist policies. The problem Of Palestine remains at the core of the conflict in the Middle East and no just and lasting solution is

possible without the exercise by the Palestinian people of their inalienable national rights and without the withdrawal of Israel of all Arab territories occupied by it since 1967. The Non-aligned Movement has striven hard to bring peace to West Asia. The committee of eight on Palestine set UP at the Seventh Summit in New Delhi has been actively pursuing its mandate. We reaffirm our support to the PLO as the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. We should like to underscore once again the importance of the early convening of the proposed international conference on the Middle East, with the participation of all the parties concerned for securing a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the region.

#### TRAGIC CONFLICT

The tragic conflict between Iran and Iraq - two valued members of the Nonaligned fraternity - continues to be a matter of concern and anguish to the movement. India along with other Non-aligned countries have taken repeated initiatives to resolve this conflict. I was deputed by the Chairman of the Movement to visit both Iran and Iraq with the objective of bringing the two sides to the negotiating table. Our efforts continue along with the efforts of Secretary-General of the United Nations and others.

In spite of the valiant efforts of Contadora Group to bring about a peaceful and negotiated solution to the problems in Central America, the situation in that region continues to be marked by instability, tension and conflict.

Policies of interference and intervention and the threat or use of force imperil peace and security in the region complicating its serious socio-economic problems.

The Government and people of friendly Nicaragua live under constant threat, harrassment and intimidation, the problems of Central America can only be resolved by peaceful means, through political dialogues and negotiations. The Contadora group must intensify its efforts to overcome the obstacles in its bid to bring lasting peace to the region. We welcome the recent initiatives taken by the support group comprising Argentina, Brazil, Peru and Uruguay to evolve modalities of support to the Contadora group and solve the regional problem through a Latin American perspective.

#### INDIAN OCEAN

In our own neighbourhood, escalating great power presence in the Indian Ocean constitutes a source of grave anxiety and concern and the objective of creating a zone of peace in the Indian Ocean remains elusive. The increasing militarisation of the Indian Ocean and its use as an arena for strategic power play pose a direct threat to the security and integrity of littoral and hinterland States. The 1971 declaration on the Indian Ocean as a

zone of peace remains unimplemented. It is regrettable that the Colombo conference on the Indian Ocean has been repeatedly postponed owing to the intransigent attitude and dilatory tactics of certain powers. We hope that the conference will be held as scheduled in the first half of 1986 to begin the process of elimination of great power military presence from the Indian Ocean

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in realisation of the objectives of the 1971 declaration. For this purpose the full and active participation in the Conference by the permanent members of the Security Council and the major maritime users, as well as the active cooperation of these States with the littoral and hinterland States, are essential for the success of the conference.

Tension, conflict and instability afflict other parts of the world, including South-West and South-East Asia. Cyprus continues, to face travail and peril to its sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and its Non-aligned status. The tense situation in the South Atlantic remains a matter of concern.

#### DECOLONISATION

Even though, impressive strides have been made in the field of decolonisation, that process still remains incomplete. The Non-aligned have themselves played a vital role in the struggle against colonialism. The 25th anniversary of the UN declaration on decolonisation should provide us an opportune occasion to redouble our efforts to rid the world of the remaining vestiges of colonialism.

#### HIROSHIMA AND NAGASAKI

Mr. Chairman, we recently marked the 40th Anniversary of the tragic devastation that struck Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Memories of that catastrophe pale into insignificance when we consider the devastating potential of nuclear arsenals in existence today. As if this capacity for destruction were not enough, the arms race is now sought to be extended to outer space, based on the strategic doctrine of 'Star wars'. Colossal amounts of money expended on the arms race - to the detriment of the more pressing challenges before mankind, such as the eradication of poverty, disease and illiteracy, preventing the denudation of the environment and maintaining the ecological balance. This vast military expenditure, apart from causing distortions in the economies of leading military powers, has aggravated the problems of global economic recovery and development. Many developing countries face the stark prospects of economic collapse and social upheaval as a result of this structural crisis facing the global economy.

My Government, Mr. Chairman, would like to reiterate its conviction that international peace and security can be ensured only through general and complete disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, under effective international control. The New Delhi declaration issued by the leaders of Argentina, Greece, India, Mexico, Sweden and Tanzania on January 28, 1985, called upon all nuclear weapon states to halt all testing, production and development of nuclear weapons and their delivery systems and further urged that this first step must be followed by a continuing programme of reduction of armaments leading to general and complete disarmament accompanied by measures to strengthen the LINC system and to ensure an urgently needed transfer of resources from the arms race into social and economic development. In this context two specific steps requiring special attention were identified by the six leaders - the prevention of an arms race in outer space and the early conclusion of a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty.

Mr. Chairman, our movement has always voiced its principled concern at the widening gap between the rich and the poor, which, is a source of instability and threat to peace. We have also remained steadfast in our struggle for the reestablishment of a just and equitable international economic order. The last few years have seen grave economic hardships for our countries and the perilous state of the world economy has been a matter of preoccupation of the movement since the New Delhi Summit.

We in the Non-aligned Movement have always held that the problems of the world economy cannot be cured by a cyclical upturn but require structural change through deliberate cooperative international action. The Seventh Summit reiterated our belief in the concept of global interdependence. Adequate growth and stability in the world economy is not possible without a reactivation of the development process in the developing world. Unfortu-

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nately our partners in the North, while expressing faith in interdependence, continue to overlook the interests of developing countries in pursuit of the narrow interest of preserving their positions of privilege. The launching of global negotiations for the restructuring of the world economic order still remains obstructive and no progress has been made towards the implementation of the programme of immediate measures in the areas identified to be of critical importance to the developing countries.

In the area of trade, commodity prices are stagnating at historically low levels. The speedy implementation of the integrated Programme of Commodities with the establishment of the Common Fund has become an urgent necessity. Protectionism continues unabated, despite existing commitment on standstill and roll back of such measures. In areas of special interest to

developing countries, these measures have become even more severe.

In the financial field there has been little progress towards reaching the internationally agreed levels of IDA assistance. The flow of resources to developing countries has further declined. It is indeed ironical that a reverse transfer of resources from developing to developed countries has been taking place. Multilateral development institutions must be provided much greater resources - in particular uncertainty regarding IDA replenishment. The very low level of replenishment Of IDA, are a source of concern and disappointment for the income countries. The mounting problem of debt points to increasing fragility of the international monetary and financial system. In these circumstances we simply cannot share the optimistic scenarios being presented by some international agencies. Such scenarios ignore the unacceptable high cost in terms of human suffering at which adjustment is being sought from the developing countries. The extraordinary accumulation of problems in the monetary and financial spheres, which has brought into question the very sustainability of the system, led our leaders assembled in Delhi for the Seventh Summit to call for an international Conference on money and finance for development. The report of five eminent experts from Algeria, Mexico, Yugoslavia, Tanzania and India appointed by the late chairperson of the movement Mrs. Indira Gandhi, has been widely welcomed as providing an important input for restructuring the international Monetary and Financial System in keeping with the concept of Global interdependence.

Mr. Chairman, Meeting as we are in Africa, we are even more actually conscious of the pain and suffering which millions of our brethren in sub-Saharan Africa encountered in recent years. The long awaited rains have arrived but the emerging patches of green should not make us complacent to the formidable task which lie ahead. The critical economic situation in Africa and the drought and famine conditions evoked a spontaneous outpouring of sympathy and fellow-feeling. Many Non-aligned countries, despite their severe limitations, came forward and provided all possible help and assistance. The leaders of the African countries at the 28th Summit conference of the OAU adopted a bold and courageous declaration in which they have expressed Africa's determination to deal with the challenge of development. It is incumbent on the international community to fully support these efforts. As a token of solidarity, the Non-aligned Movement adopted a plan of action and designated India as the focal point for its speedy implementation. India was among the first to come forward with a contribution of 100,000 tonnes of wheat followed by another contribution of US dollars 10 million to the OAU special fund.

The implementation of the action programme for economic cooperation among Non-aligned and others developing countries is progressing, and several important meetings have been held in such diverse areas as education, health, labour, women and

development, standardisation and supports. The Ministers of trade of the members of the group of 77 met recently in New Delhi and adopted a declaration on the global system of trade preferences <pg-280>

(GSTP) as well as on developments in the international trading system. The research and information centre system of the Nonaligned has been set up and the centre for science and technology will become operational shortly. The road to collective self-reliance is not easy and will require utmost imagination, flexibility, and cohesion to evolve new and diverse forms of cooperation and to mobilise resources for achieving it.

Mr. Chairman, the convening of this Ministerial Conference on the eve of the fortieth anniversary of the United Nations invests this meeting particular significance. The commitment to multilateralism as embodied in the United Nations has consistently been endorsed by the Non-aligned Movement. It occupies a place of primary importance in India's foreign policy. As the late Prime Minister of India and Chairperson. of our movement, Mrs. Indira Gandhi observed:

"Firm faith in the United Nations is also central to the movement of Non-aligned countries. Our affinity for the United Nations is rooted in our world view. We cherish peace. We believe in the equality, sovereignty and independence of States. We have a fundamental conviction in the dignity and worth of the human person and of the equality of man. The United Nations embodies in itself these lofty principles, and more. It constitutes a unique international forum where nations can resolve their differences and work together for the common good of the humanity".

The Non-aligned should, from Luanda, send a clear and strong message of support and solidarity for the United Nations and recommend measures to enhance its effectiveness.

Mr. Chairman, in the context of increasing international tensions and conflicts in different parts of the world accentuated by great power rivalry, the Nonaligned Movement can alone play the role of a catalyst in the realisation of a new international human order based on justice and equality. Let us, therefore, close our ranks, strengthen our unity, and sustain the dynamic thrust of the movement.

Before I close, I would like to express the sincere gratitude of my delegation for the warm hospitality accorded to us and for the excellent arrangements that have been made by the government of Angola for this Conference.

GOLA INDIA USA SOUTH AFRICA NAMIBIA GUYANA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC ISRAEL  
IRAN IRAQ NICARAGUA ARGENTINA BRAZIL PERU URUGUAY SRI LANKA CYPRUS JAPAN GREECE  
MEXICO SWEDEN TANZANIA ALGERIA YUGOSLAVIA

**Date :** Sep 06, 1985

## Volume No

1995

SWEDEN

Indo-Swedish Economic Co-operation Agreement Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Sep 18, 1985 on the economic cooperation agreement signed between India and Sweden:

A general agreement on terms and procedures for economic co-operation was signed here today between the Government of Sweden and the Government of India. The agreement was signed by H. E. Mr. Axel Edelstam, Ambassador of Sweden in India and Shri Mil. S. Mukherjee, Joint Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, on behalf of their respective Governments.

The general agreement details the terms and procedures applicable to Indo-Swedish Development Cooperation Programme and would be the instrument for the smooth implementation of the projects <pg-281>

aided by Sweden and for the proper utilisation of the financial resources made available by Sweden. This agreement brings into operation the agreement on Development Cooperation between Sweden and India signed on August 16, 1985. Under this agreement Sweden agreed to make available to India a sum of S. Kr. 700 million (Rs. 100.8 crores) for 1985-86 and S. Kr. 350 million) for the year 1986-87.

The general agreement signed today will be effective from September 1, 1985 and will remain valid till June 30, 1990.

EDEN INDIA UNITED KINGDOM USA

**Date :** Sep 18, 1985

## Volume No

1995

## SWITZERLAND

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### Indo-Swiss Protocol Signed

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The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Sep 20, 1985 on the signing of the Indo-Swiss protocol:

The three day session of the Indo-Swiss Joint Commission concluded at Berne yesterday on the note of a promise of enlarged and closer cooperation between India and Switzerland. This meeting has been considered timely in the context of India's new policy package, opening up greater opportunities and prospects for inflow of technologies and trade exchanges. On conclusion of the deliberations, a protocol was signed on Thursday, September 19, 1985, in the presence of Shri Thomas Abraham, India's Ambassador to Switzerland, by Mr. S. Arioli, Ambassador, Swiss Federal Council for Trade Agreements and Shri R. Dayal, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Commerce.

The Indian delegation showed their interest in transfer of technology on the basis particularly of export-worthiness of products covering a wide-range of specialised textile machinery, precision industrial tools and jigs and plastic for engineering industries.

In the course of deliberation on the other issues, discussed at the Joint Commission meeting for intensifying bilateral economic and commercial relations, the Indian and Swiss sides noted the progress so far made for an agreement for avoidance of double taxation and hoped for its early finalisation.

Both the Indian and Swiss delegates stressed the potential which existed for increasing two-way trade and identified specific areas, for special attention. The Indian side brought home the capability of Indian industry to supply quality engineering goods like metal working machine tools and parts, pumps and parts, switchgears and control gears and automotive components. Similar facilities existed in the electronics sector for exports from India of components like silvered mica plates, carbon and metal film resistors, aluminium electrolytic capacitors, zener diodes and bridge rectifiers.

India has been exporting to Switzerland chemical products like refined glycerine, drug intermediates, airut dyes, organic pigment and agarbatties, but some of these products have of late shown a declining trend.

### EXPORT ORIENTED JOINT VENTURES

It was recognised that there were several possibilities of export-oriented joint ventures and collaboration in third country projects. It was agreed that a suitable mechanism would be

evolved to  
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facilitate industry level contacts for promotion of such collaboration.

Specific areas identified for transfer of technology from Switzerland included industrial process control instrumentations, manufacture of new drugs, high quality leather footwear as well as for chemicals for leather tanning industry, besides joint ventures in the field of food processing and packaging.

A growing interest on the part of Swiss industry and trade to participate in India's Developmental Schemes was evident at the fourth session of the Indo-Swiss Joint Commission held at Berne this week. The rationale and philosophy of the recent policy incentives announced by the Government of India was explained and highlighted by the Indian delegation at this meeting.

ITZERLAND INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC RUSSIA

**Date :** Sep 20, 1985

## Volume No

1995

UNITED NATIONS

U N General Assembly - Statement by Shri Khurshed Alam Khan

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Sep 30, 1985 of the statement made by Shri Khurshed Alam Khan, Minister of State for Commerce, in the UN General Assembly on September 26, 1985 in the General debate:

Mr. President, I would like to begin by congratulating you on your unanimous election to the Presidency of the 40th session of the United Nations General Assembly. You are a distinguished son and an eminent representative of a country with which India has close and cordial relations and your association with the United Nations goes back many years. We are confident that you will provide this Assembly with able stewardship.

I would also like to place on record our appreciation of the effective and statesman - like leadership provided to the 39th session of the Assembly by your distinguished predecessor H.E. Mr. Paul Lusaka of Zambia.

I wish to pay tribute further to our distinguished Secretary-General for his untiring efforts in the cause of peace and for his patience, perseverance and wisdom. He has won our admiration for his skilful handling of several crisis situations. We wish him continued success and reiterate to him our support.

Before proceeding further, Mr. President, allow me to express on behalf of the people and Government of India our profound grief at the heavy toll in human and material terms claimed by the earthquakes which tragically struck Mexico last week. We express our solidarity and support to the people and Government of Mexico in their hour of travail and in their heroic efforts to overcome this unprecedented calamity.

Mr. President, you preside today over a historic session. The UN has completed 40 years of its existence. These have been years not only of tribulation but also of promise and even achievement. The world is surcharged with suspicion and uncertainty, with incipient as well as overt conflict but the ideals of the UN continue to instil optimism. The dawn of independence and freedom for the overwhelming majority of humanity, particularly in the erstwhile colonial and, imperial domains in Asia, Africa and Latin America has been a significant and welcome development of our times.

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#### NEW SPECTRE

The generation that launched the UN also saw the launching of the nuclear age. While conventional attitudes towards this World Organisation are still shaped by the memories of World War II, there is today a new spectre that haunts our civilisation, the spectre of a nuclear catastrophe. Hostile military blocs are posed against each other with an armada of nuclear weaponry that can wipe out all life on this planet many times over. Survival in this nuclear age has become the key issue of our times.

The UN today is the hub of diplomatic activity for the nations of the world. Whatever their divergence in political systems, economic structures or cultural mores, they come together in almost daily contact on a variety of bilateral, multilateral and global issues. Yet, this so-called democratization of international relations is only part of the story. On the other hand, the pressures and divisions that characterise contemporary international relations, seriously buffet the organisation and reduce its capacity for effective action. As Jawaharlal Nehru stated in the United Nations as early as in 1948:

"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 be not only

tremendous devastation all over the world, but the non-achievement by any individual power or group of its objective."

In his thought provoking report on the work of the organisation, the Secretary General has very aptly characterised the UN as an essential element of the historic choice before humanity - between a world of technological promise and that of potentially terminal danger. He has rightly stressed the need for strengthening the concept of international authority embodied in the United Nations as one that should serve as a substitute for "Unilateral actions, exclusive alliances or spheres of influence". His specific suggestions deserve careful study and reasoned application.

#### FIRM FAITH IN U.N.

We in India and in the Movement of Non-aligned countries believe that the United Nations represents, in a real sense, the best hope of mankind. As the late Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi stated in her address to the 38th Session of the UN General Assembly, "Firm faith in the United Nations is central to the Nonaligned Our affinity for the United Nations is rooted in our world view. We cherish peace. We believe in the equality, sovereignty and independence of States. We have a fundamental conviction in the dignity and worth of the human person. The United Nations embodies in itself these lofty principles and more. It constitutes a unique international forum where nations can resolve their differences and work together for the common good of humanity.

#### SOCIAL AND CULTURAL ETHOS

Mr. President, throughout the years of India's freedom struggle, our leaders viewed independence not in narrow national terms but as part of the struggle of oppressed peoples everywhere for justice - political, social and economic. Following India's independence in 1947, our democratic institutions have stabilized and given to our people a deep sense of participation and commitment in determining the nation's priorities in the political and economic fields as well as in the building up of its social and cultural ethos. In our international relationships, the commitment to the policy of Non-alignment has been both instinctive and inevitable. As the Prime Minister of India, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi has stated:

"We have inherited a well-tested and consistent foreign policy which serves our national interest. We have always believed in working for peace. Our policy is to be friends with all countries on the basis of reciprocity and mutual benefit.

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Our commitment to Non-alignment and a new world economic order based on justice, means a total dedication to the twin causes of

peace and development. We also believe in safeguarding the independence of States and upholding the principles of non-interference and non-intervention."

Mr. President, it is but a few weeks ago that we marked the 40th anniversary of the dropping of the first nuclear bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Memories of that catastrophe make us even more actually aware of the devastating potential of nuclear arsenals today. As we begin this fifth decade of the nuclear age, the attitudes of nuclear weapon States towards the possession and use of their nuclear weapons have not undergone any basic change. There is a wide gap between public fears of a nuclear war and the calculations of statesmen and strategists of the efficacy of the nuclear balance of terror. Ever increasing expenditures are being undertaken for the qualitative development of weapons. New generations of weapon systems have come into existence and the militarisation of outer space appears imminent. Indeed a whole range of new strategic concepts are being built which seek to smother any sense of moral outrage that humanity may feel over the politics of nuclear confrontation among the most powerful states of the world.

#### IMPACT OF ARMS RACE

All nations stand to suffer to a greater or lesser degree from the impact of the arms race. No one can predict with certainty the devastation that would be caused by a nuclear war. When the immediate effects of the blast and fire are combined with the long-term effects of the fall-out, the erosion of the ozone layer and the damage to all our planetary life support systems, it is clear that another world war might well bring an end to human history.

It is time for us to go to the roots of our predicament. If the States most responsible for creating this threat are as yet unprepared to suggest urgent measures for preventing the outbreak of a nuclear war, others should take the lead. There is clearly today a rising tide of protest all around the world against the wasteful and dangerous arms race. The political climate generated by the spontaneous popular movements against the creation of armaments, against the testing of nuclear weapons and against the use of science and technology for purposes inconsistent with humanitarian principles, makes it imperative the tenacity to wars. The legitimisation of nuclear weapons should be reversed. The process of reduction of nuclear arsenals should be commenced as the only way to build up confidence and trust among States. A commitment by leaders of the major nuclear weapon States to follow a path of arms limitation rather than arms build up is the need of the hour.

The evolution of the healthy national societies in the world can only be ensured if the pervasive influence of an armaments culture, particularly of a nuclear armaments culture is curbed

and the massive expenditure now being directed towards perfecting and modernising the instruments of war is channeled towards securing more equitable and better conditions of livelihood for the peoples of the world. Even a token reduction in arms expenditure can produce dramatic results if channelised into the development of the less affluent sections of the world. In this context we welcome the convening of the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development next year.

#### GENEVA SUMMIT

We have welcomed the resumption of negotiations in Geneva between the United States and the USSR on a complex of questions concerning space and nuclear arms, to be considered and resolved in their inter-relationship, with the declared objective of working towards the complete elimination of nuclear arms everywhere. All nations have a stake in the success of the Geneva negotiations and it is, therefore, with some concern that we note that these talks have not produced any con-

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crete results so far. We hope that the forthcoming summit' meeting between the leaders of the two countries will give a significant impetus to this process.

I would like at this stage refer to the "Delhi Declaration" issued at the end of the meeting of the Heads of State or Government of Argentina, Greece, India, Mexico, Sweden and Tanzania, who in January this year, issued a fervent appeal to the nuclear weapon states to halt all testing, production and deployment of nuclear weapons and their delivery systems, to be followed by substantial reduction in their nuclear forces. The Delhi Declaration specified two steps for special attention - the prevention of an arms race in outer space and the early conclusion of a comprehensive test ban treaty. These leaders from five continents called for a continuing programme of arms reduction leading to general and complete disarmament accompanied by measures to strengthen the UN system and to ensure the urgently needed transfer of substantial resources from the arms race to economic and social development. In determining our international political and economic policies, Non-aligned countries have consistently refused to tailor our responses to the dictates of cold war predispositions. We do not mortgage our decisions to foreign dictates. We do not seek confrontation. But we urge the necessity of change as the key to the transformation of the world community. India does not believe, however, that such a transformation can be achieved merely by resort to strident rhetoric or by destructive criticism. The test for the international community consists in managing change by peaceful and cooperative means, recognising the objective imperatives of our situation in the present day world. Therefore, we seek the widest cooperation of all nations of the world. But we ask that

such cooperation be based on equality, justice and a genuine recognition of our mutual interdependence.

As nations subjected to colonial domination and racial discrimination we stand firmly committed to the complete elimination of the pernicious practice of Apartheid of the racist regime in any form. The situation in Southern Africa is an affront to the conscience of mankind. The policies of Apartheid of the racist regime in Pretoria constitute a source of tension, instability and conflict, endangering both regional and international peace and security. The recent tragic developments in South Africa, as a result of the fresh wave of terror and repression unleashed by the racist regime following its imposition of a state of emergency, testify to Pretoria's determination to continue its reprehensive policies. Mr. Botha's statement in Durban of 15 August provided ample proof if proof were indeed needed, that Pretoria remains wedded to Apartheid, that it shall continue to turn a deaf ear to the legitimate aspirations of the oppressed majority in South Africa and to the voice of the entire international community, that it shall persist in its attempts to divide the struggling majority in South Africa, and that it shall show no scruple in killing, maiming and detaining arbitrarily those who dare to raise their voice in protest, Recent events make it clear, at the same time, that the people of South Africa will not be cowed into submission. As the special communique on South Africa adopted by the Nonaligned at their recent Ministerial Conference in Luanda stated, 'the countdown to the collapse of Apartheid has started, in earnest'. We call once again for the immediate and unconditional release of Nelson Mandela and other valiant freedom fighters under detention. We are convinced that the struggle for a united, democratic and non-fragmented South Africa shall, before long, find culmination in final victory. We reiterate to our brothers and sisters in South Africa the assurances of our total solidarity and support.

#### NAMIBIA

Equally, our hearts go out to the suffering people of Namibia who have now completed a century under oppressive colonial occupation. The same abhorrent regime that persecutes its own people persists in its illegal occupation of Namibia, now close to two decades after the United Nations assumed direct responsibility over the territory. The attempts by that regime to set up another puppet administration in

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Namibia, through the so-called multi-party conference, have met with the universal contempt and repudiation that they deserve. The extraordinary Ministerial meeting of the Coordinating Bureau of Nonaligned countries on Namibia, held in New Delhi from 18 to 21 April this year, reaffirmed the clear and consistent support of the Non-aligned Movement for the cause of Namibia and set out

a concrete programme of action to advance that cause. During that historical meeting, India took an important step forward by according full diplomatic status to the SWAPO representative in New Delhi there by reiterating its firm support to the Namibian cause. The United Nations Security Council, convened in response to the call made by the Non-aligned at New Delhi, has once again called for the immediate and unconditional implementation of resolution 435(1978) which constitutes the only basis for a peaceful settlement of the Namibian question. Once again, South Africa has spurned that call. It is incumbent on the Council to meet again.

It is clear that South Africa could not have persisted in its defiance of the will of the international community for so long but for the diplomatic and moral support and the wideranging collaboration in the economic, military, nuclear and other fields that it has been receiving from its friends and allies. The pursuit of Apartheid, the occupation of Namibia and the repeated acts of aggression against independent African states, jointly and severally, all constitute threats to peace. Yet the Security Council has time and again, been paralysed into inaction on account of vetoes cast by one or more of its permanent members against mandatory measures aimed at the total isolation of South Africa. The Pretoria regime is beyond persuasion, clearly, policies such as those of 'constructive engagement' have failed. Comprehensive mandatory sanctions under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter, are the only answer. Meanwhile, States have a moral duty to sever all links with Pretoria. The recent upsurge of public opinion in many parts of the world for more resolute action against South Africa is a welcome development. My country is proud to have led the way in 1946, when we became the first to voluntarily impose comprehensive sanctions against South Africa.

Nearer to our own shores, the destabilising and escalating great power military presence in the Indian Ocean causes us great concern. Only the elimination of such presence can enable the nations of the area to fashion out their destinies without hindrance or military tutelage from beyond their territorial boundaries. The 1971 Declaration adopted by the UN has laid down the objective of a zone of peace in the Indian Ocean area which is universally supported by all Non-aligned States of the region. These States now call for the early convening in 1986 of a conference on the Indian Ocean in Colombo in order to achieve the realisation of the objective of the Declaration. The participation of all the great powers at such a Conference is crucial, indeed indispensable, to its success. The presence of military bases, command structures and other forms of military presence against the express wishes of the countries of the area only add to the tensions already prevailing in the Indian Ocean littoral and should be progressively reduced and eliminated.

SARC

Meanwhile, in our own neighbourhood, the countries of South Asia have embarked on a process of regional cooperation which holds out significant prospects for the betterment of our peoples. It is important that these developments are not adversely affected by political and military factors involving the induction of sophisticated arms serving external strategic interests. As we have repeatedly stressed, it is necessary that existing thresholds are not crossed, or new elements of controversy introduced which could adversely affect the security environment in our neighbourhood. We, for our part, are committed to promoting good neighbourliness and harmonious relations in the area. It is in this spirit that we look forward to the first Summit meeting of South Asia Regional Cooperation (SARC) in December this year in Dhaka.

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#### PALESTINIAN PEOPLE

Mr. President, our solidarity with the struggle of the Palestinian people under the leadership of the PLO for the establishment of an independent State in Palestine and in securing the return of the Palestinian and Arab territories occupied by Israel has been a well recognised plank in the Non-aligned platform. The plight of the Palestinians today is indeed one of the supreme tragedies of history. Few people have been more systematically brutalised, oppressed or humiliated in their own lands. The dispersal of the heroic Palestinians will not weaken their will to fight for their inalienable rights. Nor will it bring peace to the area. Occupation of land belonging to its neighbours will not guarantee Israel its security. There is now an increasing understanding of the fact that no comprehensive solution of the problem in the Middle East is attainable without the active involvement of the PLO, the sole and authentic representative of the Palestinian people. A comprehensive solution of the question can only be achieved by a forward looking approach based on a recognition of the realities of the Palestinian right to an independent State and the right of all States of the region to live in peace within secure international frontiers. It must comprise the total and conditional withdrawal of Israel from all Arab territories occupied since 1967 and the exercise by the Palestinian people of their inalienable national and human rights including the right to establish an independent State in their homeland. The situation does not brook delay. We underscore once again the importance of the early convening of the proposed international peace conference on the Middle East, under the auspices of the UN and with the participation of all the parties concerned for securing a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the region in accordance with well established principles. India is ready to extend its full support and cooperation in this connection and is appreciative of the efforts being undertaken by the UN Secretary General.

#### IRAN-IRAQ CONFLICT

The tragic conflict between Iran and Iraq - two valued members of the Nonaligned fraternity - continues to be a matter of concern and anguish. India along with other Non-aligned countries has taken repeated initiatives to resolve this conflict. Our efforts continue along with the efforts of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and others.

#### PROBLEMS OF CENTRAL AMERICA

In spite of the valiant efforts of the Contadora Group to bring about a peaceful and negotiated solution to the problems in Central America, the situation in that region continues to be marked by instability, tension and conflict. Policies of interference and intervention, and the threat of use of force imperil peace and security in the region, complicating its serious socioeconomic problems. The Government and people of Nicaragua live under constant threat, harassment and intimidation. The problems of Central America can only be resolved by peaceful means, through political dialogue and negotiation. The Contadora group must intensify its efforts to overcome the obstacles in its bid to bring lasting peace to the region. We were distressed by the last minute impediments which prevented the signing of the revised draft Contadora Act on Peace and Cooperation in Central America of 7th September, 1984. However, we have noted with satisfaction the presentation of a further revised draft, following the meeting in Panama earlier this month. It is our earnest hope that the meeting of Plenipotentiaries scheduled next month will finally pave the way for durable peace to return to this troubled part of the world. The endeavours of the newly constituted Lima group will, no doubt, strengthen Contadora's hand.

#### SOUTH-WEST ASIA

We have always affirmed the inadmissibility of interference in the internal affairs of States as also of the induction of foreign troops in any country. The situation in South West Asia can only be resolved through an overall political settlement

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based on the principles set out in the New Delhi Declaration. India's own efforts have been directed towards this end. We support the sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and Non-aligned status of Afghanistan. We have closely followed the efforts of the special representative of the Secretary-General, which deserve the fullest support of all concerned.

Tension, conflict and instability afflict other parts of the world, including South-East Asia. Cyprus continues to face travail and new peril to its sovereignty, independence, unity, territorial integrity and its Non-aligned status. Tension continues to prevail in the Mediterranean, the South Atlantia as well as in the Pacific region.

Colonialism, as I observed earlier, persists in its most virulent form, in Namibia. In other parts of the world as well, the task of decolonisation remains incomplete. In this twenty-fifth year of the UN Declaration on Decolonisation, tribute is due to the commendable role the United Nations has played in the field of decolonisation. We must also reaffirm our resolve to eliminate the colonial phenomenon altogether.

#### WORLD ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

Mr. President, the World Economic Environment continues to cause grave concern. At the seventh Summit of Nonaligned countries in New Delhi in March 1983, our Heads of State and Government had stressed that 'the international community cannot be assured of durable peace so long as disparities between nations are widening'. The Foreign Ministers of Nonaligned countries, meeting in Luanda earlier this month, were constrained to point out that the world economic situation had not improved since 1983.

The limited and fragile nature of the recovery achieved in some of the industrialised countries, whose spread has remained uneven even amongst them, is now faltering, because it has been based on unsustainable macro-economic policies. The projections for the rate of growth of the economies of industrialised countries for 1985 and 1986 remain low. The 1985 rate of growth would not exceed 2.8 per cent. It may well be lower.

At the same time, the economies of the developing countries remain under heavy pressure. Their overall growth rates remain well below levels which would offset population growth let alone secure development gains. Combined with the severities of the adjustment process, which have marked the first three years of this decade, this decline in growth rates has brought into sharp focus the constraint on their economies, threatening wider social and political strife. The developing countries have been making adjustment without any parallel improvement in the world economic environment and in the face of serious resource constraints, the growing menace of an increasingly intolerable debt burden, reverse transfer of financial resources and intensifying protectionist barriers against their exports to developed countries. Against this background, the weakening of the commitment to the spirit of international economic cooperation and an erosion of the multilateral system is a deeply disturbing trend. It is paradoxical that this should be happening when there is an increasingly wider recognition that the world economy has become more interdependent, calling for a greater need to sustain and further the international consensus in favour of development.

#### INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

We have also seen with growing concern the increasing resort to bilateralism or selective multilateralism, with the adoption of

policies and practices which run counter to the agreed goals and objectives of international economic cooperation. This is a negation of the consensus which the developed countries themselves had helped to achieve.

It is apparent that the prevailing international economic crisis cannot be explained away as a cyclical phenomenon. It has its origin in structural inadequacies which have been working to the particular detriment of the developing countries. It  
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calls for a fundamental review of the existing structures.

Mr. President, it is essential that the international community renew, at this 40th Anniversary Session, its commitment to the resumption of international negotiations with the objective of stimulating world economic recovery and ensuring sustained growth, particularly of developing countries. This requires in particular an integrated approach in the interrelated areas of money, finance, debt and trade and a restructuring of international economy

The Luanda Ministerial Conference of the Non-aligned countries reaffirmed the strategies for international economic negotiations adopted by the Seventh Summit at New Delhi. The Conference also defined a framework for the commencement of a dialogue. I would like to suggest that our immediate efforts should concentrate on:

- A) Rectifying through appropriate measures and actions the 'inadequacies and malfunctioning' of the international monetary and financial system.
- B) The adoption of policies and actions to implement the agreements on rollback and standstill, with a widening of the access to exports from developing countries and the removal of all infringements on principles, rules and regulations of the International Trading System.
- C) The adoption of methodologies which would ensure multilateral coordination of macro-economic policies pursued by developed countries and the placing of their monetary and financial policies within the purview of international discipline.
- D) The increase of financial flows to the developing countries, in particular concessional flows to the low income countries.
- E) Making the international adjustment process symmetrical and equitable.

I would also like to propose that during this session high level discussions be undertaken to achieve understandings that would commence the process for the convening of an International Conference on Money and Finance for Development.

## SITUATION IN AFRICA

Mr. President, the critical economic situation in Africa and the drought and famine conditions have evoked a spontaneous response from the international community, including many Non-aligned countries. The leaders of the African countries at the 28th Summit Conference of the OAU have adopted a bold and courageous declaration in which they have expressed Africa's determination to deal with the challenge of development. It is incumbent on the international community to fully support their efforts. As a token of solidarity, the Non-aligned Movement has adopted a plan of action. India has, on its part, made a contribution of 100,000 tonnes of wheat, followed by another contribution of US dollar 10 million to the OAU Special Fund. Under the plan of action, India has already identified nine agricultural projects in Africa. Our participation in these projects, which is in an advanced stage of preparation, shall assist in priority areas for the rehabilitation of agricultural infrastructure. The efforts by India that I have mentioned are additional to the bilateral programme that MY country has on an ongoing basis with the African countries as a part of which a large number of African experts are undergoing training in Indian institutions and Indian experts are working in several important areas with their African brethren in African countries. This too is a contribution to the priority areas of socioeconomic development in Africa.

Mr. President, as one of the original signatories of the United Nations Charter,, India has remained steadfast in its commitment to the values and ideals enshrined therein. To quote once again the words of India's first Prime Minister, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, from a speech he made in

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1946 even before we attained our independence:

"Towards the UN, India's attitude is that of whole-hearted cooperation and unreserved adherence, in both spirit and letter, to the Charter governing it. To that end, India will participate fully in its various activities and actively play that role in its councils to which her geographical position, population and contribution towards peaceful progress entitle her".

## TRUST, HOPE AND CONFIDENCE

By the same token, the United Nations and its system of specialised agencies have been a valued partner for India in the task of nation building and economic development. For the assistance and cooperation that the United Nations has given us, we are deeply grateful. That, however, is not the only vindication of the trust, hope and confidence that we repose in the United Nations. The importance and utility of the UN for US, for the Non-aligned and other developing countries, indeed for

the entire international community, is to be measured not by the material assistance the UN provides in bettering the quality of life on this planet, but by the higher and more noble aspirations of humanity embodied in this remarkable institution. The greatest tribute that we can pay to the United Nations on this occasion is, therefore, to rededicate ourselves to the purposes and principles of the Charter and to reaffirm our commitment to give them full effect. As this Assembly proclaimed last year, let 1985 'mark the beginning of an era of durable global peace and justice, social and economic development and progress and independence for all peoples'. We hope indeed that we are on the threshold of such an era.

DIA USA ZAMBIA MEXICO CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC JAPAN PERU SWITZERLAND  
ARGENTINA GREECE SWEDEN TANZANIA SOUTH AFRICA ANGOLA NAMIBIA SRI LANKA  
BANGLADESH ISRAEL IRAN IRAQ NICARAGUA PANAMA AFGHANISTAN CYPRUS

**Date** : Sep 30, 1985

## Volume No

1995

UNITED NATIONS

40th Anniversary of United Nations - Shri Khurshed Alam Khan's Statement

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Sep 28, 1985 of the statement made by Shri Khurshed Alam Khan, Minister of State for Commerce, in the Security Council on September 27, 1985 at the Commemorative meeting to celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the U.N.:

Mr. President, may I begin by saying how pleased we are to see you in the Chair. The relations between our two countries are marked by close bonds of friendship and multi-faceted cooperation against the background of an old historical' association. We are fellow members of the Commonwealth. Under your able guidance we look forward to fruitful deliberations at this commemorative meeting.

### HISTORIC OCCASION

It is a special privilege to be here, in the company of several distinguished Foreign Ministers, at this unique gathering to mark the 40th Anniversary of the United Nations. Our presence on this historic occasion is a testimony to our abiding faith in the purposes and principles of the UN Charter and our collective commitment to international peace and cooperation. We meet here

today to focus attention on a subject of utmost importance - United Nations for a better world and the responsibility of the Security Council in maintaining international peace and security. Our discussions should provide us an opportunity to take stock of the performance of the UN over the past four decades and to determine ways and means of strengthening the effectiveness of the Security Council in fulfilling its primary role for maintaining international peace and security.

In a world which is characterized by suspicion and mistrust, discrimination and inequality, tension and conflict, in a world in which the nuclear peril poses a threat to our very survival, the UN has served as a beacon of hope. During the 40 years of its existence the UN has several achievements in varied fields to its credit. It has contributed towards socio-economic pro-  
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gress and created universal consciousness about the rights of human beings. It has been responsible for the progressive development and codification of international law. Although its achievements have fallen short of the expectations of the founding fathers, the UN still provides the best hope for mankind and a solid foundation to build upon. It has provided to be the most appropriate forum to deliberate upon the urgent issues of the day and, to seek solutions to pressing international problems of peace, security and global economic cooperation in our inter-dependent world. It would be difficult to imagine our world without the U.N. inspite of all the cynicism and criticism which has been laid at its doors.

#### FIRM FAITH IN UN CENTRAL TO NAM

In 1983, late Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, in her address to the UN General Assembly declared that firm faith in the United Nations was central to the movement of Non-aligned countries. At the recently concluded Ministerial Conference of the Movement of Non-aligned countries held in Luanda, Angola, earlier this month, Ministers from over a hundred countries expressed their deep and abiding commitment to the UN, to preserving and strengthening this organisation and to making it fulfil more effectively the purposes and principles enshrined in its charter.

Before I proceed to consider the special role assigned to the Security Council in the maintenance of international peace and security, I would like to express our deep gratitude to the Secretary-General for his very thought-provoking report for 1985 on the work of the organisation as well as his statement earlier at this meeting. His analysis is penetrating and his recommendations pragmatic. Coming in the wake of our on-going exercise of exchange of views aimed at strengthening the effectiveness of the Security Council inspired by his earlier reports, this would hopefully pave the way for concrete, meaningful and realistic action in enhancing the Council's

effectiveness and generally in revitalizing the United Nations as a whole.

## SECURITY COUNCIL

Under the provisions of the UN Charter, the primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security is vested in the Security Council. Although the Security Council has played a useful role and has acted as a safety net in several ways, in preventing the outbreak of war, its weaknesses and short-comings have prevented the Council from becoming the effective instrument envisaged in the charter. In particular, we feel that the Council suffers from want of a collegial spirit, which hampers consensus. It is the lack of the requisite political will among States - particularly among the more powerful and wealthy to act as trustees of the interests of the weaker and poorer ones. That is at the root of the inability of the Council to exert itself in the direction of achieving its basic objectives. The special position which the permanent members of the Security Council enjoy under the charter places upon them added responsibility and obligations which should transcend narrow national interests. We expect the permanent members to live up to the trust reposed in them and to fulfil their obligations under the charter.

The international political and security climate, marked by a progressive escalation of the nuclear arms race poses a grave threat to the survival of mankind. In the minds of the founding fathers, the primary purpose of the UN to maintain international peace and security was closely linked with progress in arms limitation and disarmament. In spite of the provisions of article 26 of the Charter, which gives the Security Council a leading role in the establishment of a system for the regulation of armament, it is unfortunate that the Security Council has not so far deemed it fit to address itself to this crucial issue. We urge the Council members to give attention to this question and to call for effective measures to achieve disarmament and to eliminate the risk of nuclear war.

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## SIX-NATION DELHI SUMMIT

In this context, I would like to recall that at the initiative of the Prime Minister, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi a meeting of six Heads of State or Government was convened in New Delhi in January 1985. The six leaders issued a joint declaration which urged the nuclear weapon States to halt all testing, production and deployment of nuclear weapons and their delivery systems, to be immediately followed by substantial reductions in nuclear forces. This first step was to be followed by a continuing programme of arms reduction 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. Two specific steps identified by the six leaders were the early conclusion of a comprehensive test ban treaty and the prevention of an arms race in outer space.

#### QUIET DIPLOMACY

During our frank and stimulating discussions in the Security Council on the Secretary General's reports, several valuable ideas have been presented which, if implemented, could result in enhancing the special responsibility of the Security Council, acting on behalf of the international community, in collective maintenance of peace and security and to bring it closer to the position prescribed for it in the Charter. I shall briefly touch upon some of them. We lay considerable emphasis on the Council's role in preventive diplomacy. Measures such as informal efforts on a regular basis to control crisis situations, despatch of fact-finding missions and private meetings with parties concerned are worth considering. It is our view that the responsibilities entrusted to the Secretary-General under article 99 of the Charter should be fully explored and the Secretary-General enabled to pursue 'Quiet Diplomacy' and his good offices role, wherever appropriate and in this context we emphasize the crucial importance of establishment of relations of trust and cooperation between the Security Council and the Secretary-General, as envisaged in the charter. We welcome the peace-keeping activities of the Council and would recommend further use of measures under chapters VI and VII whenever conditions so warrant. Further, we would stress the importance of holding regular periodic meetings of the Security Council under Article 28(2) of the charter. We hope that our meeting at the level of ministers would be followed by regular contacts at high political level.

We welcome the three specific suggestions made by the Secretary-General in his latest report. We fully share his conviction that members of the Security Council, specially the permanent members, should have matters of international peace and security priority over bilateral differences. Council members should be willing to make deliberate and concrete efforts to solve one or two major problems which confront us. We have in mind the situation in South Africa given by the pernicious system of Apartheid, the question of Namibia and the situation in the Middle East, including in particular the question of Palestine, There are also other situations and conflicts. Thirdly, we attach considerable importance to the renewed reaffirmation of Charter obligations, in particular those relating to the non-use of force and peaceful settlement of disputes by member States during this 40th anniversary commemoration.

#### MEMBERSHIP

Mr. President, the membership of the UN has grown to 159 during the last 40 years, approaching its goal of universality. We,

therefore, believe that a corresponding increase in the membership of the Security Council to reflect more adequately the enhanced membership of the Organisation is overdue. It would make the Security Council more representative of all interests and hence more effective in discharging its functions under the Charter. It would be opportune here to recall the proposal already before the UN by several Non-aligned countries, including India, on  
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the question of equitable representation on an increase in the number of non-permanent members of the Security Council. We hope that this proposal will be given the attention it deserves.

We would also like to make an observation on our perceptions of the relative roles of the Security Council and the General Assembly in the maintenance of international peace and security. The Security Council has undoubtedly a special responsibility and special powers. Equally, the General Assembly as the universal organ, has both moral and legislative authority to pronounce and make recommendations on all matters under the Charter. The Charter is intended to be an integral and organic whole and the General Assembly and the Security Council are meant to work collaboratively in the cause of promotion of peace and security. There is no room for any conflict of interests or confrontation.

Mr. President, we are indeed privileged to be a member of the Security Council at this moment when the UN. enters its fifth decade. During our current membership, which has coincided with our chairmanship of the Movement of Non-aligned countries, we have endeavoured to work with others in the interest of promoting peace and stability. We are firm in our conviction that the scheme of the UN Charter is basically sound. What is needed is political will among States to make the UN exert itself in the direction of achieving its basic objectives. We hope that our deliberations today would give a renewed impetus to all Council members - specially the permanent members - to make the Security Council the effective instrument it was intended to be. An effective and a responsive Security Council would certainly contribute towards the revitalisation of the United Nations system as a whole.

DIA USA ANGOLA PERU SOUTH AFRICA NAMIBIA

**Date :** Sep 28, 1985

**Volume No**

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1995

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US Extends Exempt Status for Handloom Products

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The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Sep 18, 1985 on the U.S. extension of exempt status for Indian handloom products:

The U.S. Government has agreed to continue to accept the 'exempt' classification of competent Indian authorities for entry of textile products made of handloom fabrics until July 31, 1986. The position will be reviewed further during June 1986.

Under the current Indo-US agreement handloom made up items enjoy 'exempt' status. However, the US authorities had issued instructions regarding restrictive definition of made-up items and such items which did not conform to the definition as stated in their notification, would be denied entry regardless of exempt' Certification by the Government of the exporting country.

The matter was taken up with the U.S. authorities during the bilateral consultations held from September 10-13, 1985 at Washington on various matters including the issue of entry for handloom made-ups in the United States. The U.S. delegation was led by Ambassador Carslyle, Chief Textile Negotiator, United States and the Indian Delegation was led by Dr. J. K. Bagchi, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Supply and Textiles.

The consultations also considered a number of other categories which had been

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subjected to restraint limits by unilateral action by the U.S. authorities during the last two years. During the consultations, United States had agreed to rescind the calls for consultations on categories 359, Part I (cover alls) 359, Part II (Vests) and 350 (cotton dressing gowns). India had agreed to specific limits with regard to the category 318/310 (yam dyed fabrics) and category 337 (play suits). The specific limits would adequately take care of the current trade flows in these categories. Regarding Category 334 and 313, there was no agreement and the matter is before the Textile Surveillance Body of the GATT.

In a number of fast moving categories there is some discrepancy between the figures maintained by US authorities and the Indian authorities. According to the figures of the US authorities, there is a prospect of embargo as a result of full utilization in some of the categories. This matter was discussed and the US authorities have also agreed to allow special carry forward for 1985 for a number of fast moving categories in order to obviate the possibility of imminent embargo. The special carry forward will be limited to half of 1985 discrepancy subject to adjustment

of statistical figures after reconciliation. This arrangement is likely to ensure normal trade flow in these categories for some more time.

The U.S. authorities have also agreed to review the export and import data on a monthly basis and to provide regularly a computer tape of shipment administered by U.S. Customs. This shall help us to detect violations and monitor exports from our end. There are a number of classification problems for different categories and in order to sort out these problems, U.S. Authorities have agreed to conduct a Seminar as soon as possible so that there is greater understanding between the procedures followed by US Customs and the Indian authorities. Further, the U.S. authorities also agreed that a meeting will be arranged, every two months to compare data and discuss problems arising in the implementation of the Agreement.

The above package of measures is expected to improve the trade flow in various categories under the current Indo-US Bilateral Textile Agreement. This will also preserve the unique and pre-eminent position of handloom items in the export field.  
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A INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date :** Sep 18, 1985

**October**

**Volume No**

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UNGARY INDIA MALAYSIA NORWAY PAKISTAN UNITED KINGDOM BAHAMAS USA QATAR SWEDEN

**Date :** Oct 01, 1985

## Volume No

1995

### HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

#### Prime Minister's Address at National Defence College

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Oct 08, 1985 of the speech by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi addressing the National Defence College on October 8, 1985:

The central issue today in the world is very definitely how this nuclear age is going to be tackled. Will we be able to maintain peace, will we be able to contain and reduce tension, or will we be lost ourselves in it?

There are basically two options that are open to us. The option that has been the traditional option is that of a balance of power. Equal forces will maintain the balance and keep nations away from each other. The second option is that of peaceful co-existence.

Balance of power really means confrontation, rivalry and establishes these as basic values and natural conditions for relations between States. It involves a search for dominance, a search which, the theory postulates, is real, necessary,

inevitable. The feeling given is if you lower your guard the enemy will hit you. The strength of the armed forces is a very critical part of this theory. The armed forces are the guarantors and protectors of security in a theory of balance of power. Balance of power maintained a reasonable peace for 100 years after the Congress of Vienna. "War", Clausewitz said is not merely a political act but also a political instrument, a continuation of political relations, a carrying out of the same by other means".

Today, balance of power implies a much more heightened armed race. With new technology coming in, it involves a much shorter response time. It involves more and more machines, computers in the process. Ultimately, it has to lead to such a short response time that the human thinking process will be removed from actual action. They are already getting very close to that. In Europe, where missiles are face-to-face, the time between firing of missiles and its actually striking in some areas has been reduced to under a minute. It is only 6Y2 minutes from West Germany to Moscow, when we start thinking of a such a short time frame, it is very difficult to understand how a political process can be put into motion within that time to take a decision, to guess yes or no, to identify whether it is a false alarm or a real warning, whether it is a malfunction in the system, or whether it is a genuine mistake which needs to be corrected.

Balance of power theory legitimises war and, in some cases, even nuclear war. We have seen nations moving to a position of accepting that they will strike first. This is an extremely dangerous situation. There can be no war today between the major powers that will not escalate to a nuclear war. Nuclear power is credible only if it results in the last resort to nuclear war. It will not be credible if this is not accepted as a basic postulate. In the nuclear age, really, the balance of power translates more into a balance of terror. We are looking at areas that we do not really even understand. The effects, the ultimate effects, of a nuclear war are still very much under debate. A balance of terror implies eventually accepting total annihilation of the

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enemy; total destruction of oneself, and most likely the extinction of all life on planet earth.

## PEACEFUL CO-EXISTENCE

The question that we must ask is, is there an alternative.

The alternative that we have put in front of the world is that of peaceful coexistence (or Panchsheel, if you like) living together, understanding each other as put forward in the Seventh Non-aligned meeting in Delhi - the New Delhi Declaration - we call not just for peace but for peace and co-existence. This must

be the central issue of our times.

We must link peace and co-existence because a durable peace is only possible with co-existence. Security from extinction guarantees only a shaky peace. What we have to look for is a peace that we can really live in, and that will only come about through peaceful co-existence. It cannot be by hostility or balance of terror.

Indian philosophy traditionally celebrates diversity, diversity in every field, from the smallest nation to the largest creation. It is unity in this diversity that gives us true strength. India welcomes interaction, absorption and evolution from this diversity. It is this that gives us our strength today.

We impose no hegemony on anyone - neither on God nor on Man, nor Nature nor States. It is only with this outlook, this philosophical basis, that the postulate of peaceful co-existence can be put forward - peaceful co-existence, where all states are equal, equal in their sovereignty. All States are accepted as different, different in their social system, in their economic system, different in their religious and other thinking processes. This difference should not necessarily lead to conflict; it should lead to learning from each other, benefitting from each other. We should celebrate this variety and not threaten or feel threatened by its existence.

## NATIONAL SECURITY

In real terms, this implies three bases for national security: strength, unity, cohesiveness: this is the first element of our security.

A search for friendly, cooperative relations with our neighbors, while maintaining their sovereignty and equality and working for mutual benefit, is the second.

The world environment must be restored. Disarmament - especially nuclear disarmament - is the first step towards creating an environment of peaceful co-existence. Disarmament must by definition stop the spread of weapons into new dimensions. We already have weapons such as surface to surface, surface to air, we must prevent them from going into space. Invariably, certain technologies are projected as the ultimate answer of defence problems. But we have seen that there is no ultimate answer and every ultimate answer takes us only closer to a holocaust. We have seen that every defence system has led to the development of an offensive system which is more powerful. There can be no umbrella, as such, which cannot be penetrated. We must also promote nondiscriminatory non-proliferation. Today, the NPT seeks to prevent horizontal proliferation but there is no restriction on vertical proliferation. This leads to nuclear weapon countries developing more and more vicious weapons while trying to keep

other countries from even developing their own peaceful technologies.

We have to see that the theatres of tension are not spread beyond the boundaries of the countries that are involved in this race, Super Power confrontation should remain limited to their limited theatres and not spread to regions such as the Indian Ocean, which has traditionally been a peaceful non-confrontation area, just like it must not spread to other areas in the world or into space. Noninvolvement in quarrels that are not our  
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making is another essential aspect of peaceful co-existence.

our own national security has to be part of any peaceful co-existence. Inner strength has to be the first pillar of this security. Democracy, people's participation has led to an involvement of the Indian people with the Indian nation in a manner that has strengthened our basic roots. We have seen over the past 38 years, since Independence that our country has gone through tremendous traumas. Whether it is an attack from foreign forces, whether it is through internal dissension, whether it is through pressures, the system, the democratic system has held. Today it stands distilled by time and proved to the world that India's basic democratic strength cannot be changed. We stand for a politics of conciliation, not of confrontation, of solving problems by sitting down across the table, discussing them, solving them, sorting them out, preventing them from growing, preventing pressures from increasing to a point where our system will not be able to sustain them.

#### SECULARISM IS STRENGTH

A basic point of our strength is secularism, the uplift of the depressed classes, Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, equal rights for everyone in our country. In this search for security we have three key areas : removal of social evils, evils that have plagued our society for thousands of years of its history; modernisation, growth, a more dynamic economy, the benefits of progress filtering down to the lower levels, increasing the number of people above the poverty line, raising people above the poverty line. But ultimately our strength cannot lie in mere economic development , India's strength has traditionally been its inner Spiritual strength, a strength which cuts across all regions, cuts across all castes, creeds, religions, a strength which is derived from a greater dharma, if I might put in that manner. If this spiritual strength is lost in the process of economic modernisation, India will not have been strengthened. In fact, it would have been weakened, and one of our tasks is to maintain this strength and see that with economic growth there is a growth in values of spirituality, of our traditional heritage and strength.

India's nationhood is the real guarantor of our security.

We see India as a country which has given many great thinkers to the world, new ideas, new thoughts, many new directions throughout history, and as recently as post-Independence India, with Panditji giving the idea of Non-alignment - which is really democracy in a larger dimension. every country, almost every country, postulates. .

Democracy is the best method for development for freedom of speech, but can democracy remain a true democracy if countries themselves get tied into blocs, get tied into positions which do not allow them to speak openly and freely? Does it really lead to a true democratic system in the World The Non-aligned Movement is democracy raised to the World Stage, above mere national boundaries, a democracy of the international community.

#### EQUALITY, BROTHERHOOD & CO-OPERATION

India wants to live in a peaceful neighbourhood. We cannot develop and progress if there is tension around us. We believe in total equality, brotherhood, mutual cooperation. We do not want an Indian hegemony on the countries around US. Even the smallest countries -Bhutan, and Maldives - must have their own independent personalities, character, government, their own independent methods of development and progress. They must find their own ways for their own needs.

We are for friendly cooperative relations with all our neighbours, with good well-established lines of communications, communications which cut across traditional administrative barriers which can help reduce tensions before they build up, which can help defuse problems before  
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they really become problems, communications which will resolve any problems that we have between us, more especially between the larger countries in the region: Bangladesh, Nepal, Burma, Pakistan, Sri Lanka. We have to build a confidence in the small countries in the region that we do not wish any Indian hegemony to spread.

We have been successful in one of the most critical areas today, that is, Sri Lanka. In the ethnic dispute, we have helped get both sides within Sri Lanka together, and we are hopeful that a solution can be found. It requires a dedication to finding a solution. We believe that this is inherently there in both the parties, and that they will come together for a solution which will be acceptable to the Tamils in Sri Lanka and to the refugees who have left, so that they may go back and live in peace and prosperity.

With China, we have tried to normalise relations but we cannot

forget their unprovoked attack on India, the hostilities that have taken place in the past. The central problem is the border problem. We hope that some solution will be possible to this, but it is not going to be an easy or speedy task.

Pakistan is a country with which we would like to be much more friendly. It is not just a question of detente, we want to go much further, to entente. Fundamentally, our regional security lies in all the countries in the region building together, not confronting each other. Our security lies in building affection between our people, which is naturally there, building goodwill, warm friendly neighbourliness between our people.

Although we would like things to go in such a direction, we do live in a very real world where hostilities have taken place. We have to defend ourselves, guard our borders, we must be awake and ready for any such eventuality, to guard against surprise attacks, to be ready for unwarranted intrusions, and our forces must be fully prepared. But true security will only come in dialogue, in inter-action - and it is not necessarily related to the strength of the armed forces. Hence, our nonenthusiasm for a limited arms control, the No-War Pact, talks on deployment and various suggestions of inspecting facilities. We feel they are not adequate to defuse tension, much more and much more deep action is required : for people-to-people contact, for the friendliest intergovernmental relations and truly cordial and friendly relations in our daily interaction. During the last Joint Commission with Pakistan we were willing to go to very great lengths to normalise the state of relations between our countries. We were only limited by what Pakistan wanted to do and how far they wanted to go. That door is still open. We are willing to go very much further.

The problem that is vexing us today is the developing of a Pakistani nuclear weapon. We have ourselves had the capability of developing nuclear weapons for 11 years but we have not used this option. We have demonstrated that even if we have the capability we have the will for not proliferating the nuclear arms race. It is possible. We have done it. Unfortunately, Pakistan seems to be developing a nuclear weapon. We can debate on how advanced they are on this development, whether they already have one, whether they are on the verge of having one, or whether they will have one in the coming months. We can also debate on whether the technology, which we believe is mostly taken from other technologies, needs to be tested, and whether they will actually test a weapon or whether they will opt for it not to be tested. We can debate whether they have got a particular technology which had certain defective components and they are now only rectifying those shortcomings by trying to smuggle in various components from some other countries, which means they will not, of course, be testing the whole weapon as a weapon to see that each component is functioning properly.

## REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT

The real question, apart from these, is what will it do to our region? And,  
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perhaps of a much more serious nature, what will it do to the balance of power in the world? We know and are fairly sure that the programme has been financed not solely by Pakistan but also by other countries. Will this mean that the weapon will be available to these countries? How will these countries use the weapon? And it is again not just a question of having a nuclear weapon. A nuclear weapon is a very dangerous tool in the hands of an unstable country. If governments change, if a system of command and control cannot be established that is totally foolproof, the danger of inadvertent use of the weapons increases. If such a weapon came into the possession of countries whose history shows us that they do not have the technical capability for command and control of such weapons, countries whose history shows us that they are not in a development phase which has given their political system adequate stability, again it increases tremendously the dangers of inadvertent use of weapons. If a nuclear weapon comes in our region, it will make it very difficult for us to build a detente or go further with it on the road of friendship. Pakistan must desist from developing such weapons.

## WORLD SITUATION

The third plank on which we must build our own security has to be the world environment. We hope that President Reagan and General Secretary Gorbachev in their meeting later this year will give full thought to the implications of the armed race, the implications of their actions, and give a direction to peace in the world. Rapid nuclear disarmament, as proposed by six nations at Delhi, the reduction of new technology weapons, not taking weapons into new dimensions, must be given adequate thought during these meetings. The situation in various parts of the world, the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace, the return of peace in Afghanistan and a political solution that keeps them non-aligned which removes any foreign involvement, whether that is interference or any other type of involvement. We must see an end to regional conflicts Iraq-Iran; Lebanon; we must see an end to the conflicts in Latin America.

DIA USA AUSTRIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC GERMANY RUSSIA BHUTAN MALDIVES  
BANGLADESH BURMA NEPAL PAKISTAN SRI LANKA CHINA MALI AFGHANISTAN IRAN IRAQ  
LEBANON

**Date :** Oct 08, 1095

## Volume No

1995

HUNGARY

### India and Hungary to Cooperate in Planning

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Oct 14, 1985 on an agreement signed by India and Hungary for a Programme of cooperation in planning:

India and Hungary have signed a programme of cooperation in planning. On behalf of India, the programme was signed by Dr. Manmohan Singh, Deputy Chairman of Planning Commission, and on behalf of Hungary by Mr. Lajos Faluvegi, Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Hungary and President of the National Planning Office, here today.

The programme envisages meetings of experts and leaders in planning alternatively in Hungary and India. According to the programme, there will be  
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exchange of documents and expertise in planning between the two countries.

The expert and executive level consultations have been envisaged in the programme in matters of mutual interest, including techniques and instruments of planning and plan implementation. During the signing ceremony, Dr. Manmohan Singh and the visiting Deputy Prime Minister, Mr. Lajos Faluvegi exchanged views on socio-economic developments and planning processes in the two countries.

Dr. Manmohan Singh expressed hope that the document will work as another milestone in future cooperation between the two countries.

HUNGARY INDIA

**Date :** Oct 14, 1985

## Volume No

1995

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Cooperation in Science and Technology

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The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Oct 11, 1985 on the signing of an Indo-Hungarian cooperation programme in science and technology:

A programme for scientific and technical cooperation for the period 1985-87 was signed here today between India and Hungary. The programme was signed by Prof. Yash Pal, Secretary, Department of Science and Technology and Dr. Ference Turi, Hungarian Ambassador to India in the presence of the Minister of State for Science and Technology, Shri Shivraj V. Patil, and the Hungarian Deputy Prime Minister, Mr. Lajos Faluvegi.

The areas of cooperation include energy, mining, telecommunication, fermentation technology, water management, aluminium, industrial research, transport infrastructure and biomedical sciences.

The participating institutions in the programme include those belonging to CSIR, ICAR, Department of Mines, Department of Power, Department of Environment, Department of Electronics, etc.

It may be recalled that an agreement for Scientific and Technical Cooperation was signed between the Government of India and the Government of the Hungarian People's Republic in February 1974. In pursuance of this agreement the two sides have from time to time agreed upon and implemented programmes of cooperation in various areas of mutual interest. These programmes are of two to three years' duration. At the conclusion of each programme, a new programme of cooperation is worked out on the basis of experience of the preceding years.

Agreed upon mechanisms of cooperation include exchange visits of scientists and technologists of the two countries in the identified areas for collaborative research, participation in international conferences and seminars, and attending post-graduate courses.

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HUNGARY INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date :** Oct 11, 1985

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**Volume No**

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Shri Bhagat Hosts Dinner in Honour of Malaysian Foreign Minister - Text of Shri Bhagat's Speech

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The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Oct 30, 1985 of the speech by the Minister of External Affairs, Shri B. R. Bhagat at a dinner hosted by him in honour of His Excellency Tengku Ahmad Rithauddeen, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Malaysia here tonight (New Delhi, October 30, 1985):

It is a genuine pleasure and privilege for me to welcome you and Madame Nor Aini as well as members of your delegation. You are no stranger to India. I hope your present visit too would prove equally interesting and fruitful as your past visits.

India attached great importance to its relations with Malaysia. Our two countries have over a long period of time enjoyed close, friendly and cordial relations. Both our peoples have a common commitment to the ideals of democracy and international understanding; and are imbued with the desire for peace and development. India and Malaysia have consistently given each other support, understanding and sympathy, particularly during times of difficulty. Indeed our two countries have much in common. Both are striving to provide a better life for their peoples, to establish social and economic justice and at the same time to achieve harmony and stability in our region as a whole. In internal affairs we are both democracies with a parliamentary system of Government. In our foreign policy we subscribe to the five principles of peaceful co-existence, and are active members of the Non-aligned Movement.

#### SOUTH-SOUTH CO-OPERATION

India is firmly committed to enhancing cooperation among developing countries. South-South cooperation is fundamental to the progress of the developing world, and simultaneously a necessary complement to North-South cooperation, towards which we are working alongwith other like-minded countries.

Over the years, there has been a constant improvement of the level of the relations between India and Malaysia in the political, economic, commercial, cultural, and other fields. Trade between our two countries has been increasing. However, over the past few years India is facing an adverse balance of considerable magnitude in her bilateral trade with Malaysia. We are glad to note that this problem is engaging the active attention of the Malaysian Government and remedial measures are being worked out so as to put our bilateral trade on a more healthy footing. We look forward to further strengthening of our bilateral ties in all fields.

Your Excellency, as you know, India is committed to the peaceful settlement of all problems. We believe, therefore, that a settlement of all outstanding problems in South East Asia should be achieved without the involvement of any outside powers in the affairs of the region. Peace and stability are the necessary matrix for the rapid economic and social development of the countries of this region. We are confident that our two countries can cooperate constructively in this regard.

May I request all of you to raise your glasses and join me in a toast for the personal well-being and good health of our distinguished guests, for the happiness and prosperity of the friendly people of Malaysia and to closer friendship and cooperation between our two countries.  
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LAYSIA INDIA USA

**Date :** Oct 30, 1985

## Volume No

1995

MALAYSIA

Text of Malaysian Foreign Minister's Speech

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Oct 30, 1985 of the speech by H. E. Tengku Ahmad Rithaudeen, Foreign Minister of Malaysia at a dinner held in his honour by the Minister of External Affairs, Shri B. R. Bhagat on October 30:

. I would like, at the outset, to say how delighted we are to be here in New Delhi. It is, as always, a pleasure to come back to India, where the welcome has been unfailingly warm and the friendship unaffected. I bring with me the friendship and goodwill of my government and my people, and goodwill that emanates from years of contacts between us. I am confident that in the coming years our relations will continue to grow to our mutual benefit, suffused by the warmth and cordiality of our traditional ties. Periodic visitations by our respective leaderships, each to the other, play an invaluable part in invigorating these Lies.

Your Excellency, if in recent times, we have been less close than we might have been, we have all the more reason today to rededicate ourselves to building relations that are closer and

firmer than have ever been. The foundations on which our historic relations have been built remain essentially the same. They have not been altered by developments in which our respective perceptions were divergent. Political, economic and even strategic imperatives thrust the regions of South and South-East Asia together, even in spite of ourselves. Therefore, on behalf of my Government, permit me to say that we wish to work together with you to effect the soundest possible relations between our contiguous regions.

Your Excellency, we in Malaysia have followed closely the vicissitudes that India has had to face, culminating in the tragedy of the sudden demise of your late Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, surely one of the most remarkable world leaders of recent times.

#### SMOOTH TRANSITION OF POWER

The smooth transition of power to the Rt. Honourable Rajiv Gandhi, epitomises the strength that is intrinsic to India. In the years ahead my Government looks forward to cooperating with and supporting India in all its efforts on to set in train any regional or international initiatives to ensure world peace.

Your Excellency, our bilateral relations has particularly significant economic aspects. Malaysia is appreciative of the market India has provided for our palm oil, rubber and other commodities. I am very much aware, however, that the present state of our trade relations leaves much to be desired characterised as it is by a lop-sided imbalance. We are addressing ourselves seriously to correct this unhealthy imbalance in our trading relations. We shall demonstrate, indeed our resolve to establish a mutually-beneficial and equitable trading relationship that will stand the test of time.

Your Excellency, Malaysia and India are both members of the Non-Aligned Movement. We share similar hopes and aspirations for a free, peaceful and progressive world society that is not allied to any power bloc. We are both committed to the upholding of world peace, justice and cooperation and the elimination of Apartheid. India's role in the Non-Aligned Movement has been pivotal in the progress, development and unity of the Movement.

The situation in Kampuchea and Afghanistan, where foreign troops continue to be in occupation remain a matter of concern. I am confident that India will play a positive and constructive role in the search for a durable political solution in these areas. India's position of influence places your Government in a unique position to undertake such a role.

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Your Excellency, before I propose a toast, may I once again say how glad I am to have accepted your invitation to visit your

country. It is altogether too short a visit. But in the few days I shall be here, I look forward to having mutually beneficial discussions, to making new contacts and last but not least, to renewing old friendships.

May I now invite you, ladies and gentlemen, to join me in a toast to the Honourable Bali Ram Bhagat, Minister of External Affairs of the Republic of India, and Mrs. Bhagat to the Government and people of the Republic of India, and to the close and friendly relations between our two nations.

LAYSIA INDIA USA AFGHANISTAN

**Date :** Oct 30, 1985

## Volume No

1995

NORWAY

Norwegian Grant Aid for Fisheries Development

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Oct 11, 1985 On the agreement for Norwegian grant aid assistance:

An agreement for Norwegian grant aid assistance to the tune of N. Kr. 22.5 million approximately equal to Rs. 3.17 crores for fisheries development project in Orissa was signed here today by Shri M. S. Mukherjee Joint Secretary, Ministry of Finance and' H.E. Mr. Tancred Ibsen, Ambassador of Norway to India on behalf of their respective Governments.

The project is spread over a period of six years (1984-1990). it aims at improving the general standard of living of the population of the Kasafal area with special emphasis on the poorest groups and the fisher-folk's families through the improvement of the traditional small scale fisheries including handling, preservation and sale of fish. The programme will in addition include activities within other sectors aiming at creating employment, and improving the economic situation and the social services in the area.

Norway has been assisting India in a number of projects, in the fields of fisheries, health and women's and children's development. Essential commodities like fertilizers and paper are also made available under aid.

RWAY INDIA UNITED KINGDOM

**Date :** Oct 11, 1985

## Volume No

1995

PAKISTAN

Indo-Pak Agreement in the Field of Health and Family Welfare

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Oct 19, 1985 on the India-Pakistan agreement in the field of health and family welfare:

India and Pakistan will cooperate in the field of health and family welfare under the agreed minutes signed here between the two countries.

The two delegations met twice. The first meeting was held on 15th October, 1985 in the forenoon and the second <pg-305>

meeting in the afternoon of 18th October, 1985.

The Pakistan delegation which reached here on 14th October visited the Indian Council of Medical Research, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, Rural Health Training Centres, Najafgarh, Delhi, National Institute of Communicable Diseases, Delhi, National Malaria Eradication Programme, Delhi, Malaria Research Centre, Delhi, JALMA (Leprosy) Institute, Agra, and Rehabilitation Centre, Safdarjang Hospital, New Delhi and had detailed discussions with the Heads of aforesaid institutions.

Both sides agreed that there should be:

1. Exchange of information in the areas of bio-medical research, medical education and training, seminars and workshops at national levels.

2. Collaboration in communicable diseases control, particularly, malaria, tuberculosis, leprosy and control of goitre. The collaboration will be implemented through the Directorate General of India and Pakistan. Directors-General of India and Pakistan.

3. Research Collaboration in the Health fields through the two respective . National Research Councils (I.C.M.R. & P. M.).

4.Exchange of information and experiences in the fields of family planning and welfare.

5.Exchange of experts in specialised fields of health and family welfare.

The Pakistan delegation reminded the Indian delegation of the decision of the Joint Pak-Indo Commission for a reciprocal visit of Indian delegation to Pakistan and extended a formal invitation to the ,Indian delegation.

The Indian delegation was led by Dr. D. B. Bisht, Director-General of Health Services. Lt. Gen. M. A. Z. Mohyidin, Chairman of the Pakistan Medical Research Council led the Pakistan delegation.

KISTAN INDIA USA

**Date :** Oct 19, 1985

## Volume No

1995

### PRIME MINISTER'S TOUR ABROAD

Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's Speech at Banquet Hosted in His Honour by the British Prime Minister

The following is the text of a press release of the speech by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi at a banquet hosted in his honour by the British Prime Minister in London on Oct 14, 1985:

Your Royal Highness, Prime Minister Mrs. Thatcher, Excellencies Ladies and Gentlemen, it is good to be among friends.

I believe there is something rather special about our meetings. There is a sense of history about them - the history of a dialogue between two civilisations. It began nearly 400 years ago when you came to our shores to trade with us. The dialogue goes on. Understanding of each other's ways has grown. On both sides, there is so much, so very much to remember, and to treasure.

#### HISTORICAL CONNECTION

That is how Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru taught us to look upon  
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our historical connection. We have in common certain fundamental values and Meals which constitute the essential meaning of our relationship.

We share a deep and unshakeable commitment to freedom, human dignity and social justice. Both of us have built institutions through which men and women actually experience these values in their daily lives. Those institutions, have stood the test of time. I am proud they have endured in my country, though Cassandras would have had us believe otherwise. These are valuable reference points of a rich and complex relationship. They provide strong framework of cooperative effort for our mutual benefit and for welfare of the human family as a whole. This, I should think, is the larger vision of what Britain and India are doing together. In our own separate ways, we are looking to a future that fits in with what the best among us have thought and dreamt of a world free from fear and want.

On one disturbing trend of the contemporary situation you, Prime Minister, and I have spoken with one voice. Both of us have condemned terrorism in unequivocal terms. Terrorism is a threat to democratic societies. It is the very negation of consent on which democracy is founded.

In India we have dealt with terrorism as only democratic societies can, by not allowing the terrorists to coerce the people and so prevent them from expressing their free will. A comprehensive political approach has exposed the hollowness of their base. Now it is only the sustenance provided by external support that keeps alive their illusion. We do not permit our territory to be misused for destabilising other polities. We know you share this approach. Britain, like India, has suffered much from terrorism. For me this visit is a welcome occasion to renew our friendship to explore new areas of common interest and to strengthen existing ones.

Since our independence, Britain has helped India in a number of ways in its economic development. We value this help. India is now moving into an exciting new phase of its journey towards social and economic goals, fashioned by Jawaharlal Nehru and Indira Gandhi. Our fight against mass poverty is intimately connected with the technological modernisation of our agriculture and industry.

Technologically, the world is changing with breath taking speed. Familiar landmarks are vanishing. New patterns of working and living are being created. India seeks to apply new technologies to human ends, for ending deprivation and for building a just society.

Politically, we have subscribed to several common objectives. India has worked for security, peace and cooperation through non-alignment. Britain has looked at the world situation differently,

and yet pursued the same goals. We have found that, notwithstanding our different foreign policy perspectives, we could cooperate in multilateral institutions on a number of issues.

Today, there is a new urgency to strengthen this cooperation. The multilateral institutions are faced with an unprecedented situation. In a period of crisis, there is need for them to do more and to do it equitably. But their capacity to even keep doing what they are doing is being diminished. We expect that Britain, with its strong tradition of international cooperation, will help reverse the erosion of multilateralism.

#### FREEDOM AND JUSTICE

Our common concern for freedom and justice lends substance to the Commonwealth to which we belong in a unique association. The Commonwealth has seen turbulence in many nations as they awakened to freedom. It has given them a helping hand. One of the central issues of our age of anxiety is that of freedom and human rights in South Africa. South Africa and Namibia symbolise a basic and appalling injustice. In South Africa, vast masses are held down in conditions of un-

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speakable brutality and denied the chance to lead fully human lives. Their colour is their crime. The oppressors of the people of South Africa also subject the people of Namibia to intolerable colonial servitude. These intolerable conditions must be ended, and soon.

Prime Minister, cooperation between Britain and India has embraced education and culture. The idea of the Festival of India first took shape in Britain. The Festival brought Indian culture to thousands of Britons. It communicated to an average Briton something of the amazing continuity of India's cultural tradition. I mention the event because I know the great personal interest you, Prime Minister, had taken in the Festival.

#### NEHRU FELLOWSHIPS

A couple of years ago Cambridge University instituted some fellowships for Indian students in the name of Jawaharlal Nehru, who was a Cambridge man. I am delighted because I followed in my grandfather's footsteps.

Oxford hasn't thought of it yet. Not altogether surprising. You have, no doubt, heard what Oxford did to Max Breerbohm. In his own words "I was modest, good humoured boy, it is Oxford that has made me insufferable."

But of course, Oxford is far kinder to women.

Ladies and Gentlemen, Britain, this beautiful land adorned by 'Oak, and Ash and Thorn', has played host to ideas that have changed the world. That is why she has meant so much to so many. Prime Minister, your gracious and warm welcome to me, my wife, and members of my delegation represents that the tradition of British hospitality. Allow me to thank you for it.

I invite you to join me in a toast to Her Majesty the Queen and the flowering of friendship between our peoples.

UNITED KINGDOM USA INDIA NAMIBIA SOUTH AFRICA

**Date :** Oct 14, 1985

## Volume No

1995

### PRIME MINISTER'S TOUR ABROAD

#### Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's Speech at India League

The following is the text of a press release of the speech by the Prime Minister , Shri Rajiv Gandhi at India League, London, on Oct 14, 1985:

Mr. Silverman, Mr. Foot, friends of India and fellow Indians, an Indian Prime Minister cannot visit London without meeting members of the India League. This meeting assumes special significance because we are celebrating the centenary of the Indian National Congress.

The Congress brought India its freedom. It built India's democratic institutions. It set India on the road to modernity. And at a hundred, it is as vibrant and dynamic as it ever was. The party is the world's largest democratic Organisation. Looking at it I am reminded of what my grandfather wrote about the Ganges - the river Ganga:

"The Ganga is the river of India, beloved of her people, round which are intertwined her racial memories, her hopes and fears, her song of triumph, her victories and her defeats."

The Congress is to Indian politics what the Ganga is to our culture the mainstream. It has attracted the allegiance of the people of all religions, all regions and all economic classes. The political unity of modern India is itself a reflection of the united political will which the Congress built up.

## STAUNCH BRITISH FRIENDS

From its inception the Congress has had staunch British friends. The first General Secretary of the Congress was a Scotsman, Allan Octavian Hume. And in  
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its one hundred years, five of its presidents were British - three men and two women.

This shows that not every Briton was a diehard colonialist. There were any number who refused to accept the idea of an imperial destiny because of an innate sense of fairplay or because of a deep-rooted belief in the equality of people. India -has had reliable and eloquent champions in Britain from the days of Burke and Sheridan, who spoke again the depredations of the East India Company, and Jeremy Bentham who befriended Rammohun Roy. Long before India had a Parliament, Dadabhai Naoroji sat in the House of Commons and spoke, and spoke with formidable passion and authority, against British exploitation of India. Mention must also be made of the scholars, Sir William Jones, James Prinsep and others, who spent their lives delving into our languages, our classics of philosophy and literature, and our ancient arts and sciences.

In the early years the Indian National Congress devoted much effort to putting India's case before the British ruling class, for which purpose it had an office in London.. In due course was established the Commonwealth Home Rule League for India. Then came the India League in 1930. A product of the age of Mahatma Gandhi, it attracted the notice of the British public because of Krishna Menon's indefatigable energy and resourcefulness. He enlisted the support of impassioned British friends and large band of Indian students - among them my parents.

## FREEDOM'S BUREAU

A few years earlier, Jawaharlal Nehru established contacts with the freedom fighters of other subject countries through his participation in the Congress of Oppressed Nationalities in Brussels. India League consolidated those links. It functioned as the meeting place of anti-imperialists and as Freedom's Bureau not for India alone but for other Asian and African countries.

May I take this opportunity to thank the veterans? Fortunately many are active today - Julius Silverman, Fenner Brockway, Michael Foot, Jennie Lee and many more live in our memory - Brailsford, Agatha Harrison, Harold Laski, Nye Bevan, Kingsley Martin, J.B.S. Haldane.

The battleground of India's freedom was India's soil and our weapons were 'ahimsa' and 'satyagraha' - non-violence and non-cooperation'. And if the parting of ways was not marked by

bitterness, the credit must go to non-violence on India's part and sense of constitutionalism on Britain's. There were enlightened persons in both countries with a vision of the future.

#### MASS PARTY AND BROAD BASE,

The existence of a mass party like the Congress gave the Indian Republic its broad base, its reach and its durability. It is the Congress that gave India a stability which made possible the economic progress and social change that have taken place. It is the Congress which implanted in the Indian people the consciousness that change can and must be brought about peacefully and democratically.

From the outset the Congress drew its membership and leadership from all regions and communities of India. It was secular from its birth and above sectarian and sectional interests, transcending all narrow loyalties. Under Mahatma Gandhi's leadership, it became a mass party. It took the pledge of eradicating the social disabilities of the untouchables and of securing equal political rights for women. It became the party of the poor, the landless, the deprived. Then as Jawaharlal Nehru came to the fore, Congress faced up to the massive task of removing poverty from the face of India. It had to cure the economy of its backwardness, transform agriculture, stimulate industrial growth, and accomplish technological self-reliance. These tasks were too large to achieve without the state assuming the responsibility for bringing them about. Out of the crucible of Indian experience arose Congress socialism. This became the third

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tenet of the Congress, besides democracy and secularism.

After free India drew up its own constitution, Jawaharlal Nehru initiated the process of development through planning. Under his leadership and that of Indira Gandhi we have achieved self-sufficiency in grain, a substantial reduction in poverty, the virtual doubling of the life span, and the establishment of broad industrial base and a strong scientific and technological infrastructure.

Indira Gandhi's Congress was subject to greater attacks than Jawaharlal Nehru's and Mahatma Gandhi's. But it has remained true to its basic principles and lost none of its astonishing capacity for drawing strength from the people and maintaining its hold on their loyalty. The two major splits that occurred in the Congress in its last 16 years should be understood for what they were - exercises in taking the Congress nearer to the people. I am not claiming total virtue or perfection for the Congress. I know its faults too well. But a country like India, with its diversities of religion and particular local loyalties, need a party like the

Congress which is guided by broad principles and not narrow dogmas and aims at being inclusive and tolerant, not rigid and intolerant. The Congress is so vital because it possesses that power of assimilation and absorption which accounts for the continuity and dynamism of Indian civilization.

What of the future? Will India lean in this direction? I can tell you that India and Congress will ensure that the country moved ahead faster and farther to fulfil the programmes of alleviation of poverty, speedier economic growth, and modernisation of technology. India will also persist with its policy of staying away from power entanglements, but working for peace and equality among nations.

DIA UNITED KINGDOM USA BELGIUM

**Date :** Oct 14, 1985

## Volume No

1995

### PRIME MINISTER'S TOUR ABROAD

Prime minister Rajiv Gandhi's Speech at Lord Mayor's Lunch at London

The following is the text of a press release of the speech by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi at the Lord Mayor's lunch in London, Oct 15, 1985:

Lord Mayor, Aldermen of the city of London, Ladies and Gentlemen, little had I imagined, when I spent my carefree days in London, that I would one day be your guest in this magnificent building. With the responsibilities of Prime Ministership go the pleasures of the Lord Mayor's luncheon.

India has had much to do with London. For years, decisions relating to my country were made here. There are innumerable families in London and elsewhere in Britain, who have memories Of India. Their number is dwindling. But younger Britons from different backgrounds are discovering India through paintings and music, travel and fiction aside. I don't mean the press, and above all through that great art form of our time the television serial.

This is only partly due to nostalgia for the Raj. There is also a genuine interest in the new India. In the imperial days, the very sense of political superiority came in the way of true understanding. The new relationship of equality, the growth of

communication and the mobility of ideas have helped the British and Indians to know more about each other.

Britain may be an island but London has never been insular. Today both are the home of peoples from all parts of the world. Yours is a multiracial society. Each of these groups brings to London its colour and its cadence, its idiom and its cuisine. London is historic, beautiful, lively.

## ECONOMIC CENTRE

London remains an important economic centre, although the nature of the  
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world trade has undergone major changes. In the colonial era trade was largely between the metropolitan countries and their colonies - the colonial powers exporting industrial goods and taking primary products from the colonies. Today we are building up our own industries. The earlier patterns of trade have altered. The tied markets of the colonial age no longer obtain.

In 35 years of planned development, we have transformed India's agriculture and laid the foundations of self-reliant industrial development. India is self-sufficient in food. We have entered a new phase of growth and modernisation. We can deal with the world on more equal terms and more extensively. We have welcomed investment and collaboration in areas which will help us to acquire and upgrade technology and lead to an improvement in the quality of our own industrial goods. Today we seek new technology in critical sectors. We are diversifying our production and trade. Our options have increased.

In the old days our two countries had economic intimacy, but we kept a distance. There was not much mutuality of respect. John Key in his fascinating book "India Discovered", which deals with the work done by British scholars in India, remarks that Britain gave much less money to Indian studies than many European countries did. Equality provides a better basis for mutual knowledge. I am sure there are enough people in both our countries who would wish to strengthen Indo-British ties. The past need not deter us. We in India have long ago forgiven you for ruling over us:

As the American poet Robert Frost said:

Forgive, O Lord, my little jokes on thee  
And I'll forgive thy great big one on me.

ITED KINGDOM CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC INDIA USA

**Date :** Oct 15, 1985

# Volume No

1995

## PRIME MINISTER'S TOUR ABROAD

Inaugural Session of Commonwealth - Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's Speech at Heads of Government Meeting at Nassau

The following is the text of a press release of the speech by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi at the inaugural session of the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting at Nassau, on Oct 16, 1985:

Mr. Chairman, Heads of State and Government, Secretary-General, Ladies and Gentlemen, how wonderful to be in these beautiful islands. People come to the Bahamas for pleasure. We have come for work. Thank you for your hospitality which makes our work a pleasure. Prime Minister, may I congratulate you on your taking over as Chairman of this Conference.

### COMMONWEALTH'S PRINCIPAL CONCERNS

The time is long past when the Commonwealth had to define and justify itself. Its meetings are informal but the intensity of its concerns for international understanding and the equality and dignity of man are well recognised, as in the role of the Commonwealth in the process of decolonisation.

All gatherings of leaders of nations today have three principal concerns - the challenge of world poverty, the avoidance of a nuclear war and the elimination of racism. Our success is measured to the extent we have contributed to these three tasks which together will help to evolve a better world order.

From here many of us will go to New York for the fortieth anniversary of the United Nations. As a multilateral organisation the Commonwealth must reinforce and develop the U.N. system.

### DEVELOPMENT BEING CHOKED

The world economy is in a crippled state. The international community shows  
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neither will nor vision to restore it to health. The future is being determined by drift, not direction.

Developing countries are not the only ones beset by problems. There is not much cheer for the affluent world either. They are

locked in a low growth-high unemployment trap with no apparent escape. Rising protectionist pressures threaten national growth and prosperity. Financial flows to developing countries are being curtailed. Development is being choked Hence debts bring new dimensions of instability.

Indira Gandhi, who chaired the last CHOGM, was fond of saying that the world belongs to all of us. The world is our common possession. It is the duty of this Commonwealth of Nations to play its part in making our planet a more humane and a more livable place for all peoples.

#### DOCTRINE OF DETERRENCE

The nuclear age has entered its fifth decade. The doctrine of deterrence has failed to check the growth of stockpiles. It has even promoted the notion that these terrible weapons can perhaps be controlled and conventionalised. Let us make no mistake. There can be no containing them. Even a limited nuclear war will cause limitless disaster. Security can be obtained only from a bold agreement to do away with nuclear weapons. General Secretary Gorbachev and President Reagan are meeting next month. The Summit will be crucial for an earnest process of substantial disarmament.

#### PRETORIA GOVERNMENT'S BRUTAL WEAPON

We speak of peace in the world, but can there be peace without the elimination of racism? The ruling clique of Pretoria is waging war against the people of South Africa. It is using every brutal weapon in its armoury to subdue and humiliate them. The outrage at Sharpsville - can we forget it? The bloodbath at Uitenhage - can we forgive it?

Nelson Mandela languishes in prison, his body wrecked by illness but his spirit undaunted. How long will we allow that great exemplar of freedom to be held in chains? Every day brings a new tale of inhumanity, of assault on men, women and children whose only crime is their colour and their struggle to live as human beings. Not until the apartheid regime is removed will the people in South Africa breathe freedom. How much longer will we wait for persuasion to work? The Pretoria regime is impervious to reason. Champions of human rights collude with racism. Let not the Commonwealth be 'be charged with cowardice in action and bravery in words. The Nassau CHOGM must demand comprehensive and mandatory sanctions. The question cannot be deferred.

#### FREEDOM FOR NAMIBIA

The Commonwealth and the United Nations had resolved that Namibia be free. Years have passed by. Powerful vested interests have blocked implementation. The Western contact group is atrophied. Namibia's bondage continues. There is no end to repression,

bloodshed and suffering.

Pike point and musket butt, Hot splintered courage, Bones cracked  
with bullet shot, Tipped black boot in my belly, The whip's  
uncurled desire...

Will this go on and on? We shall be failing ourselves if we  
persist in this passivity.  
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HAMAS USA SOUTH AFRICA NAMIBIA

**Date :** Oct 16, 1985

## Volume No

1995

PRIME MINISTER'S TOUR ABROAD

Posthumous Award of Order of Jose Marti to Shrimati IndiraGandhi - Prime Minister's Speech

The following is the text of a press release of the speech given  
by the prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, at the ceremony of  
posthumous award of the Order of Jose Marti to Shrimati Indira  
Gandhi on Oct 21, 1985 in Havana:

President Castro, Friends, the Government and people of Cuba have  
done a 'singular honour to India in giving the Jose Marti award  
to Indira Gandhi. I accept the award as Indira Gandhi's son and  
as Prime Minister of India.

Jose Marti was one of mankind's great fighters for freedom. His  
courage, his sacrifice and his idealism enabled the people of  
Cuba to overthrow Spanish imperialism.

Everyone who frees his country is a: liberator of humanity. In  
India during our own struggle for independence from British  
imperialism we drew strength from the historical figures who  
freed their countries from foreign rule. Indira Gandhi has  
described how she was inspired by Joan of Arc, Garibaldi and  
Simon Bolivar. India's own leaders like Mahatma Gandhi,  
Jawaharlal Nehru and Indira Gandhi herself have become household  
words everywhere.

Indira Gandhi had high admiration for the Cuban Revolution. Under  
President Castro's leadership the heroic people of Cuba overthrew  
an unjust and exploitative regime and ushered in a new order.  
Indira Gandhi had looked forward to visiting Cuba and greeting

President Castro in his home. That was not to be.

Indira Gandhi is dead. But it is for us to continue her unfinished mission. She worked for a united and peaceful India, for a world free of injustice and exploitation. She worked for peace and human harmony. We in India are determined to carry forward this work.

The Jose Marti award to Indira Gandhi is an affirmation that Cuba and India will be together in the fight for human freedom, human equality and international peace.

Once again I thank you for this honour.

A CUBA INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date :** Oct 21, 1985

## Volume No

1995

PRIME MINISTER'S TOUR ABROAD

Prime Minister's Speech at Columbia University

The following is the text of a press release of the speech by the Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi, at the Gabriel Silver Memorial Lecture at Columbia University, New York, on Oct 22, 1985:

It is an honour to be at Columbia. I recall that my grandfather and my mother also had the privilege of speaking here.

You know better than I do how university audiences react to politicians who, all too often, have that endearing habit of taking themselves too seriously. I know how I reacted when I was at college. You can't be all that different. So it was not a desire to communicate to you some profound truth that prompted me to accept they very kind invitation to be with you this afternoon. As an eminent philosopher of our time once drily observed, there is no a priori reason for supposing that the truth, when it is discovered, will prove interesting. It was rather to share with you a point of view about India, and about the world.

Jawaharlal Nehru spoke here in the early years of Indian independence about what freedom meant to India and India's freedom meant to the world. I want to share with you today some thoughts on what we have done with that freedom and

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what a changing India means to a changing world. I hope that what I might say will contribute to the objective of the founder of this lecture, who wanted greater understanding and trust among the world's peoples.

There are times of trust and confidence and ages of suspicion and anxiety. Ours is an age of suspicion and anxiety, an age in which enormous military power provides no sense of safety, in which wealth of unprecedented scale brings little contentment, in which unparalleled means of entertainment do not seem to yield simple joy. Mountains of grain and butter grow; yet elsewhere thousands of mothers starve and are forced to let their children go unfed. I am reminded of the opening passage of *The Tale of Two Cities* about the best of times also being the world of times.

#### PARADOXES OF OUR AGE

The paradoxes of our age are less inexcusable than ever before. In the past, the shocking contrasts between opulence and destitution were a theme for philosophers, for we lacked the means of feeding and housing the hungry and the shelterless millions. Science has made it possible that no one need starve anywhere in the world. Modern communication ensures that what happens in any part of the world will become instantly known to anyone at the touch of a button on his T.V. set. The world by your fireside is no longer a metaphor - it is reality. We can see, but do not understand, the depth of despair of a child in a remote corner of Africa, looking at food with uncomprehending eyes. Young singers know better what it means to be that child.

India does not want to add to the world's anxieties and suspicions but to reduce them. By solving our problems, we solve the problems of a sixth of humanity. If we are stable, the world is that much more stable. We have developed, through our ancient insights and more recent exertions, some ideas which could add to trust and stability. Mahatma Gandhi's nonviolence and Jawaharlal Nehru's nonalignment are two such.

There are well-known American experts on India, but Indian history is not known well to Americans. We have not seen part of each other's historical consciousness. It is only in the last 40 years that we have really had any interaction at all. Before that, the images of India were those transmitted by the British. There was, on the one hand, a romanticised portrait of princes and ascetics; on the other hand, a harsh one of strange practices, and of poverty, of heat and dust. The Festival of India should change these stereotypes to some extent. But ignorance and misconceptions might persist.

#### PHILOSOPHICAL QUEST OF INDIAN MIND

A lecture, a book, a lifetime is not enough to give an idea of India. We must resist the temptation of capsule history, that remarkable intellectual feat of modern journalism which promises to tell us everything over a cup of coffee. There is so much to India - its many languages, religions, castes, regional cultures, music, dance and, above all, the philosophical quest of the Indian mind.

We have seen much in the long history of our civilisation, older than Greece's and contemporaneous with those of ancient Egypt and China - the rise and fall of dynasties, kingdoms and empires, the migrations of a succession of races that made India their home, the birth of Buddhism and other religions, the daring speculations in science and philosophy, the great encounter of Hinduism and Islam which enriched our heritage, the advent of imperialism, the disintegration of indigenous industry, arts and crafts, the renaissance of the nineteenth century, the long struggle for freedom, the passing of the age of colonialism and the beginning of modern India.

Long before your own celebrated experience of building a common nationhood out of diverse nationalities and cultures, India had embarked on its fruitful quest for the meaning of diversity. Our inspiration was philosophical, not political. We  
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sought the underlying unity behind separate phenomena.

#### MYRIAD CHANGES AND MUTATIONS

Through a myriad changes and mutations, the idea that in some basic sense India is one has survived. Religious faith alone could not have been the foundation of modern nationalism, as students of European history know. The powerful notion of a common historical destiny has pervaded Indian consciousness from the earliest times. This ancient striving acquired, in one of the most fascinating chapters of our history, the modern political idiom of nationalism in the course of our struggle against British imperialism. Today the ancient tree is young enough to put out new shoots.

#### FAITH AND ENERGY

The miracle is that this mass of humanity, larger than the combined populations of Africa and South America, has organised itself in our times into a single political entity. India has fashioned for itself a democratic system with universal adult suffrage, free elections, a representative government, rule of law, an independent judiciary, fundamental rights, freedom of the press, and freedom of assembly. The common phrase about India being the "largest democracy of the world" does not adequately convey the tremendous faith and energy which the people of India have invested in this political experiment under the inspiration

of Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru and Indira Gandhi.

In spite of poverty and illiteracy, there is continual and substantial participation of the people in the democratic process. They value their right to make and unmake governments. Their voting behaviour is remarkable for its sturdy independence and sophistication. We often see them vote one way in a state and in another for the national parliament. No political party or politician can take any constituency for granted.

#### CONSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENT

As a large and diverse nation, it was natural for us to choose a constitutional framework in which power is shared between the central government and constituent states. Yours is a Federal constitution created by states coming together in a union. The process was reversed in India. The nation arose first and powers were devolved on the states through a constitutional arrangement. As the United States knows too well, the pulls and pressures of states' rights versus central authority are bound to be a continuing part of national politics. The fast moving world makes many demands and tests the capacity of a system to respond. Tocqueville marvelled at your nation's ingenuity in overcoming the problems that your constitution creates. Washington today enjoys powers undreamt of by your founding fathers. You have devised political mechanisms to meet demands and challenges as they have arisen. We in India have also done so.

#### STRONG AND COHESIVE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT

The people of India have a pluralistic mind which, apart from accepting difference, has harmonised local and larger loyalties. Our constitution makes provision for our diversity and yet is conscious of the need for this ancient and sprawling land to have a strong and cohesive national government. Local movements develop but find solutions within the constitutional framework.

In India, there is no direct or hidden domination of any single ethnic or religious group. Nor do any of the smaller groups suffer from disabilities. Cultural diversity is regarded as a natural condition to be respected and safeguarded. We are consciously preserving the traditional characteristics of our regional cultures. No group faces the prospect of being forced into any fixed mould. No group experiences

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the feeling that its safety and progress will be promoted only by casting off its cultural or other identity and getting itself 'assimilated' into some larger whole.

Besides opting for a system of representative government, we also adopted the path of economic and social change through consent. Ours is an experiment of development with democracy. This has

succeeded in lifting the standards of living of our people, while laying the foundations of a modern industrial economy. The life span of the average Indian has lengthened by twenty years. The agricultural base has been greatly strengthened. India is today self-sufficient in grains, surpluses are emerging, which will enable us to improve our nutrition levels, and even perhaps export. Our industrial base has grown and matured in scale and in the diversity of production.

I recall that only a decade ago doubts were widespread whether a democratic, and therefore 'soft' polity, could at all gear itself to the herculean tasks of bringing about development. We are happy to find that India's agricultural performance and economic management are now being praised.

#### INDIA'S WORLD VIEW

I spoke of India's efforts to reduce tensions. They have to be judged not only by what we do to solve the problems of our own people, but also by India's world view.

From the beginning of time we have been taught to, regard mankind as one family. During our struggle for independence, Mahatma Gandhi declared: 'I can keep India intact and its freedom intact only if I have goodwill towards the whole of the human family, and not merely for the human family which inhabits this little spot of earth called India'.

There were ages in India's long history when its religions, its arts and the products of its industry found their way to many parts of the world. But even in those days, India was not known for expansionism. Later, under colonial rule, India's links with the outside world were cut, and a theory grew up of India's negativism. Mahatma Gandhi's non-violence showed how assertive the people of India could be even when shorn of political and economic power.

#### NON-VIOLENCE

Mahatma Gandhi's non-violence puzzled and annoyed many. Winston Churchill put it down to the eccentricities of a 'naked fakir'. Today that eccentricity has come to be recognised more and more as the only way by which nations can live together and resolve their conflicts. Nonviolence is not a weapon for the weak. Modern technology has generated limitless possibilities of violence which requires wholly new patterns of thinking. Mankind can survive only by purging its political thinking of violence and all that it stands for. The compulsions of our times call for a synthesis between science and spirituality. That is the Copernican revolution that needs to be achieved in international relations.

#### STUBBORN INDEPENDENCE

Jawaharlal Nehru, who understood the political power of non-violence, perceived that it would also be the right path for India and other newly free countries to follow in a world where aggressive blocs were ranged against each other. This was non-alignment, an assertion of independence in thought and action. Jawaharlal Nehru's non-alignment is not a dogma of neutrality or of leaning one way instead of another. It is an urbane voice suggesting that societies will differ in the manner in which they tackle some of the fundamental problems of organised social existence. The world cannot be made in the image of a particular gospel. We insist on discovering our own truth rather than rely on a revealed text. That is the basis of our non-alignment. We may have made mistakes, but we have never faltered in our basic commitment to the vision of peaceful co-existence of nations guided by different philosophies of social action.

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What we have worked for is to extend the concepts of democracy to the field of relationship between nations. We have been made to suffer for our stubborn independence, but we have not permitted that to breed bitterness or hatred.

It has been our good fortune to inherit from the generation of freedom fighters and modernisers the legacy of functioning democratic institutions and a strong economic base. The task of my generation is to build the India of the future.

What, you may ask, will this India be? I see an India firmly rooted in her traditions and yet reaching out to the promise of new scientific knowledge. I see an India whose diversity is constantly enriched even as her unity is strengthened. I see an India entering the 21st century free of the bondage of poverty, and taking her rightful place as one of the world's major industrial economies.

#### NEW AND EXCITING PHASE IN DEVELOPMENT

This will be a new and exciting phase in our development effort. Some of it will be based on a continuation and reinforcement of processes that are already in motion as in agriculture. There is great scope for further modernisation of Indian agriculture, as many areas have yet to benefit from new agricultural technologies and practices. The geographical frontiers of the 'green revolution' have to be steadily pushed outward, extending the benefits of high yields to larger and larger areas. In agriculture we have seen the future and it works.

We have already made substantial progress in lifting large masses of our people above the line of minimum need. Our first priority in the years ahead will be to complete this task so that before the end of this century poverty, as we have known it, will be a thing of the past. Every village in India will be electrified,

assured of clean drinking water and adequate health services. Education will be available to every child. Our family planning programmes will have covered the entire population, and population growth, which in the past has eaten up much of the growth in production, will have been brought down to almost 1 per cent.

In industry we face somewhat different challenges. Our industrial base is even now impressive in terms of the range of its products and the level of technological sophistication in many fields. Yet much of Indian industry suffers from high costs and, in many areas, low quality. These problems are by no means unusual, or even unexpected. Similar problems arose in the first phases of industrialisation in some of today's leading industrial nations. They can and will be remedied.

Indian industry needs to be modernised and made more competitive. This involves all-out encouragement to the talents of innovation. There must be a major effort at upgrading our performance with greater openness to modern technology. Greater domestic competition will create pressure to cut costs, increase efficiency and improve quality. Exposure to foreign competition will make Indian industry more competitive internationally.

#### FULL USE OF HUMAN RESOURCES

Such changes cannot be sudden. They must be gradual and selective. I have no doubt that Indian industry has reached a level of maturity where it can respond positively.

Perhaps the most exciting challenge in the years ahead is how to make full use of India's tremendous human resources which are her most precious asset. We have a pool of scientific, technological and managerial skills unmatched in any developing country. The best of our scientists trained in our universities have distinguished themselves in the leading centres of research of the world. We have not made sufficient use of this great potential for technological and economic development. India's scientists and technologists can play a much larger role in building the India of  
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the future. We are finding ways to enable them to do this effectively.

I said earlier that this will be a new and exciting phase in India's economic development. Yet I see it as a logical evolution of the process of development that was set in motion with our independence in the middle of this century. And when historians look back on this period, they will say that in this half a century, India was transformed from a stagnant colonial economy, beset with age-old poverty and a feudal social structure, into a tested, vigorous democracy with a dynamic modern economy.

It will always be relevant to ask whether we could have done things differently, and whether progress would not have been a little faster had we done this or that. But development processes are not mechanical processes which can be controlled by engineering blueprints. They are organic processes of growth, change and transformation which are unique to the social and historical context in which they take place. Every country's path to economic development cannot be the same, and India's, when the record is complete, will be unique.

#### SOCIAL CHANGE AND NEW OUTLOOK

Social change disturbs old attitudes and introduces new ones. With the idea of equality gaining hold, the old hierarchies of caste are on the wane. New technology is promoting a new outlook towards work and a new dynamism, unknown in the older India. Social mobility is changing the structure of the family. Our system will overcome these new challenges. The roots of the Indian civilisation are deep. India will not lose its identity.

#### CONTINUITY AND CHANGE

Jawaharlal Nehru, who thought deeply about the problems of continuity and change, as a man of action no less than as a man of contemplation, had this to say:

"National progress can neither lie in the repetition of the past nor its denial. New patterns must inevitably be adopted but they must be integrated with the old. Sometimes the new, though very different, appears in terms of pre-existing patterns, and thus creates a feeling of a continuous development from the past, a link in the long chain of the history of the race. Indian history is a striking record of changes introduced in this way, a continuous adaptation of old ideas to a changing environment, of old patterns to new".

Our endeavours will succeed only if we help the world to cope with the tensions of our times. A widely accepted view is that confrontation between the east and the west is due to their different ideologies. This theological doctrine is the great conditioner of our age. If you look back, the whole approach is not so very different from the time when one went to war because one considered that his way of worshipping his god was doubtless superior to the other man's, who had to be rescued from error.

Yesterday's certitudes are beginning to look shop-soiled. People are now talking of convergence, as if that were somehow a vindication of one's own faith. But new problems are arising. Old theories have no solutions. We have to question our assumptions about the nature of man. Will he fulfil himself by calculating or will he learn to relate himself to other men, to nature, to life as a whole? I wonder.

## WHENCE IT ALL CAME

What we need is the capacity perpetually to ask questions about the wherefore of life, somewhat in the spirit of the hymn of creation in our 3000 year old book, The Rig Veda:  
"After all, who knows, and who can say Whence it all came, and how creation happened?  
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The Gods themselves are later than creation,

So who knows truly whence it has arisen? ...

He who surveys it all from the highest heaven,

He knows - or may be even He does not know".

A INDIA OMAN GREECE CHINA EGYPT

**Date :** Oct 22, 1985

## Volume No

1995

### PRIME MINISTER'S TOUR ABROAD

Prime Minister's Address to U.N. Special Committee on Apartheid in New York

The following is the text of a press release of the address by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi to UN Special Committee on Apartheid in New York on Oct 22, 1985:

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Coretta King, Excellencies, Friends, I have come here from a meeting of the Commonwealth Heads of Government in the Bahamas. Combating Apartheid was on the top of our agenda. The pain and the passion with which leaders spoke at that meeting &e still echoing in my ears.

I was heartened to find at the Commonwealth Meeting that nation after nation made common cause with the South African people. It is a struggle between humanity and inhumanity. It is a battle between freedom and oppression. Governments, who genuinely believe in human equality are on one side; the Pretoria regime, clinging to the totally untenable and discredited doctrine of Apartheid, on the other.

Some governments had believed that the Pretoria regime could be brought round through persuasion. Their opposition to sanctions was on the ground that they would be ineffective, not that Pretoria deserved a respite. They are gradually finding out that a government without conscience is not amenable to a change of heart. There is no alternative to the removal of the regime and the installation of a government based on racial equality.

The Commonwealth has demonstrated solidarity with the struggling people of South Africa. It has called for dismantling of the detestable Apartheid regime. To this end it has worked out a package of specific measures which bind all its members. We shall carefully monitor how they work. We hope that these measures will help the freedom fighters who are struggling valiantly to end Apartheid.

The people of South Africa are capable of doing that on their own. But the regime has amassed such vast military power that the people, unaided, will have to fight a long battle. Our duty is to shorten the battle and save lives and avoidable agony. But let us not underestimate the regime's brazenness. Did it not, only last week, execute Benjamin Moloise, mocking international opinion? Does it not continue to hold Nelson Mandela in prison, defying the pleas and protests of an anguished world?

The people's organisations in South Africa have shown exemplary courage. Barring a handful of collaborators, they have spurned enticing offers from the regime. There is "no easy walk to freedom."

South Africa compounds the guilt of Apartheid by the crime of aggression against her neighbours and by the illegal occupation of Namibia. The Security Council has unanimously agreed on steps to vacate that colonialism and end that aggression. The countries which have so far temporised in enforcing the resolution should know the damage to their credibility. They must now come out on the side of positive and effective action.

Many nations have imposed economic sanctions unilaterally against racist Pretoria. India was the first to do so forty years ago. But sanctions have not been imposed by those whose decision will have  
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the maximum effect on South Africa. It is upto them to show how else they plan to change the Government in South Africa and usher in the rule of law and equality there.

As Indira Gandhi had declared:

"The idea of freedom cannot be stamped out. Some spark will persist to burst into flame, somewhere, some time to light the way and illumine hearts and ultimately lead to success. Neither

colour nor caste nor sex makes one person superior or inferior. No matter what laws South Africa devises for itself, history cannot be denied, nor will the inexorable march of the future be halted. Apartheid cannot survive."

We have gathered here to pledge our support to Nelson Mandela and to the hundreds of thousands of men, women and children of South Africa, who, through their suffering, are upholding our collective cause. Their victory will be our victory.

I give my good wishes to the work of the Special Committee against Apartheid, which has done so much to bring the South African people's heroism to the world's notice.

Thank you.

A BAHAMAS SOUTH AFRICA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC NAMIBIA INDIA

**Date :** Oct 22, 1985

## Volume No

1995

### PRIME MINISTER'S TOUR ABROAD

#### Prime Minister's Address to the Council of Foreign Relations

The following is the text of a press release of the address by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi to the Council of Foreign Relations in New York on Oct 28, 1985:

Mr. President, Distinguished Friends, what can I tell you about India which the media have not told you already and on which some of you have not written authoritatively? There are so many experts here, which makes my task of speaking about India's policies more difficult.

Like any other nation, India's policies, domestic and foreign, are shaped by certain fundamental factors. What are these factors? Our geographical situation, our size, the diversity of our population, our history, our innumerable collective experiences and memories, our struggle under Mahatma Gandhi's leadership against colonialism and, finally, the nature of the Indian state bequeathed to us by Jawaharlal Nehru and his colleagues.

Out of a colonial past, India has emerged a strong and stable nation. We have had our share of crises since independence -

attacks from across our borders, the assassination of our leaders, Mahatma Gandhi and Indira Gandhi, and secessionist and subversive movements. Each internal crisis, each external threat, has brought forth new forces of renewal. The Republic has emerged more united and stronger.

Our democracy is vigorous, lovely and noisy, as all great democracies are. It has sent down deep roots. Ours is a politics of conciliation, not of confrontation. We solve problems through the ballot and across the table. Many of you will recall learned theses in the mid-sixties predicting the imminent demise of India as a nation. India seems continually to baffle critics and disprove Cassandras.

The main strength of the Indian people comes from their cultural heritage. The epic struggle for freedom gave it a new surge and direction, which led to the creation of a democratic nation-state. The people participate extensively and decisively in the political process. They are today putting all their faith into building a new India.

#### REMARKABLE TRANSFORMATION

After independence, our most important task was to build a new social and  
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economic order. We set about changing the colonial framework, which had bred stagnation and poverty. We took up basic structural reforms and initiated the process of growth and development, based on modern science and technology. After three decades of development through planning our national economy has undergone a remarkable transformation. India's agriculture is acknowledged today as a success story. We have completed laying the foundations of self-reliance in industrialisation. These policies have been vindicated by the resilience and dynamism which our economy has shown in the past ten years in the face of an extremely difficult external environment. Many countries experienced dislocation and disruption in the same period whereas the Indian economy has gone from strength to strength.

The main objective of the planning process in India has throughout been the ending of mass poverty. We have still to cover a long distance but the change is there for everybody to see. Incomes and consumption levels of the poor have risen steadily. We have emphasised growth with social justice. We have not depended upon the trickle-down theory of growth. We have launched special antipoverty programmes which provide productive employment to the landless small and marginal farmers, village artisans and women.

#### TECHNOLOGICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Our very success in building a sound technological infrastructure

now enables us to absorb and integrate advanced technology. We shall acquire whatever makes our economy more modern and competitive. We are streamlining both our administrative procedures and our methods of training. Human resource development is high on my list of priorities.

#### BASIC FEATURES OF FOREIGN POLICY

The basic features of foreign policy are a logical outcome of our own experiences, needs and aspirations. We have known the pain and humiliation of colonialism, as well as the joy of liberation. It is natural, therefore, that we have consistently stood with the oppressed peoples in their struggle to shape their own destinies in freedom. Rapid economic development is the overriding goal of our domestic economic policies. We are, therefore, in the forefront of the international movement to create a more equitable world economic order, in which the developing countries will have a larger say. Knowing the importance of co-existence for our own national strength, we are for co-existence in the family of nations as well. Schooled in the Gandhi-Nehru ethos, we believe that there is a peaceful answer to every problem. India will not be a camp follower. We therefore affirm the principles of non-alignment, which allow all countries to retain true independence in their international relations.

Non-alignment has been our response to the dangerous divisions that developed after the second world war. It is rooted in our belief that the world is and has to be many-hued. It is an assertion of our right to look at the world the way we see it. We do not think there is one and only one infallible path which all must follow.

Non-alignment, however, is not a mere affirmation of an independent outlook. It carries an obligation to cooperate. It projects a new method of nations working together on the basis of mutual respect and equality. It visualises a world order in which differences need not become permanent antagonisms. Interdependence is the core of the logic of non-alignment.

Many will recall the time when nonalignment did not find acceptance in this country. You had leaders who knew what was right for us. To them Jawaharlal Nehru was a moral fumbler, consorting with communism. That view of nonalignment, fortunately, is now not so widespread in America. President Reagan's warm reference to non-alignment when we met in the White House earlier this year was most welcome.

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#### VOTING PATTERN IN U.N.

Even now, however, there is much unhappiness against India's supposed habit of voting against the U.S. If our voting pattern

is analysed, it will be found that we have stood on principle and the merits of each issue. To refresh short memories,- it may be worth recalling our voting record on the Chinese representation in the UN, and on the independence of so many colonial territories. We supported the right of the People's Republic of China even when our relations with China were troubled. Cherishing Mahatma Gandhi's struggle against South African racism, we cannot approve of a regime which swears by colour and crushes its people. We need make no apologies for the passion with which we abhor racism and oppose oppression. I am sure there are many in your country who, with hindsight, recognise the validity of our positions.

India values its friendship with the United States. The vision and eloquence of your founding fathers stirred us deeply. We welcomed the world view of Presidents Wilson and Roosevelt, and their role in establishing an international system.

One of your Presidents told my mother: "The trouble about India is that you don't listen to U.S.". The trouble with U.S. is that we think for ourselves. But differences in perception should not come in the way of friendship between two democracies.

#### INTELLECTUAL VAGOUR MATERIAL AND POWER

America has helped our development efforts in many ways. We appreciate the assistance you gave us in the form of grain before we achieved self-sufficiency. We have also benefited from a flow of technology from the U.S. in several critical areas.

We want America to recognise that it is natural for India to see the world from its own vantage point. Also to understand that one friendship need not be at the cost of another. We should like America's enormous intellectual vigour and material power to be used on behalf of world peace and development.

India's close and friendly relations with the Soviet Union have developed on the basis that they do not require India to give up its foreign policy of non-alignment. They have been built on the foundations of mutual benefit, mutual respect and equality. The Soviet Union has stood by us in times of national crisis. It has helped us in building our basic industries. The trade between us has worked to the advantage of both countries. And yet our relations with the Soviet Union have not come in the way of our developing friendly relations with other countries. Friendship and trust are not made overnight. They need to be -nurtured over a period of time. Nonalignment cannot be judged by the yardstick of equidistance.

#### REGIONAL COOPERATION

The South Asian and Indian Ocean Region has its own tensions, suspicions and outside presences. Arrangements or regional

cooperation could contribute significantly towards meeting scientific, cultural and developmental concerns. It is a recognition of this that is leading to the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation. Regional arrangements best succeed when there is no effort by the big powers to create constituencies and interfere on strategic or other grounds.

As you are aware, Sri Lanka is facing ethnic violence. We have been instrumental in bringing the parties together and have helped to establish a cease-fire and the commencement of a negotiating process. We should like normalcy to return to Sri Lanka so that all can live in safety, security, equality and honour, and the over 1,00,000 refugees now in India can return with dignity.

We want close and friendly relations with Pakistan. We have proposed a  
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comprehensive treaty of peace, friendship and cooperation. During the recent meeting of the Joint Commission of our two countries, we were willing to go great lengths to establish a good-neighbourly relationship, not just between Governments but between our two peoples as well. The limitations were not of our making.

#### DISARMAMENT IS IMPERATIVE

Disarmament is imperative for human survival. Hanging over us is the cloud of nuclear death. The nuclear-weapon States confront each other with destructive capabilities that stagger human imagination. Will mankind maintain peace-Or will it be exterminated?

Mankind has two options - the theory of deterrence or peaceful coexistence. The theory of deterrence appears, at one level to be a modern version of the traditional doctrine of balance of power. But in fact it is qualitatively different. It does not ensure security at any acceptable level of stable balance. It does not ensure security by the threat of total annihilation. Escalation of destructive potential is built into this doctrine. There is no time when you can feel safe. The consequence is perpetual instability and fear.

The big doctrine of mutually assured destruction has sired the little doctrine of limited good, little winnable nuclear wars. This is a dangerous illusion. There can be no limited nuclear wars.

Technological advances and the location of missiles are reducing the identification-decision and reaction time. It is becoming so short that the human thinking process is being eliminated. In Europe, where the missiles are face to face, the time between

launch and strike is measured in minutes and seconds. Who will judge whether an alarm is false or real, correct or incorrect, or assess whether the system has malfunctioned? In such a time-frame, what can statesmanship do?

Is there an alternative? Yes, peaceful coexistence - the acceptance that another nation has as much right to be on the planet as ourselves. As Indira Gandhi said: "On this small planet of ours there is no room for permanent enmity and irreversible alienation. We have to live side by side. International relations must be recognised gradually and surely on the basis of living and evolving together, starting by finding areas of commonality and enlarging them, identifying the links and strengthening them".

Disarmament, especially nuclear disarmament, is the first step towards creating an environment of peaceful coexistence. Disarmament must start with a freeze on present stocks, a halt to additions. It is urgent today to prevent the extension of the battleground to outer space. Certain technologies are described as the ultimate answers to defence problems. There are no ultimate military answers.

#### GLOBAL PEACE

The non-aligned want disarmament because no nation will be spared. The basic responsibility for preserving global peace is that of the possessors of nuclear weapons. We welcome any search by them for peace. Constructive proposals deserve serious consideration. The world's hopes and expectations are focused on the Reagan-Gorbachev meeting. Will they make it a turning point for peace?

Ours is a very complex world. Science has placed at man's disposal the means to banish the ancient scourges of mankind; hunger, poverty, disease as we have known for thousands of years, has never been greater. But some nations continue to believe that what happened to the people of Hiroshima and Nagasaki cannot happen to them. They think they have a talisman against collective death.

What are the answers? Where are the answers? How do we find them?  
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A INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC CHINA SOUTH AFRICA SRI LANKA PAKISTAN JAPAN

**Date :** Oct 28, 1985

**Volume No**

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1995

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## PRIME MINISTER'S TOUR ABROAD

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### Prime Minister's Address at the Plenary Meeting of Non-aligned Countries

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The following is the text of a press release of the address by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi at the plenary meeting of Non-aligned countries at United Nations Headquarters, New York, on Oct 22, 1985:

Excellencies, Friends, it is fitting that the non-aligned countries are meeting today on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the United Nations. In their view, it represents the spirit of co-existence.

Post-war decolonisation brought new countries to the United Nations. Having achieved their own liberty, they were zealous to promote the cause of others still in servitude. They were not willing to accept the bondage of blocs and pacts when they had fought so hard to rid themselves of foreign rule.

For us, the new countries, the United Nations represented a fresh hope in war-prone world, a system of international order which owed nothing to notions of spheres of influence or balance of power.

However powerful countries all too soon fell away from the high ideals of the charter. Not so the non-aligned, for whom the obligation of mutual cooperation for peace, international amity and development is basic. We have exercised our independent judgement in promoting the cause of peace and co-existence. Statesmen like Nehru, Tito, Nasser, Sukarno and Nkrumah were able to shape the embryonic ideas and hopes of the new nations into a coherent whole. Thus was born the concept of non-alignment, which has proved so creative and enduring.

Since those early days, non-alignment has grown into what Indira Gandhi described as the greatest peace movement in history. It has its own dynamics and has greatly extended its range of concerns, especially into economic areas. We meet frequently and at various levels. The Nonaligned Summit in New Delhi in 1983 brought together perhaps the largest gathering of leaders the world has ever seen. Yet the essence remains what it was. We prize our independence and equality and reject attempts to dominate us. We seek the liberation of those still not free. We work strenuously for peace and we promote cooperation among nations.

### EARLIER DILEMMAS MORE COMPLEX

The gerat early founders are not with us but their concerns and

their inspirations remain. The world continues to be threatened by blocs and antagonisms and disfigured by inequalities. Today the Nonaligned Movement has undergone a generational change. Our earlier dilemmas have become more complex.

The challenges posed by the political divisions of the world, marked by heightened confrontation, are only part of the story. Our social processes and the evolving pattern of international economic and cultural relationships have raised new problems.

Countries not aligned with either of the power blocs face new and sinister threats of intervention, interference and pressure. In Southern Africa, West Asia and Central America, as in other parts of the globe, tensions and conflicts threaten to rupture the fabric of international peace and security.

Apartheid continues to flaunt its unashamed brutality in South Africa and illegally occupied Namibia, in defiance of all norms of international behaviour. The struggle for freedom is intensifying and we must strengthen our support to the freedom fighters. Apartheid must be totally removed. Before coming here, I attended the Commonwealth Heads of Governments Meeting in the Bahamas. For the first time, we have devised a package of concrete and binding measures against apartheid. These will have a short time-frame for implementation.

Israel's depredations against its neighbours continue unchecked. Poverty and

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under-development, the problems of debt, of glaring disparities between the rich and the poor nations constitute other potential threats to peace and stability. The thrust for a New International Economic Order is sought to be stifled at birth.

#### COLLECTIVE COMMITMENT

the United Nations itself has recently become a target for powerful nations who decry its methods. They seek to reduce their own commitment to it and bypass it on every conceivable occasion. They blame the United Nations for ineffectiveness when it is they who render it ineffective. These pressures should make us all the more determined to strengthen the United Nations.

The presence in this room today of so many distinguished leaders reflects our collective commitment to this organisation. We are conscious of the imperfections of the organisation. But much wisdom and idealism went into its making. The United Nations Charter is a notable step in mankind's progress. We need to build on what exists and to remove the shortcomings. Withdrawal into isolation will make for a more dangerous world where untrammelled acts by individual nations can threaten the peace.

For our own safety and future welfare, we must strongly reaffirm the role of the United Nations. The 40th anniversary must see us more than ever committed to its support. Whether in the field of disarmament and the prevention of nuclear war, whether in the crusade against all forms of racial discrimination, or in our common struggle to emancipate the peoples of various countries from the ill-effects of poverty, unemployment, ignorance, disease and squalor, the United Nations and its specialised agencies have come to embody hope, change, and man's concern for his fellow man. It has come to symbolise the inevitability of co-existence and inter-dependence for the solution of the problems that beset us all.

#### PILLARS OF OUR POLICY

India's commitment to non-alignment is well-known. It is one of the pillars of our policy. As Chairman of the Seventh Summit, presided over by Indira Gandhi, India has devoted its fullest energy to uphold the unity and dynamism of our Movement and to maintain its integrity of outlook.

We are glad that our Foreign Ministers, at their recent meeting in Luanda, were able to take an important decision on the venue of the next Summit. This decision will further the cause of the Movement. In a year's time the Chairmanship of the Non-aligned will pass on to Mr. Mugabe, the redoubtable fighter for freedom and architect of independent Zimbabwe. Let me assure Mr. Mugabe of our readiness to give him our fullest cooperation and support.

Thank you.

A UNITED KINGDOM INDIA NAMIBIA BAHAMAS ISRAEL ANGOLA ZIMBABWE

**Date :** Oct 22, 1985

## Volume No

1995

#### PRIME MINISTER'S TOUR ABROAD

Prime Minister's Address to the General Assembly of United Nations on the 40th Anniversary

The following is the text of a press release of the address by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi to the General Assembly of United Nations on Oct 24, 1985:

On this 40th anniversary of the United Nations, I bring you greetings from the people of India and from

the Non-aligned Movement.

The United Nations was founded to prevent war, to enlarge the scope of freedom - freedom from oppression and freedom from want. Many national liberation movements would not have succeeded without the moral and political support of the United Nations. This has made the United Nations increasingly representative and universal.  
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But, vestiges of colonialism persist. Namibia remains enslaved. Twenty five years have passed since the UN Declaration on freedom for colonies, and seven (years) since the Security Council unanimously spelt out the steps for Namibia's independence. Seven years of deprivation. Seven years of death. The world awaits an independent Namibia. Let us from here send a message of solidarity to the freedom fighters of Namibia and South Africa. As the world enters the third millennium, the Pretoria regime refuses to learn the lessons of the second - that all people are equal. The people of India have a special bond with the people of South Africa. It was South Africa that enabled Mahatma Gandhi to fashion his strategy of mass defiance of lawless laws. I am reminded of some lines of Leo Tolstoy, who had deeply influenced Mahatma Gandhi: "I sit on a man's back, choking him and making him carry me, and yet assure myself and others that I am very sorry for him and wish to lighten his load by all possible means - except by getting off his back." When will apartheid get off the black man's back? Every pressure must be applied. India has never wavered. Only comprehensive mandatory sanctions will work.

#### WEST ASIA

There can be no peace in West Asia till the Palestinians secure their legitimate right to a State of their own in their homeland. A Conference on the Middle East was proposed; should it not be held? No code of international behaviour restrains Israel from waging its war on the people of Palestine.

Terrorism has become a major challenge of our time. It has assumed new forms. Violent groups use modern communications and the media to dramatise their demands. Their contempt for human life borders on barbarism. Violent acts by individuals or groups are indefensible enough; no less reprehensible is violence by States or by official agencies. Such unilateral acts can only spell anarchy for the international order.

#### SEARCH FOR ORDER

Man has throughout searched for order. It was sought in the tribe, in the clan, in the nation-state. Civilisation has meant the progressive evolution of norms for interaction between individuals, societies and nations. The League of Nations was an

expression of mankind's yearning for peace and order among nations. As we know, it failed. But that very failure showed that world security and peacekeeping needed a new vision.

The United Nations Organisation was born amid hope and fear - hope, that the holocaust of the Second World War may never be repeated, and fear, that human wisdom and ingenuity may fail to control the atom. Gradually some thought of world order began to take shape. Much has been achieved - freedom and equality from colonialism and racialism, an early -consensus on development, the beginnings of a viable financial and monetary system, structures of international cooperation, collective striving for disarmament. But from our point of view, there are also several negative aspects. Does it behove the powerful to put a brake even on the slow progress towards evolution of an order? How will it profit them to abort the hope and the faith that the UN system symbolises? These disturbing trends have vitiated the dialogue between nations. Today, the international order of the post-Second World War, never very strong, shows wide cracks. Let us attend to them.

The United Nations functions in a divided world - a world marked by nuclear confrontation, by economic disparities, by seemingly unbridgeable distrust. The biggest threat to mankind is posed by the division of the world, into rival military blocs. It is a negation of the philosophical vision of the UN Charter whose essence is peaceful coexistence.

Mercifully, the nuclear blocs have not gone to war. But the arms race continues unrelentingly. New space weapons are conceived as ultimate deterrents. Response times are shrinking dangerously.

Control  
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of weaponry is becoming more complex. Action and -reaction are being removed from the realm of human decision, The button threatens to press itself. The world moves helplessly towards nuclear catastrophe.

DISARMAMENT

The military blocs must understand that stability cannot be achieved through superiority or even balance of weapons. It can only come through co-existence and disarmament. Without disarmament the danger of annihilation will persist.

Six nations from five continents, which included the developed and the developing, the non-aligned and the aligned, met in Delhi early this year, and put forward a practical programme of disarmament. The New Delhi Declaration calls for an immediate halt to the testing, development and production of nuclear weapons and their delivery systems. It urges that this first step must be followed by substantial reductions in nuclear stocks, leading eventually to the elimination of these fearsome weapons

of mass destruction. An overwhelming majority of the member-States of the UN and public opinion throughout the world, including the nuclear-weapon States, have supported this appeal. No chance for peace should be lost. All of us have a collective interest in the preservation of the planet. Constructive disarmament proposals must be earnestly examined. The Gorbachev-Reagan Summit assumes special importance. The world hopes that they will not let this opportunity pass and that the meeting will be the start of a purposeful dialogue and of a process of pulling back from the brink.

Just as the peace of the world is threatened by nuclear war, its prosperity is threatened by an economic crisis of unprecedented gravity. The developing countries see the harshest face of this crisis. India has been fortunate in being able to maintain and even accelerate its rate of economic growth. But most developing countries are hit. Africa has taken the heaviest blows. Latin American countries suffer under a burden of debt made unbearable by actions beyond their control. The affluent too are affected by the crisis. They continue to be locked into low growth and high unemployment. Hopes of early recovery are fast receding.

#### REDEDICATION TO PEACE

How has this state of affairs come to pass? Why does the international community lack the will and the vision to tackle global problems on a global and cooperative basis? Why does the stalemate continue in every important multinational forum?

The consensus on development which was painstakingly built in the decades after the Second World War has broken down today. It is fitting that we use this session to make a start at repairing the damage. The consensus must be rebuilt.

While experts painfully hammer out agreements in many parts of the world, hunger stalks hundred of thousands. We must unite to save them.

We, in the Non-aligned Movement are believers in co-existence, but international order and nuclear weapons cannot co-exist. Freedom and racism cannot co-exist. Science and poverty cannot co-exist.

On this, the 40th commemorative year of the United Nations, should we meekly accept the fact of the world's divisions, dangers and injustices? Let us rededicate ourselves to peace. Let us resolve to fight against the shame of starvation in a world of plenty. Let us denounce the crime of racialism in an age of equality and human dignity. Let us cure the world of insanity of nuclear militarism. Let man's creative genius be enlisted on behalf of enrichment and not destruction.

Friends, let us launch a crusade for peace, freedom and equality.

**Date :** Oct 24, 1985

## Volume No

1995

QATAR

Indo-Qatar Joint Committee Meets

The follow-ing is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Oct 30, 1985 on the Indo-Qatar joint committee meeting:

The first meeting of Indo-Qatari Joint Committee was held in New Delhi from October 28 to 30, 1985 in a spirit of warmth, cordiality and mutual understanding which has traditionally characterised relations between India and Qatar.

The Indian delegation was led by Shri N. P. Jain, Eecretary (LR) in the Ministry of External Affairs. The Qatari delegation was led by Under Secretary Mr. Ahmed Abdel Rahman Al-Mana.

During his stay in Delhi His Excellency W. . Al-Mana was received by the Minister of State for External Affairs, Shri K. R. Narayanan and had useful discussions with the Secretaries in the Departments of Agriculture and Fertilizers. He also visited the Indian Agricultural Institute at Pusa, and the Punjab Haryana-Delhi Chambers of Commerce.

The two sides had extensive discussions on a wide-ranging issues. It was agreed that Indian experts would cooperate with Qatar in matters pertaining to desert agriculture, the use of saline ground water improving horticulture production, investigating problems of animal husbandry, exploitation of marine fishery resources and training of technical personnel.

The two sides exchanged views on increased trade and economic ties. Indian firms have already participated in some construction projects in Qatar. It was decided that organisations like the Oil and Natural Gas Commission, Engineers India Ltd., Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited and National Industrial Development Corporation would hold further discussions for their participation in specific developmental projects in Qatar. The first Indian trade fair is to be held in Qatar in February, 1986, and a number of representatives of trade and Industry from India

would be visiting Qatar on the occasion.

The two sides discussed the possibility of increased Indian exports of items like agricultural products, urea, chemical and allied products, leather, textiles, engineering goods and other items like jewellery, handicrafts and sports goods and continued imports by India of items like urea, sulphur, ethylene and other petro-chemicals products.

It has been decided that both sides would encourage increased exchanges to facilitate the growth of trade. A delegation of the Qatari Chambers of Commerce has been invited to visit New Delhi for the India International Trade Fair in November 1985.

Qatar is planning to develop its natural gas resources. India and Qatar have decided to initiate studies on various proposals for the mutual benefit in utilisation of natural gas which Qatar is to commence producing in its North field.

It was agreed to hold a festival of Indian films in Qatar in 1986 and to exchange television programmes in languages like Urdu, Hindi, Malayalam and Arabic. It has also been agreed that there will be greater exchanges in sports like football, basketball, and volleyball. It was also decided that there would be increased contacts between the two countries in the area of public health services.

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TAR INDIA USA

**Date :** Oct 30, 1985

## Volume No

1995

SOVIET UNION

Dr. Manmohan Singh Inaugurates Ninth Meeting of Indo-Soviet Planning Group

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Oct 31, 1985 of the inauguration of the ninth meeting of the Indo-Soviet planning group:

The Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission, Dr. Manmohan Singh, has said that the rapid development of constructive economic cooperation with the Soviet Union has been a matter of profound satisfaction for India. With the signing of the first Indo-Soviet Trade Agreement in December 1955, a new system of

commercial exchanges based on bilateral trade with India was initiated and subsequently expanded through the mechanism of five-year trade Plans. As a result, Indo-Soviet trade has developed and diversified at an exceptional rapid pace. Dr. Manmohan Singh was inaugurating the ninth meeting of the Indo-Soviet Planning Group here today.

With the several-fold increase in the trade turnover since 1950s, the Soviet Union has now emerged as one of India's largest trade partners. In addition to primary products, Dr. Manmohan Singh added, a wide variety of consumer durables and engineering goods now figure in our exports to the Soviet Union and imports on the other hand have enabled India to strengthen her industrial and machine building base. The proposed five year trade plan, he said, would project further expansion in trade turnover. Dr. Manmohan Singh emphasised that beginning with the credit extended by the Soviet Union in 1955 for the Bhilai Steel Plant, a number of large projects have been set up with the Soviet assistance in such sectors as steel, non-ferrous metallurgy, heavy machinery, petroleum, coal, power electronics, drugs and pharmaceuticals.

#### SEVENTH FIVE YEAR PLAN

Referring to the Seventh Five Year Plan, Dr. Manmohan Singh said that it is a matter of particular importance and the debate on the issues involved has crystallised around some critical objectives and priorities. These include, among others, maintenance of an adequate pace of output growth and capital development, greater self-reliance and mobilisation of savings for the management of balance of payments, emphasis on technology upgradation, manufacturing efficiency and crop productivity and last, but not least, much greater stress on poverty alleviation and employment programmes.

Dr. Manmohan Singh expressed the hope that the week-long deliberations between the Indo-Soviet Planning Group will prove valuable for both sides and the deeper insight gained into specific problems would facilitate the search for practical solutions. He said, the planning cooperation and economic cooperation in general are links in the chain of friendship that binds India and the Soviet Union and which is based on common ideals and principles and goes deep into the hearts of the people.

Referring to the launching of the Sixth Five Year Plan (1980), Dr. Manmohan Singh said that the Indian economy had already been subjected to a massive unforeseen disruption caused by the second oil shock and the consequent sudden and serious worsening of balance of payments. The problem, he said, was further aggravated by the onset of recessionary conditions abroad, unfavourable commodity price trends and the resurgence of protectionism. The Sixth Plan

strategy, he said was accordingly designed to help the economy adjust to the unfavourable turn in the international economic environment without sacrificing output growth and capital formation. As a part of this strategy, Dr. Manmohan Singh said, investment priorities had to be reoriented in favour of energy development which thus claimed about one-third of the entire public sector outlay. The success of these initiatives, he said, have been reflected in the annual growth over the Plan period at the targetted rate of 5.2 per cent, a sharp drop in reliance on energy imports as also in the current account deficit relative to GDP, substantial addition to capacity in industry and infrastructure and a significant improvement of the external payments position.

#### AGENDA

The Indian side is being led by Shri Abid Hussain, Member of the Planning Commission and the Soviet side by Prof. S. A. Sitaryan, Vice-Chairman of the State Planning Committee of the USSR (GOSPLAN). The agenda includes, among others, financing of Annual and Five Year Plans, Foreign Trade Planning, and Planning and Execution of large Housing Construction Projects in urban areas.

The Indo-Soviet Planning Group was set up in pursuance of the agreement of September 1973 on Cooperation between the Planning Commission of India and the State Planning Committee of the USSR. It has been an excellent forum for discussion of a wide range of problems, from mathematical planning models to practical aspects of plan implementation. It has also provided planning experts and technicians from the two countries the opportunity of pursue a mutually beneficial dialogue on a variety of conceptual or practical issues and to gain a deeper insight into planning systems and processes.

DIA USA RUSSIA

**Date :** Oct 31, 1985

## Volume No

1995

SWEDEN

Indo-Swedish Technical Co-operation Agreement Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Oct 18, 1985 on the signing of an Indo-Swedish technical

cooperation agreement:

An agreement regarding Swedish assistance of S.Kr. 30 million (Rs. 4.32 crores approximately) for the Integrated Programme of Technical Co-operation in Trade Promotion was signed between India and Sweden, here today. H.E. Axel Edelstam, Ambassador of Sweden to India and Shri M. S. Mukherjee, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Finance signed on behalf of their respective Governments. The project is spread over a period of three years (May 1, 1985 to June 30, 1987).

The objective of the programme is to increase employment and income among the poor sectors in India, particularly in rural areas and among women in areas which will simultaneously promote export. It will focus on developing the exports of selected labour intensive products produced by small scale industries and small units in defined geographical areas. The programme will encompass the products: handcarved wood products from Saharanpur, Uttar Pradesh; leather footwear from North Arcot District, Tamil

Nadu; woollen knitwear from Ludhiana, Punjab; coir floor coverings from Allepey, Kerala; spices from North East India (ginger) and Kerala (Cardamom), handloom silk home furnishings from Bhagalpur, Bihar. Appropriate human resource development will form part of the connected activities.

Sweden has been extending economic assistance to India since 1964. India has been a major recipient of Swedish assistance and has received so far approximately an amount of S.Kr. 3543 million (Rs. 506 crores). Swedish assistance, which is being received as grant-in-aid, especially local cost component traces activities directly aimed at improving the living conditions of the weaker sections of the Indian population. Some of the important projects programmes financed by Sweden are: National Malaria Eradication Programme, National Leprosy Control Programme, National TB Control Programme, Social Forestry Projects in Tamil Nadu, Orissa and Bihar, Groundwater Project in Kerala and Drinking Water Supply Schemes in Rajasthan.

EDEN INDIA UNITED KINGDOM USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date :** Oct 18, 1985

**Volume No**

1995

UNESCO

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## UNESCO Must Strengthen Man's Innate Will to Live and His Aspirations to Progress

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The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Oct 11, 1985 of the speech by Shri Narasimha Rao at the 23rd General Conference of the UNESCO in Sofia:

India today reaffirmed its belief in UNESCO as a symbol of the moral solidarity of the world community. Addressing the 23rd General Conference of UNESCO in Sofia today, the leader of the Indian delegation, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao noted that threats to the survival of the human race emanated solely from certain points of political power and did not present the desires and aspirations of human beings anywhere. UNESCO must strengthen man's innate will to live and his aspirations to progress.

Referring to the withdrawal of the United States from the Organisation, the Minister said, while there may be scope for improvement in UNESCO as indeed in any organisation. India firmly believed that reforms can be brought about more effectively from within. The trend reflected in the notices of withdrawal from UNESCO by Britain and Singapore, would only herald the disintegration of the U.N. system and of multilateral cooperation. If there were no U.N.O. or UNESCO, we would have had to create them. Having established them, it would be sheer folly to weaken them in any manner whatsoever.

The Minister further said that no other agency was better suited to remove inequality, discrimination, poverty, illiteracy, disease and hunger wherever it exists. "We know exactly where it exists, there is unanimity at least on this score."

Shri Narasimha Rao referred to the far reaching step taken by Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi of assigning by deliberate action, a pride of place to education in the larger process of human resource development. This new empha-  
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sis and delineation have integrated into one comprehensive process programmes aimed at developing the whole man. Recognising that the exercise was much more complex than bare conceptualisation suggested, the Minister said India was determined to make it a success not only because of its own validity but its crucial relevance to a country where right priorities and right linkages were of utmost import.

### EDUCATION

Describing education as the most important instrument for transformation of society, Shri Narasimha Rao said that the inadequacy of the conventional school system had promoted us to place emphasis on flexible and locally relevant non-formal education. We in India are developing vertical linkages between

the non-formal stream on one hand and the "Upon" or "Distance Learning" system on the other.

The Minister further stated that the glow of independence lights our face and the pride of national identity fills our heart and social and class attitudes of many developing countries are still conditioned by the colonial hangover and we have begun to discover that our history have been distorted beyond recognition. Our cultures have been denigrated to the extent of making our own people look down upon them sometimes.

Referring to the New Education Policy being framed in India, the Minister said that the New Education Policy being fashioned in India aimed, among other things at reorganisation of vocational and technical education in India so as to align it with industry, agriculture, communication and other vital sectors.

Shri Rao reiterated India's commitment to cooperate and share facilities available with other developing countries for the advancement of their own communication infra-structure. Shri Rao made particular mention of the Film and Television Institute of India and the Indian Institute of Mass Communication which have been regularly receiving trainees from abroad. He suggested that UNESCO should give recognition to selected institutions as regional centres with adequate support to them in the communications field.

Shri Rao further said that India is planning to set-up an International Centre for Science Technology Education which it believes can have considerable impact on the quality of teaching in the discipline.

Shri Rao lauded UNESCO's efforts to end discrimination with specific reference for the welfare of women and young people.

Earlier, Shri Narasimha Rao had a meeting with the President and Foreign Minister and Education Minister of Bulgaria in Sofia.

#### INDIA PROPOSES TO ORGANISE INDIRA GANDHI INTERNATIONAL GATHERING

Addressing the Conference, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, said that India is considering a proposal to organise an international gathering in the name of Smt. Indira Gandhi on the theme of culture and development. Shri Narasimha Rao, said that this was equally the concern of many other nations and hoped that various nations and UNESCO would work together for the success of this important venture.

Paying tribute to the late Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi, Shri Narasimha Rao said, "after Jawaharlal Nehru, Prime Minister, Indira Gandhi always evinced very keen interest in the work of UNESCO and India's position in Education, Art, Science and Culture and owes

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a tremendous debt of gratitude to her vision and dynamism. A matter of great concern to her was how to integrate science and technology into the social and cultural fibre of our society and how to stimulate the interest creativity of our people and accelerate the, process of national development.

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A INDIA BULGARIA REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE

**Date :** Oct 11, 1985

## November

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**Date :** Nov 01, 1985

## Volume No

1995

### BANGLADESH

#### Indo-Bangladesh Ministerial Level Meeting

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Nov 22, 1985 of the statement released at the conclusion of the Ministerial-level meeting between India and Bangladesh:

In pursuance of the understanding reached between His Excellency, Lt. Gen. H. M. Ershad, President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh and His Excellency, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, Prime Minister of the Republic of India, during their meeting at Nassau, the Bahamas, the Irrigation and Water Resources Ministers of the two countries held Ministerial-level talks at New Delhi from November 18 to 22, 1985.

His Excellency, Shri B. Shankaranand, Minister of Water Resources, Government of the Republic of India led the Indian delegation and presided over the meeting. His Excellency Mr. Anisul Islam Mahmud, Minister for Irrigation, Water Development and Flood Control, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, led the Bangladesh delegation.

The discussions were held in an atmosphere of cordiality and friendship. An Indo-Bangladesh Memorandum of Understanding on a joint study by experts of the two sides of the available river water resources common to both countries, with a view to identifying alternatives for the sharing of the same to mutual benefit, including a long term scheme schemes for augmentation of the flows of the Ganga Ganges at Farakka, and on the sharing of the Ganga-Ganges waters available at Farakka for the next three dry seasons, was signed on November 22, 1985.

INDIA USA BAHAMAS LATVIA TURKEY

**Date :** Nov 22, 1985

## Volume No

1995

BULGARIA

Vice President of Bulgaria Hosts Dinner in Honour of Shri R. Venkataraman Text of Speech of Mr. Petar Tanchev

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi of the speech by Mr. Petar Tanchev at a dinner hosted by him in honour of the Vice-President, Shri R. Venkataraman in Sofia on Nov 01, 1985:

I am especially pleased to welcome once again my dear guest from friendly India, Vice-President Ramaswamy Venkataraman, and to wish him an enjoyable and fruitful stay in our country.

We are deeply gratified with the possibility to meet you on Bulgarian soil as a distinguished representative of the great people of India - the peace-loving people that has created centuries-old culture and  
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has contributed, remarkable values to the all human material and spiritual civilization. Our people know of and follow with keen interest and sincere sympathies the achievements of your country in the years of independent development. We highly appreciate the

role of India as an important stabilizing factor in international life, its consistent policy aimed at strengthening peace and security in Asia and throughout the world. The efforts of India in the search of solution of the crucial problem of our time - termination of the arms race and progress in disarmament - play a great and positive role, enjoy a high prestige and recognition and contribute significantly to the struggle against the military threat.

This productive policy, whose foundations were laid down by Jawaharlal Nehru, was continued by the unforgettable Indira Gandhi - the true daughter of the Indian people, who remained forever in the record of history as an ardent fighter for lasting peace, human happiness and social progress. For over a year now India has been without Indira Gandhi but the foreign policy line, chosen and pursued by her, has been steadfastly followed by the Government of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, enjoying a most broad, popular support.

Dear Indian friends, recently we celebrated the 41st anniversary of the victory of the Socialist Revolution in Bulgaria. Four decades are not such a long time, but the successes scored in our socio-economic and spiritual development make this period stand out most prominently in the entire 13 century -long history of our country. At the same time we are aware that we still have a long way to go so that our economy could overtake the most advanced industrial countries in the conditions of the scientific and technological revolution.

I will note with deep satisfaction that the durable friendly ties between Bulgaria and India develop successfully along an upgrade line. Of historical significance to them were the meetings between the President of the State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria Todor Zhivkov and Indira Gandhi. I am confident that now when your country is under the guidance of Rajiv Gandhi, the worthy successor and continuator of the cause of Indira Gandhi, the relations between our countries will develop dynamically and fruitfully in all spheres of life, our cooperation will become ever more comprehensive.

#### POLITICAL CONTACTS

We believe that the political contacts at various levels, including the top level, will continue to grow deeper and stronger. The rapid economic progress of Bulgaria and India in conditions of stepped up introduction of the achievements of scientific and technological revolution offers new possibilities for our business-like interaction, for the application of new forms of high promise.

Our cultural exchange grow continuously rich in content, thus actively contributing to our getting to know each other better and closer.

Bulgaria and India maintain a close cooperation at the international fora. The positions of our countries on the major international issues are neither similar or identical, which has been demonstrated once again at the present talks. That creates favourable prospects for the further activation and expansion of the all-round Bulgaro-Indian contacts.

May I assure you, Mr. Vice-President, that the people's Republic of Bulgaria attaches a great importance to the development of friendly relations with the Republic of India, and will continue to work for their further enhancement in the interest of both peoples, in the interest of understanding and cooperation in the world.

#### COMPLEX HISTORICAL PERIOD

Esteemed Mr. Vice-President, our meeting is taking place in a responsible and complex historical period. The world has now been brought to the point, beyond which events could get out of control and  
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lead to unpredictable consequences for the very life on our planet. Certain circles in the United States and other western countries aspire after military superiority in order to dictate their terms to other countries and peoples. They stake on huge programmes for militarization of space and escalation of the arms race on earth. Their actions have a destabilizing effect, they undermine confidence and the strategic parity which is historically important to the preservation of peace.

The Soviet Union and the socialist community countries do not seek any military superiority; nor will they allow such superiority over themselves. In the present complicated situation of paramount importance are the comprehensive and bold proposals put forward by the Soviet Union, by the socialist community, which open up a priceless possibility, create a new situation for effecting a breakthrough in the efforts aimed at radically improving the political climate in the world. I wish to emphasise that this set of realistic and constructive initiative provides for decisive cardinal measures:

- the Soviet Union and the United States should agree upon a ban of the strike space weapons.
- their nuclear arms capable of reaching the territory of the other country, should be cut down by fifty percent.
- a separate agreement should be reached on the medium range weapons in Europe,
- testing of nuclear weapons should be stopped,

- all nuclear States should undertake the commitment of no-first-use,
- a treaty on mutual non-use of military force and on maintenance of peace relations should be concluded between the Warsaw Treaty Organisation and the NATO Member States,
- military expenditure should not be increased and should be cut down,
- Europe should be free from nuclear and chemical weapons.

The Soviet Union and the socialist community countries have shown indeed that for them there are no such reasons which they would not be prepared to limit or ban on a reciprocal basis.

All these proposals were reconfirmed and renewed in the declaration of the Warsaw Treaty Organisations Member States, recently adopted in Sofia. This comprehensive peace programme has a historical significance and opens up a remarkable possibility for achieving a positive turn in the present alarming international situation.

#### POSITIVE RESPONSE

We hope that our proposals will find a positive response on the part of the States they have been addressed to and that the USA and its allies will take a new approach in their policies to correspond to the present day realities. It is with such expectations that we look forward to the Soviet-US summit in Geneva and consider that it should contribute to easing the dangerous tension in the world and to reaching mutually acceptable solutions aimed at ending the arms race and achieving a real progress in disarmament. Thus enormous resources could be freed which could be utilized to meet the needs of socioeconomic development including that of the developing countries.

Peace is the supreme blessing for mankind and its consolidation requires the efforts of all States. Guided by this conviction, the People's Republic of Bulgaria pursues a steadfast constructive foreign policy of understanding and cooperation. We accord a special attention to the area we live in. For four decades now the Balkans - this strategically neuralgic region, known as "The Powder Keg" of Europe in the past enjoys peace. A rather important contribution in this respect was made by the consistent peace-loving policy of the People's Republic of Bulgaria. The idea of the President of the State Council  
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of the People's Republic of Bulgaria Todor Zhivkov for turning the Balkans into a nuclear weapon-free zone is of great importance in the present exacerbated international situation not

only to our region, but to Europe and the whole world.

The establishment of nuclear-free zones in the Balkans, Northern and Central Europe is a current task of major significance for the strengthening of confidence and security on our continent.

The People's Republic of Bulgaria acclaims and supports all efforts, made anywhere in the world, aimed at improving the international climate.

It is with deep satisfaction that we note the growing role of the Non-Aligned Movement, we deem as very important activity of India as its Chairman for uniting the Movement in the struggle for disarmament and peace, against imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism, racism and apartheid...

We highly appraise the contribution of India as initiator and co-author of the New Delhi Declaration of leaders of six countries from different continents on nuclear disarmament. Your country is a signatory of the latest initiative of the six leaders - their joint message addressed to the Secretary General of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, Michail Gorbachev and the President of the USA, Ronald Reagan and calling for fruitful results of the Geneva Summit.

The People's Republic of Bulgaria believes that turning the Indian Ocean into a Zone of Peace would be greatly conducive to easing the tension in Asia and throughout the world and, therefore, urges an early convocation of an international conference on this issue.

It is also our belief that the initiative of the Soviet Union for working out a common complex approach in the solution of the Security problems of Asia conforms to the vital interests of Asian peoples and deserves a broad international support.

We back the justified demands for a radical restructuring of international economic relations on a just and democratic basis.

Esteemed Vice-President, your visit to our country is a new concrete manifestation of the fruitful Bulgaro-Indian cooperation an expression of the desire and aspiration of the Government of the Republic of India to develop friendly relations with the People's Republic of Bulgaria in the future as well. It is my conviction that our talks during your stay would serve the further consolidation of the friendship and cooperation between our two countries.

May I propose a toast to His Excellency Zail Singh, President of the Republic of India, to His Excellency Rajiv Gandhi, Prime Minister of the Republic of India, to His Excellency Ramaswamy Venkataraman, Vice-President of the Republic of India, to Bulgaro-India cooperation and, to all who are present here

tonight.

BULGARIA INDIA USA PERU CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC POLAND SWITZERLAND

**Date :** Nov 01, 1985

## Volume No

1995

BULGARIA

Bulgarian Vice-President Hosts Dinner in Honour of Shri Venkataraman-Text of Shri Venkataraman's Address

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Nov 04, 1985 of the speech by the Vice-President, Shri R. Venkataraman at a dinner hosted in his honour in Sofia on November 1, 1985 by H.E. Mr. Petar Tanchev, Vice-President of Bulgaria:

I thank you for your warm words of welcome and for the gracious hospitality extended to us. I bring you greetings from the people and Government of India. We look forward to a pleasant and fruitful stay here. We know that we are among good friends.

India and Bulgaria are heirs to two ancient civilizations which enriched human lives. Distance did not prevent our two

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people from discovering each other. Our contacts go back many centuries. Scholars have written about interconnections between the Vedas and old Bulgarian literature. There are common elements in our folklore, music and art. Bulgaria's historic contribution to civilisation in the spiritual and temporal realm are well-known. Like our own people the Bulgarian people had 'carried on a successful struggle against imperialist domination. The great national leaders of Bulgaria like Georgi Dimitrov are figures of immortal fame in India. We have also followed with interest your achievements over the last decades in various areas of socio-economic endeavours, in the construction of the national economy, in providing for the people's welfare and in science and technology. Bulgaria is renowned for its excellence in many fields. Your accomplishments in preserving your national culture and promoting creative arts for the people are commendable. I am no stranger to Bulgaria. I visited your beautiful country 20 year ago and I am very glad to have this opportunity to see for myself the great progress made by your country since then.

FRONTIER AREAS OF RESEARCH

Our two countries share a historical experience of feudal oppression and foreign domination. In India, colonial rule brutally suppressed the normal growth of politics, society and of the economy. Under the inspiration of Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru, Indira Gandhi, India achieved freedom and immediately took up the monumental task of mobilising our enormous creative talent of our people in the cause of all-round development. We have had considerable success in economic development. We have achieved self-sufficiency in foodgrain production. We have built an industry with a strong infrastructure and versatile capabilities. Our national income has increased nearly four times since independence. There is a high index of growth in nearly every sector of the economy. Our scientists and technologists are working in frontier areas of research. New emphasis has been given to the application of science and technology to basic needs. We are devoting special attention to human and social developments. We have an ambitious programme for rapid overall growth during the 7th Plan. We face an immensely challenging task and we are not daunted.

The effort for economic development has mainly been our own. 90 per cent of our investment funds have come from within India. But friends have certainly helped. We greatly appreciate the considerable support friends have extended to us in our economic development by the socialist countries, including Bulgaria.

#### NATIONAL VISION

Mr. Vice-President, I am greatly touched by your reference to Smt. Indira Gandhi. She embodied a national vision of a strong and prosperous India, which could contribute to the building of a better world. She worked with full dedication to realise these goals. She had immense faith in the enduring strength of India and the profound wisdom of our people. We continue to be guided by the ideas which inspired her, under the dynamic and vigorous leadership of our new Prime Minister Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, and with the wide and massive support of the people, we are resolved to carry forward the cause which she stood for.

Friendship and cooperation with Bulgaria and other socialist countries is a consistent element of our foreign policy which goes back to the days of Jawaharlal Nehru. This policy was consolidated over the last two decades under Indira Gandhi's stewardship. Our new Government is committed to continuing it. We value our relations with Bulgaria and look forward to their further development.

"FROM THE LAND OF LOTUS TO THE LAND OF ROSE"

Our friendship has been reinforced by a well-established tradition of political dialogue and personal contacts between our leaders. Smt. Gandhi's visit to your country in 1981, "from the

land of lotus  
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to the land of rose", as she put it, was a major event in the history of our relations. She had high regard for Bulgaria and happy memories of her stay in your midst and of her many meetings over the last two decades with President Zhivkov. We also warmly recall your President's State visit to Indian nearly two years ago. We look forward to continuing this tradition.

Despite differences in socio-economic system, India and Bulgaria have found much common ground, particularly in our approach to leading international issues. We are both committed to peace and harmony between nations. The international scene gives cause for deep concern. The nuclear arms race goes on unrelentingly. In the name of security, monstrosous new weapons of mass destruction have been developed. There is a threat that the arms race may extend to outer space. Human control of new weapon systems is rapidly diminishing. The probability of a man-made global nuclear catastrophe increases hourly.

#### DISARMAMENT

India, alongwith other like-minded countries, has consistently worked to create a strong public opinion against this threat to the very future of the planet. We have offered proposals that represent the hopes and wishes of the vast majority of the peoples of the world. The Non-aligned Summit meeting in New Delhi in March 1983 under Smt. Indira Gandhi's chairmanship devoted special attention to disarmament, particularly in the nuclear field - Subsequently, leaders of six nations and five continents put forward a plan for disarmament in the New Delhi Declaration. This called for an immediate halt to the testing, development and production, deployment and use of nuclear weapons and delivery systems. It urged that this step be followed by substantial reduction in nuclear stocks leading eventually to their elimination. It also suggested two specific steps, i.e. prevention of arms race in outer space and a comprehensive test ban treaty. An over-whelming majority of the UN member-States as well as world public opinion, including that of the nuclear weapon States have supported the appeal.

We are glad that Bulgaria and other socialist countries responded very positively. We appreciate your dedication to peace and initiatives taken by socialist countries. A few days ago leaders who issued the Delhi Declaration including our Prime Minister addressed a joint message to the USSR and ' the US suggesting that suspension of nuclear tests for a year. They had pointed out that the world's highest hopes are focussed on the Geneva Summit Meeting due next month. This offers a great occassion for bold new initiatives. As the message says, this meeting offers a historic opportunity to break the vicious circle of the escalating arms race.

Mr. Vice-President, you have referred in detail to the assurances to be taken to prevent a nuclear holocaust. We do hope that the projected meeting at Geneva between General Secretary Gorbachev and President Reagan will be able to arrive at a mutually acceptable solution to one of the greatest threats ever faced by human species. Nuclear disarmament is the concern of the entire world and has to be pursued as a global objective.

There are many other threats to peace, the welfare of nations and to human survival. The world faces an unprecedentedly serious economic crisis. The worst hit are the developing countries, especially the poorer ones, but even the rich are afflicted by it. This is a global problem which demands a collective solution. Prosperity like peace is indivisible.

#### RACIAL OPPRESSION IN SOUTH AFRICA

Yet another situation which demands immediate attention is the continuing blatant racial oppression by the ruling clique in South Africa in their policy of Apartheid of the people of that country and their enslavement of Namibia. Recent events have emphatically drawn the  
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world community's attention to this situation. In calling for solidarity at the UN, with the freedom fighters of Namibia and South Africa, our Prime Minister articulated the sentiments of people everywhere. The continuing denial of the legitimate rights of the people of Palestine to a State of their homeland is yet another problem which is no less urgent.

In our own region, we have worked consistently to reduce tension and promote harmony. We have joined hands with other countries in the area to establish a forum for South Asia Regional Cooperation. Some progress has already been made towards better and mutually beneficial relations. We are, seeking to create a total environment of regional peace and cooperation without which development is impossible. We are confident that the endeavour will succeed.

Our cooperation in the field of culture is ever expanding. These exchanges build bridges between peoples and strengthen mutual relationship. As the President of the Indian Council of Cultural Relations I look forward to more and more exchanges between our two countries so that ties between people to people may be built up. Based as our relationship is on goodwill and mutual regard and a respect for each other's views, I have every confidence that Indo-Bulgarian friendship and cooperation will reach greater heights in the years ahead. May I, Mr. Vice-President, extend to you a warm and cordial welcome to visit our country at any time mutually convenient and give us the pleasure of your company and your wisdom.

I request you now to join me in a toast to the health of His Excellency Mr. Todor Zhivkov, President of the State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, to the health of H.E. Mr. Petar Tanchev, first Vice-President of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, to the continued prosperity of the great and friendly people of Bulgaria and to the further development of Indo-Bulgarian friendship and cooperation, to peace and international understanding and lastly, to the health and well being of all present here.

BULGARIA INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC SWITZERLAND SOUTH AFRICA NAMIBIA

**Date :** Nov 04, 1985

## Volume No

1995

BULGARIA

Bulgarian Vice-President to Visit India

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Nov 05, 1985 on the visit of Vice-President, Shri R. Venkataraman to Bulgaria:

The first Vice-President of Bulgaria H.E. Mr. Petar Tanchev is to pay . an official visit to India shortly. The invitation was extended to him by the Vice-President, Shri R. Venkataraman, who concluded his five-day visit to Bulgaria today.

Shri Venkataraman earlier called on the President of Bulgaria, H.E. Mr. Todor Zhivkov. He was accompanied by India's Ambassador, Shri S. S. Nath.

During his five-day goodwill visit, the Vice-President laid wreath at the Georgi-dimitrov Mausoleum. He also had talks with the Bulgarian Vice-President, H.E. Mr. Petar Tanchev. During the discussions both sides referred to the similar experiences of imperialism and progress in the two countries in various fields under peace oriented policies. The two Vice-Presidents shared the view that disarmament should be enforced in order to utilise the resources for economic development. The two leaders hoped that the Geneva Summit will bring concrete results.

Shri Venkataraman also had fruitful meeting with the President of National Assembly, H.E. Mr. Stanko Todorov, in an atmosphere of warmth and cordiality.

The Vice-President also visited the Agro-Industrial Research Complex and the <pg-341>

Institute for Plants at Plodiv, second largest city in Bulgaria and exchanged views on agricultural research and development. He was accompanied by the first Vice-President, Mr. Petar Tanchev who conducted him around the complex.

BULGARIA INDIA USA SWITZERLAND

**Date :** Nov 05, 1985

## Volume No

1995

CHINA

India-China Trade Protocol Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Nov 23, 1985 on the signing of an India-China trade protocol:

A protocol on bilateral trade during the year 1986 between India and China was signed here this afternoon by the Chinese Vice Minister of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade, Mr. Lu Xue Jian and Shri Prem Kumar, Commerce Secretary to the Government of India. It provides for bilateral imports and exports of a total value of about US \$ 100-160 million during the year.

The Chinese side has expressed its intention to import from India iron ore, chrome ore, manganese ore, steel products, tobacco, finished leather, shellac, mining and building machinery, instruments and tools, power station equipment, textile machinery, sugar machinery, agricultural equipment and accessories, sheet glass, light industrial products, chemicals and medical herbs etc.

India expects to import from China raw silk and silk products, beans, edible-vegetable oils, fresh water cultivated pearls, coal, mercury, antimony and other mineral products, bearings and tools, power station equipment and other machinery, resins, spices and other Chinese produce, dye stuffs, petroleum and petrochemical products, newsprint, kraft paper and pharmaceuticals, etc.

India had a favourable balance of trade with China during 1977-78 and 1978-79. Thereafter, the balance has shifted heavily in favour of China. During 1984-85, Indian exports to China were valued at only Rs. 2.12 crores as against imports from China worth Rs. 66.55 crores. The imbalance in bilateral trade is expected to be corrected as a result of the new agreement.

INA INDIA USA ITALY

**Date :** Nov 23, 1985

## Volume No

1995

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Rs. 467-Crore Trade Protocol with Czechoslovakia

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Nov 26, 1985 on the trade protocol signed between India and Czechoslovakia:

A trade protocol with Czechoslovakia for the year 1986 was signed here today.

It provides for a trade turnover of about Rs. 467 crores between the two countries in the coming year. Exports from India have been projected at the level of Rs. 234 crores while import from Czechoslovakia will be valued at Rs. 233 crores. The plan thus provides for a balanced trade.  
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India's exports to Czechoslovakia in 1986 would mainly consist of agricultural products (Rs. 107 crores), textiles (Rs. 54 crores), engineering goods (Rs. 24 crores), minerals and ores (Rs. 23 crores), leather and leather manufactures (Rs. 16 crores), chemicals and allied products (Rs. 7 crores) and certain miscellaneous items. Czechoslovakia has agreed to take more of manufactured and non-traditional products like xerographic equipment, cotton yarn, ready-made cotton garments, jute manufactures, finished leather and leather products. A substantially increased provision has been made for export of traditional items like groundnut extractions, cotton-seed extractions, groundnut HPS and raw cotton.

Imports from Czechoslovakia would mostly consist of items like rolled steel products, diesel generating sets, seamless pipes, tubes and casings, machine tools, ball-bearings, roller and

tapered bearings, fertilizers and components for Czechassisted projects. Czechoslovakia has also agreed to supply mining machinery and equipment for coal mining in India.

Though there is an increase of only 6 per cent in the trade plan provisions as compared to the targets for 1985, the growth rate in actual physical terms is expected to be much higher.

The trade protocol was signed by Mr. J. Garcar, Czechoslovakia's Director-General of Foreign Trade and Shri B. K. Chaturvedi, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Commerce, Government of India.

RWAY SLOVAKIA INDIA USA RUSSIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date :** Nov 26, 1985

## Volume No

1995

EGYPT

Indo-Egyptian Protocol Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Nov 21, 1985 on the signing of an Indo- Egyptian trade protocol:

An Indo-Egyptian protocol for cooperation in various fields of activity was signed here today by Shri Arjun Singh, Minister of Commerce, on behalf of India and Dr. Kamal El Ganzoury, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Planning and International Cooperation, on behalf of Egypt. The agreement was arrived at after discussions in the first session of the Indo-Egyptian Joint Commission in New Delhi from November 18 to 21, 1985. The Indian delegation was led by the Commerce Minister, Shri Arjun Singh as the Co-Chairman of the Joint Commission. The Egyptian delegation was led by Dr. Kamal El Ganzoury, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Planning and International Cooperation.

The protocol for mutual cooperation covers industry, agriculture, energy, trade, education, science and technology and culture. India and Egypt have agreed to intensify and broaden cooperation in the field of industry through joint ventures for the production of carbon black, diesel engines and pumps, industrial machinery for cement, fertilisers, textiles and steel industries etc.

It has been decided to set up a joint working group of experts

from both sides for the study of the possibility of cooperation in the manufacture of electronic components and products to meet the requirements of both countries. In the  
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field of industrial estates and small scale industries, it has been agreed that the recommendations of the Indian Expert Group should be implemented at the earliest. An Indian expert would visit Egypt shortly to draw a work plan. A similar expert study will be made in Egypt for the possibility of producing agricultural tools and equipment in Egyptian factories.

Several areas of cooperation have been identified. These include animal husbandry, agricultural and horticultural production, soil and water resources, mechanization of agriculture and extension and some other areas of general interest like baby food and bread production.

In the area of energy, it was agreed that the Indian side would cooperate with Egyptian electrical authorities for setting up of coal-based power plants. Further, Indian experts would assist in the setting up of facilities for design and manufacture of equipment for coal-based thermal power plants in Egypt. The two sides would also cooperate in the use of solar energy devices in different sectors for water heating, desalination and pumping besides the energy needs of villages through bio-gas plants.

The bilateral trade between India and Egypt was reviewed and it was agreed that the concrete plan of action may be worked out for increasing and diversifying the volume of trade. The lists of items for export from one country to the other were exchanged and it was agreed that both Governments would establish contacts between the major trading organisations and the position would be reviewed after six months. The two sides agreed to exchange views and other educational material and also explore new areas of cooperation in the field of education. An Indian delegation would visit Cairo by February 1986 for discussions on the establishment of equivalence of degrees and diplomas awarded in the two countries.

The working plan of scientific and technological cooperation for the period 1983-86 was reviewed and it was agreed that further impetus for exchange between the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research of India and the Egypt Academy of Scientific Research and Technology, should be given.

Satisfaction was expressed by both sides regarding the exchanges in the field of performing art and participation in each other's book fairs and film festivals. It was agreed to increase cooperation in the field of culture and mass media. The protocol comes into force with immediate effect.

**INDO-EGYPT JOINT COMMISSION SESSION IAUGURATED**

The first session of the Indo-Egypt Joint Commission was inaugurated on November 18 by Shri Arjun Singh. The Egyptian delegation is led by H.E. Dr. Kamal El Ganzoury. Shri Arjun Singh described the Joint Commission meeting as an important landmark in the historical and friendly relationship between India and Egypt. He said that Egypt was one of India's most important trade partners although the present volume of trade did not reflect the vast potential that existed for economic and commercial cooperation. The existing bilateral cooperation, he said, needed to be greatly enhanced and new areas of trade identified.

The Commerce Minister apprised the Egyptian delegation regarding the achievements and capabilities of India's economy and its vast pool of trained technical and scientific manpower. He felt India was in a strong position to enter into a substantive and fruitful cooperation with the people and Government of Egypt in their task of national reconstruction over a wide range of activities. Referring to the favourable balance of trade that India had with Egypt, he said that he would like to rectify the situation by importing more goods from Egypt. He mentioned the possibilities of importing from Egypt urea, phosphate and aluminium in larger quantities than before. He further suggested that, in its turn, Egypt could

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favourably consider the import from India of iron ore pellets, alumina, frozen meat, power equipment, electrical sub-stations and transmission equipment apart from traditional items like tea, jute and spices. He expressed his confidence that satisfactory solutions would be found during the Joint Commission session to the outstanding problems and concrete proposals would emerge for increasing the level of Indo-Egyptian trade.

Emphasising the traditional close and friendly relations between India and Egypt, Shri Arjun Singh proposed the establishment of more joint ventures like the one for blending, packaging and marketing Indian tea which was likely to start functioning soon. He mentioned the manufacture of diesel engines, carbon black and razor blades as promising areas for joint ventures. He also favoured transfer of technology and cooperation in the small scale sector for producing engineering goods, automobiles and electrical industries. He wanted the joint commission to identify the areas of cooperation in manufacturing industries and take further action on the recommendations of the industrial delegations which had been exchanged in the past. He looked forward to the visit of the Egyptian delegation which is expected shortly.

The Commerce Minister referred to the Indo-Egyptian protocol on Energy which covers training, joint ventures, technical assistance in rural electrification and solar energy, bio-mass, bio-gas research and development. He felt that the problems of

India and Egypt in the field of energy were similar and the protocol signifies the desire of the two countries to share their know-how. He hoped that more concrete areas of cooperation would be identified and an action plan drawn up during the discussions. He offered to share with Egypt India's experience and expertise in agricultural modernisation, particularly in the fields of crop and animal sciences, soil and water resources, fertilisers, fish farming and farming in arid and desert areas. Concluding, he expressed the hope that the deliberations at the Joint Commission meeting would discover new areas of cooperation.

YPT INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC RUSSIA

**Date :** Nov 21, 1985

## Volume No

1995

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

Indo-German Joint Venture to Manufacture VCRs in India

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Nov 07, 1985 on the Indo-German joint venture to manufacture VCR's in India:

Electronics Trade and Technology Development Corporation (ET&T), a public sector undertaking under Department of Electronics, has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) today with M/s. Grundig of West Germany for establishing a joint venture in India to manufacture Video Cassette Recorders and to set up a Technology Development Centre for Consumer Electronics with facility for research, training, pilot production and a base for export support.

The MOU was signed by Shri P. S. Deodhar, Chairman, ET & T and Mr. Koning, President, Grundig, who is currently in India to finalise the details.  
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It may be recalled that a high level team led by Shri Deodhar had recently visited various countries to identify potential sources of co-operation to start the VCR project. The arrangements with Grundig is the culmination of these efforts in close interaction with the Department of Electronics.

RMANY RUSSIA INDIA USA

**Date :** Nov 07, 1985

## Volume No

1995

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

Shri Venkataraman Concludes GDR Visit - Joint Press Release

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Nov 09, 1985 on the conclusion of the visit of the Vice-President, Shri R. Venkataraman to German Democratic Republic:

At the invitation of the Council of State of the German Democratic Republic, the Vice-President of the Republic of India, Shri Ramaswami Venkataraman, paid an official visit to the German Democratic Republic from 5 to 9 November 1985. The General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany and Chairman of the Council of State of the German Democratic Republic, Mr. Erich Honecker, received the guest for friendly talks. He informed the Vice-President of India about the initiatives of the GDR's working people in preparation for the XIth Congress of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany. Shri Ramaswami Venkataraman explained India's efforts to safeguard the unity and territorial integrity of the country and further accelerate its socio-economic development. The two sides were agreed that at present no task can be more urgent than to preserve peace for mankind and ward off the danger of a nuclear inferno.

They commended the high level of the close and friendly relations between the two States. Shri Ramaswami Venkataraman conveyed the warmest greetings and wishes of the President of India, Giani Zail Singh, and of the Prime Minister of India, Rajiv Gandhi, which Mr. Erich Honecker warmly reciprocated.

The Indian Vice-President informed the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany and Chairman of the GDR Council of State, Mr. Erich Honecker, that India looked forward to receiving him on a date convenient to him. The GDR statesman informed the Indian Vice-President that he would be glad to visit India.

The member of the Politbureau of the SED Central Committee and President of the GDR People's Chamber, Horst Sindermann, conferred with Shri Ramaswami Venkataraman for an exchange of views.

Vice-President Venkataraman laid a wreath at the memorial to the victims of Fascism and militarism in Berlin, Unter Den Linden Boulevard. He met with the Lord Mayor of the capital of the German Democratic Republic, Berlin, and signed the golden book.

Mr. Egon Krenz and Mr. Ramaswami Venkataraman were present at a ceremony in which an avenue in Berlin, capital of the GDR, was named after Indira Gandhi to honour the memory of India's late Prime Minister.

The Indian statesman acquainted himself with socialist construction in the GDR. He visited Frankfurt/Oder county and toured socialist industrial enterprises.

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#### EXCHANGE OF VIEWS

The member of the Politbureau and Secretary of the SED Central Committee and Deputy Chairman of the GDR State Council, Mr. Egon Krenz, and the Vice-president of India, Shri Ramaswami Venkataraman, had a comprehensive exchange of views on the development in their countries, the relations between the GDR and India and on topical questions of international politics. The talks were held in a cordial atmosphere and were marked by a spirit of traditional and close friendship.

The two statesmen noted with satisfaction that the long-standing fruitful relations between the two countries have been developing successfully on the basis of the principles of peaceful coexistence. They underscored the interest to strengthen and expand political, economic, cultural and scientific and technological cooperation.

The Indian Vice-President expressed his admiration for the tremendous strides made by the GDR in its recovery from the devastations of the Second World War and in its efforts to achieve further progress in all spheres.

Similarly, the Deputy Chairman of the GDR State Council expressed his country's appreciation of the recent initiatives of the Government of India to strengthen Indian unity and accelerate economic development.

Mr. Egon Krenz and Shri Ramaswami Venkataraman stressed that the GDR and India held identical or similar views on important international issues. They believed that in the context of the present complicated international situation, a further strengthening of India-GDR friendship and cooperation would provide an important contribution to improve the international climate.

#### PREVENTION OF ARMS RACE

Both statesmen, sharing concern at the nuclear arms race in the world, and the continuing climate of tensions and confrontation, called for all efforts to save mankind from a nuclear catastrophe, to prevent an arms race in outer space and terminate it on earth. The two sides welcomed the forthcoming summit meeting agreed upon by the USSR and the USA and expressed the hope that it will lead to constructive results. The GDR politician characterized the declaration of the political consultative committee of the Warsaw Treaty States in Sofia in October 1985 as concrete and practicable in the way of achieving peace and security for all peoples, which could usher in a genuine turnabout in the Geneva disarmament negotiations and a drastic improvement of the whole international situation. The Indian Vice-President noted with appreciation the efforts of the socialist countries towards an improvement in the international situation.

Shri Ramaswami Venkataraman explained India's active efforts, as a nation committed to world peace and to international goodwill and cooperation, and as chairperson of the Nonaligned Movement, to strengthen the forces of peace and friendship and to establish an equitable international economic order. He underlined the call given in the New Delhi declaration of January 1985 for worldwide efforts to promote peace through a reduction in, and eventual elimination of armaments that threaten to destroy the world.

Mr. Egon Krenz commended India's active role in the efforts undertaken for the preservation of world peace and the development of mutually advantageous international cooperation. He expressed appreciation for the efforts of the Indian Prime Minister directed at a nuclear freeze and general and complete disarmament. He further welcomed the message by the six signatory States of the 'Declaration of Delhi' addressed to the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, Mikhail Gorbachev, and the President of the USA, Ronald Reagan, as a significant and useful step to mobilize the international public in the struggle against the danger of nuclear war. He also underlined that the Non-Aligned Movement constitutes an

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influential international force and that the GDR supports its endeavours designed to promote peace and detente.

#### PEACE POLICY

The Indian Vice-President noted with appreciation the GDR's active peace policy and its positive influence on the international political climate. He commended its efforts to encourage forces of goodwill into a world-wide coalition of common sense and realism against the threat of a nuclear war and a further expansion of the arms race.

Both sides, in their exchange of views in the strengthening of peace and security in various regions around the world, called

for the reduction of tensions and resolution of outstanding problems through political will, prudence, understanding and respect for the legitimate interests of all sides concerned, free from external interference.

They underscored the consistent support given by the GDR and India to the struggle of the Asian, African and Latin American peoples for national independence, and the elimination of all forms of colonialism, neo-colonialism, racism and foreign aggression or domination.

They emphatically condemned Israel's aggressive acts in the Middle East, and the South African regime's oppressive policies that constitute a serious threat to international peace and security. The two statesmen supported the convening of an International Middle East Conference under the auspices of the United Nations with the participation of all interested sides, including the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. They considered the unconditional implementation of UN decisions on Namibia, including Security Council Resolution 435178, as the only realistic basis for Namibia's independence. They welcomed the initiative of the CONTADORA States as a constructive contribution towards the solution of the problems obtaining in Central America.

The two sides reiterated their resolve to support all steps serving the transformation of the Indian Ocean into a zone of peace, including the convening of the Conference on the subject proposed by the United Nations. They stressed the need for restructuring international economic relations on a equitable democratic basis.

Vice-President Venkataraman thanked his hosts for the warm hospitality extended to him in the GDR.

DIA USA GERMANY PERU BULGARIA POLAND SWITZERLAND ISRAEL SOUTH AFRICA NAMIBIA

**Date :** Nov 09, 1985

## Volume No

1995

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

India's Effort to Safeguard Peace and Promote International Understanding Lauded

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Nov 07, 1985 on the visit of the Vice-President, Shri R.

Venkataraman, to the German Democratic Republic:

The Vice-President, Shri R. Venkataraman, currently on a goodwill tour of GDR exchanged views on matters of mutual interest with his host in Berlin, Mr. Egon Krenz, Vice-Chairman of the State Council. He explained India's effort to bring out improvement in international climate. He also referred to his country's endeavour to promote friendship and cooperation in the South Asian Region.

Both India and GDR expressed satisfaction at the excellent relations existing between the two countries and shared the belief that they would be strengthened further. H.E. Mr. Egon Krenz praised the efforts made by India to safeguard peace and promote international understanding. He specially referred to the New Delhi Declaration in this regard.

Speaking at a dinner hosted in his honour by Mr. Egon Krenz; in Berlin yes-  
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terday, the Vice-president, Shri R. Venkataraman said:

"I thank you for your gracious words of welcome and for the warm and generous hospitality extended to us. I bring you the greetings and good wishes of the people and leadership of India. It is a pleasure and privilege for me to visit your beautiful country and to be among our GDR friends.

I reciprocate your sentiments of friendship and goodwill and fully share your positive assessment of the excellent state of our bilateral relations. We can derive satisfaction from the deepening of our friendship and the steady expansion of our cooperation over the years. The most important characteristic of our relations is mutual trust and regard. On this basis, we have engaged in a regular and constructive political dialogue which has reinforced our ties. We have found a common approach to principal questions of world politics.

The economic, scientific and technical cooperation between our two countries occupies an important place in the overall relationship. Trade has grown steadily and manifold over the last three decades. Our collaboration in industry, covers a wide range. There is good scope for increasing and diversifying these exchanges keeping in mind specific conditions and the evolving capabilities on both sides. The Joint Commission which is currently meeting in New Delhi will no doubt provide guidance for further development.

**WORK BY GERMAN SCHOLARS**

We also have a successful record of cultural cooperation. We can rightly say that contacts in this field are centuries old. The

work done by German scholars of earlier times was not only a pioneering contribution to Indology, but also an early example of international cooperation from which we can learn something. It is to the credit of the GDR that this rich tradition has been preserved and developed. The vitality in our cultural exchanges has been demonstrated by the growing successes of 'Days of Culture, we hold in each other's country.

India has always regarded the GDR as a friend. There is a respect for your monumental achievement in building a new economy badly devastated by war. The GDR has well earned reputation for its great success achieved in agriculture and various branches of industry, in science and technology and other areas. We have also followed the great progress you have made in housing, education and other measures of social welfare. There is appreciation in India of the treasures of the classical German heritage, of the GDR's far-sighted policy of nurturing traditional culture while also encouraging new artistic endeavour.

#### ELOQUENT TRIBUTES TO SMT. INDIRA GANDHI

We are greatly touched by your eloquent tributes to Indira Gandhi. We appreciate the recent decisions taken by the GDR to honour her memory. Indira Gandhi belonged to the galaxy of eminent leaders who represented the best in India's culture. She carried forward the unfinished task of peace and prosperity, fashioned by leaders like Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru. India continues to be guided by the ideals that inspired her. Under the vigorous and energetic leadership of our Prime minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, the country is marching forward towards the goal - of a strong and prosperous India dedicated to fulfilling the people's needs and promoting all round growth with social justice. We have had considerable successes in this regard. A strong industrial base with high productivity and wide-ranging capabilities has been set up. We are fully self-sufficient in foodgrains. A new emphasis has been given to the application of science and technology to everyday problems. We are taking up large programmes in power, transport and industry. Renewed attention is being paid to human and social development and the quality of life. There is a vigorous new drive to preserve the

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environment and our natural resources rationally . We have tremendous tasks to perform and a long way ahead. We are confident in facing the challenge. India is entering a period of quickening socioeconomic growth.

The goodwill and support extended to us by friendly countries like the GDR has been of sustenance to us.

Personal contacts between our leaders and exchanges of high - level visits have greatly contributed to our mutual understanding. Smt. Indira Gandhi recalled her visit to the GDR

in 1976 with great affection. This was a major event in the development of Indo-GDR relations as was the visit to India by Chairman Honecker in 1-979. These contacts have been supplemented at other levels - political, official and popular.

Friendship with the GDR is a consistent element of our foreign policy. We value this relationship and would like to see it develop further. Our talks have reaffirmed mutual commitment to strengthening it.

#### CALL FOR DISARMAMENT

While we meet in these peaceful and friendly surroundings, we cannot but be concerned about the troubled state of the world. Of particular cause for anxiety is the unabated race in nuclear armaments and the growing threat of nuclear war. New military arms, means of mass destruction have been developed systematically over the years and new weapons are being conceived as the ultimate deterrent. There is an imminent danger of the arms race being extended to outer space. There are legitimate doubts about human control of these weapons. A global nuclear catastrophe becomes ever more likely. Along with other like-minded countries, India has worked assiduously to draw the world's attention to this serious danger to human survival. Our proposals represent the thinking of the vast majority of the world community. Thus, the Non-aligned Summit Meeting in New Delhi of March, 1983 made a comprehensive analysis of the problems of disarmament, especially in the nuclear field.

The New Delhi Declaration reiterated the essential elements of the Non-aligned appeal, i.e. call for an immediate halt to the testing, development and production of nuclear weapons and their delivery systems. It urges that this first step be followed by substantial reductions in nuclear stocks, leading eventually to the elimination of these fearsome weapons of mass destruction.

The leaders who issued the New Delhi Declarations have addressed a joint message to the USSR and the USA, urging a 12 months' halt to nuclear weapon testing. They have also conveyed the widespread hope that the summit meeting in Geneva will be used for bold decisions to halt the nuclear arms race. We deeply appreciate the principled and positive response of the GDR and other socialist countries to the New Delhi appeal. We appreciate your dedication to peace and your initiatives for disarmament.

There are many other serious threats to peace, and survival. In his recent address to the U N G A during the 40th anniversary of the U N our Prime Minister had spoken of them. The most dramatic and immediate of these is the continuing outrage to humanity being perpetrated by the ruling clique in South Africa. Our Prime Minister's call for solidarity with the freedom fighters of Namibia and South Africa represents a universally felt sentiment. Equally urgent is the need to ensure the legitimate rights of the

people of the Palestine to a state of their own in their homeland. There are other tensions and conflicts which are less serious. Particularly insidious among them is the serious global economic crisis. This hits the developing countries most, but everyone else is affected by it. This is a global problem which can only be solved by a collective effort to restructure the international economy.

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SARC

Regional conflicts are inextricably bound up with the overall international situation. In our own region, we have consistently sought good relations and we have taken many initiatives over the years to reduce tension and promote harmony. This effort has been greatly helped by the impulse towards South Asian Regional Cooperation which has already achieved some successes in producing better mutually beneficial relations. For us, as for you, a total environment of peace and cooperation is indispensable for meaningful national development.

Excellency, much unites our two countries. We have built bridges of understanding on the strong foundation of mutual regard and goodwill. Our friendship has grown in a stable manner and is a model of peaceful coexistence, of dialogue and communication.

I would now request you to join me in raising your glass in a toast to the health of His Excellency Mr. Erich Honecker, General Secretary of the S.E.D. Central Committee and Chairman of the State Council of the GDR; the health of H.E. Mr. Egon Krenz, Vice Chairman of the State Council of the GDR; to the prosperity and welfare of the great and friendly people of the GDR; to ever-growing Indo-GDR friendship; to peace and international cooperation; to the health and well-being of all present.

DIA GERMANY PERU USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC SWITZERLAND SOUTH AFRICA  
NAMIBIA

**Date :** Nov 07, 1985

## Volume No

1995

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

Indo-GDR Joint Commission Meet

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

on Nov 05, 1985 on the Indo-GDR Joint Commission Meet:

In the sixth session of the Indo-GDR Joint Commission for economic, technical and scientific cooperation which is in progress, both the sides reviewed the progress of the cooperation as well as identified new areas where both could extend the field of cooperation. They also referred to the excellent bonds of bilateral relations and friendship that has developed between the two countries over the years.

The Indian delegation was led by Shri Narayan Datt Tiwari, Minister for Industry and the German Democratic Republic was led by H.E. Mr. Soelle, Minister for Foreign Trade.

Shri Tiwari said that there are over 150 production-collaboration arrangements between Indian and GDR firms, both in public and private sectors. These cover industries like machine tools, printing, foundry, chemicals and pharmaceuticals, etc. We have good examples of cooperation in third countries such as Libya and Iraq.

The Minister added that the importance of trade plans, formal agreements, balance of trade, industrial cooperation, and other such aspects are very important. Mutual understanding, respect and friendship between the peoples of two countries "was of far greater importance in the furtherance of mutual benefits than the seeking of economic advantages.

Mr. Soelle referred to the progress of the economic relations between the GDR and India as an example for the successful cooperation of nations with different social systems on the basis of equality and mutual advantage.

Shri Tiwari said that our policy had been to maximise imports from rupee payment countries. We were making strong efforts at governmental-level to ensure further expansion and diversification of trade with GDR with a view to balancing our turnover at a much higher level in the future. We would appreciate  
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a similar effort on the part of the GDR, especially for exports of engineering items from India. He suggested goods such as machine tools, textile machinery, auto components, electronics, and electrical equipment, chemicals and drugs and computer software etc. be included in the Indo-GDR Trade Plan.

DIA USA LIBYA IRAQ

**Date :** Nov 05, 1985

# Volume No

1995

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

## New Areas of Cooperation Between India and GDR Identified

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Nov 07, 1985 on the sixth session of the Indo-GDR Joint Commission:

India and German Democratic Republic have identified new areas of collaborations in the fields of dairy machinery, machine tools, steel and metallurgical industry, agricultural machinery, planetaria for educational purpose, electronics, environmental protection, chemicals and plant, text-book printing presses and third country cooperation.

This follows the Sixth Session of the Indo-GDR Joint Commission for economic, scientific and technical cooperation which concluded its meeting here today. The Indian delegation was led by Shri Narayan Datt Tiwari, Union Minister of Industry and the GDR delegation was led by H.E. Mr. Soelle, Minister for Foreign Trade.

As a result of the Joint Commission deliberations concrete possibilities have emerged in the field of lignite mining for which GDR technology would be made available to India.

The visit of H.E. Mr. Soelle also provided an opportunity to exchange views between the two Governments at political and official levels to give further impetus to the already stable and increasing economic relations between the two countries. The deliberations of the Joint Commission were facilitated through separate working groups on industry, coal, lignite and power; and trade in the field of trade. Both sides noted with satisfaction the resolve of the two Governments to increase the volume of trade between the two countries in the years to come and it was agreed that a higher growth of trade between the two countries would be envisaged in the annual Indo-GDR Trade Plan for 1986. Both Governments have, during the visit of the GDR delegation signed trade and payment agreement between the two countries for 1986-90. A new thrust has been given in the field of bilateral trade by identifying specific engineering items which would be exported to GDR such as electronic component, hand tools, micro tapes, hand-knitting machines, batteries etc. Possibilities would also be explored for export of automobile vehicles and automotive components to GDR.

DIA USA

**Date :** Nov 07, 1985

## Volume No

1995

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

Indo-GDR Trade Agreement Extended Upto 1990

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Nov 01, 1985 on the extension of the Indo-GDR trade agreement upto 1990:

The trade and payments agreement between India and the German Democratic Republic was renewed for a further period of five years, from 1986 to 1990. A protocol to this effect was signed here today by H.E. Mr. D. Prietzel, Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade of the GDR, and Mr. Prem Kumar, Commerce Secretary, Government of India.

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The current trade agreement is due to expire on-December 31, 1985. The first trade agreement between the two countries was concluded in 1954. This has been extended from time to time with suitable modifications according to the requirements of each country. India and GDR have been conducting their trade in non-convertible Indian rupees on a bilateral basis where imports and exports are expected to balance each other. Under the agreement, trade plans are drawn up every year setting out the items of export and import. Payments for imports are made by India in Indian rupees and the GDR pays for goods exported to that country by India in Indian currency. The two-way trade usually balances itself and any excess payments are carried over to the next year for adjustment.

Both Governments agreed to give most favoured nation treatment to each other in the matter of imports, exports, customs duties and other taxes etc. The agreement also provides for promotion of trade by identifying new fields of industrial and economic cooperation directly or through joint marketing in third countries. The principal items of Indian exports to the GDR have been shoe-uppers, finished leather, iron ore, mica, oil cakes, castor oil, jute manufactures, tea, spices, cashew nuts, tobacco and textiles. The share of shoe-uppers and finished leather is the biggest, accounting for 43.56 per cent of all exports, followed by iron ore (17.83 per cent), textiles (10.31 per cent)

and tobacco (5 per cent).

The German Democratic Republic exports to India such items as fertilisers, machine tools, photo films, rolled steel products, diesel generating sets, printing machinery and other scientific and technical equipment. Fertilisers account for 42 per cent of the GDR exports, while the share of machine tools and cinematographic films is 6.5 percent and 9 per cent respectively.

The trade between the two countries has been slightly favourable to India except in 1984. The trend of Indo-GDR trade during the period 1980-84 will be clear from the figures given below:

(Rs. in crores)

1980 1981 1982 1983 1984

Imports 31495980130

Exports 40587084112

Total 71107129164242

Balance

Of

Trade ( ) 9 (+) 9 (+) 11 (+) 4 (-) 18

A long term programme for economic cooperation was agreed upon in 1979. It envisaged the doubling of trade between the two countries by the end of 1985, compared to the level in 1978. This doubling of the trade turnover has already been achieved and there has been a steady growth in bilateral trade since then. During the current year (1985), the trade plan envisages a turnover of Rs. 362 crores, equally divided between the two countries. The trade figures for the first six months of this year indicate steady progress and the plan is likely to be fully implemented. The future growth in bilateral trade would generally depend on India's ability to step up imports from the GDR and diversify its own exports basket.

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DIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC USA RUSSIA

**Date :** Nov 01, 1985

## Volume No

1995

JAPAN

Over Rs. 197 Crore Japanese Loan Assistance for India

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Nov 25, 1985 on the signing of an Indo-Japanese loan agreement:

India and Japan today signed a loan agreement for 1985-86 under which the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OECF) will provide a yen loan assistance to India equivalent of Rs. 197.4 crores approximately for five projects.

The projects include the Gas Line Project which will receive assistance of Rs. 80 crores approximately, Telecommunications Project (VIII) Rs. 48 crores approximately, Aonla Fertilizer Plant Project Rs. 47.6 crores approximately, Sardar Sarovar Hydro Electric Project Rs. 14.3 crores approximately and the Ujjani Hydro, Electric Project Rs. 7.5 crores approximately.

This loan assistance which carries an interest rate of 3.25 per cent is repayable over a period of 30 years including a grace period of 10 years. The agreement was signed by Mr. S. Venkitaraman, Finance Secretary, on behalf of India and by Mr. T. Hosomi on behalf of OECF, Japan.

Later Mr. Hosomi called on the Union Finance Minister, Mr. Vishwanath Pratap Singh and discussed matters pertaining to economic situation in the country.

PAN INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC USA

**Date :** Nov 25, 1985

## Volume No

1995

NICARAGUA

Text of Shri Bhagat's Speech at Dinner in Honour of Nicaraguan Foreign Minister

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi of the speech by Shri B. R. Bhagat, Minister of External Affairs at a dinner hosted by him in honour of His Excellency Mr. Miguel D'Escoto Brookmann, Minister of External Relations of Nicaragua here today (New Delhi, Nov 19, 1985):

Excellency, it gives me great pleasure to welcome you and members of your delegation to India. Yours is the first bilateral visit by a Minister for Foreign Affairs from Nicaragua to our country and I am confident that it will further strengthen the friendly

and cooperative relations that exist between us.

I am informed that the first Ambassador of Nicaragua to India presented her credentials yesterday. We hope to build our bilateral relations through diplomatic and other channels significantly in the coming years. The Ambassador has our support in her endeavours to further relations between our two countries. We will be happy to cooperate in your efforts for development of your industry, agriculture and health in the spirit of bilateral cooperation among developing countries.

Both India and Nicaragua have had similar experience of colonialism and exploitation. The price that the Indian people

paid for their freedom enables us to understand and sympathise with the courageous people of Nicaragua in the present critical juncture of your history. We are convinced that you will be victorious in your efforts.

Relations between India and Nicaragua have been traditionally very cordial. As members of the community of developing nations, both India and Nicaragua are committed to the concept of a world that grows in harmony and peace. Most importantly, both our countries want to ensure that mankind is free of the threat of annihilation from an impending nuclear holocaust. With the joint efforts of like-minded countries we trust that the major nuclear powers can be restrained in their escalation of the arms race.

Central America is faced today with a severe crisis, both political and economic. India has extended full support to Nicaragua and deplores all aggressive activities against it as well as continuing foreign interference. We hope for easing of tensions in the area and the resumption of a process of discussion and negotiation so that understandings and accords can be reached so as to enable the countries of the region to live in peace and decide their own future free from outside intervention and interference.

#### CENTRAL AMERICA

One of the first actions taken by Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi soon after assuming office was to issue, in his capacity as Chairman of the Non-aligned Movement, a statement expressing grave concern at the escalating tensions in Central America and the growing threat of expanded armed conflict in the region, especially in and around Nicaragua.

Recalling that at the NAM Ministerial Meeting on Namibia in New Delhi in April 1985, the Non-aligned Movement had spoken against acts of aggression, intimidation and sabotage against Nicaragua and appealed for the cessation to all hostile acts against her. We in the Movement have continued to reiterate our firm

solidarity with Nicaragua on various occasions. We have called for a solution to the crisis through political means. In our view, the Contadora Group represents the best opportunity for finding such a solution.

Ladies and Gentlemen, may I now request you to join me in a toast to the health of the President of Nicaragua, H.E. Daniel Ortega Saavedra, a very close friend of India, to the health of the Foreign Minister of Nicaragua H.E. Miguel D'Escoto Brockmann, and to the welfare and progress of the heroic people of Nicaragua.

NTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC NICARAGUA INDIA USA NAMIBIA

**Date :** Nov 19, 1985

## Volume No

1995

NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT

Conference of the Research and Information System for Non-Aligned and Developing Countries

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Nov 20, 1985 of the speech by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, at the second conference of research information centre for Non-Aligned and other developing countries in New Delhi on November 20, 1985:

It gives me great pleasure to inaugurate the second conference of the research  
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and information system of Non-Aligned and other developing countries. This is a step forward in strengthening the institutional links which promote cooperation amongst us.

Non-Alignment is national independence and democracy in decision making. We recognise that the world comprises countries with different social and economic systems. We, therefore, respect every nation's right to pursue its chosen path. That is the essence of peaceful co-existence, the concept that lies at the heart of the philosophy of Non-Alignment.

By achieving the industrial revolution earlier than us, the countries of the North today command the lion's share of global resources. They use their technological superiority and command over resources to perpetuate their near monopoly over research information and the media of communication. Their research is

undertaken in the perspective of their own problems. Their relative unfamiliarity with the complex problems of developing societies often leads them down the wrong path to prescriptions which are frequently irrelevant, and sometimes inimical to our concerns and interests.

Self-reliance begins in the minds. It is for us to take care of our needs of research and information. For this reason, the Colombo Summit decided to establish a Non-Aligned Research and Information System. It has taken several years to really get it going. But the conference is the earnestness of our commitments collective self-reliance and analysing our problems and synthesising their solutions. We will now be able to collate and exchange information and approaches on approaches and models of development which are relevant to our realities and requirements. We will also be able to strengthen the intellectual basis of our negotiating positions in our dialogue with the North. Thirdly, the RIF would prove the crucial catalyst in triggering greater cooperation amongst the countries of the South.

The North-South Dialogue have stuck in an impasse. Our position has been stated. The North has stated its position. There is little meeting of minds. The major part of the reason for this lies, of course, in an inadequate appreciation in the North of the inter-dependence between acceleration of growth in the South and economic revival in the North. This inadequate appreciation of inter-dependence has to a great extent paralysed their political will to foster the dialogue between themselves and us. Keeping the dialogue moving is in our interest. It does us no good to be caught in a negotiating cul de sac. We have to take the initiative in bringing proposals to the table which safeguard our interests while taking into account the positions expressed by others. In this search for a new consensus on development, the RIF assumes a position of key importance. It is on the basis of detailed research, profound thought and the exchange of information that we will be able to impart to the dialogue that quality of symbolness and imaginative flexibility which is necessary to bring these negotiations to a satisfactory fruition.

## RESEARCH

In research, back-up systems like the OECD, the developed countries have thus had the advantage over us. It has provided them with the forum for not only assembling and processing essential data but also hammering out negotiating positions. In comparison, the research efforts of the South have been somewhat fragmented. The quality of our efforts, if pooled together, would certainly match and possibly surpass the intellectual exertions of the North. But it is precisely this act of pooling together of information, ideas, plans and strategies that has not so far made sufficient headway.

RIF represents a major effort on the part of Non-Aligned and

other developing countries to set up a machinery to jointly store information, retrieve it quickly, coordinate research efficiently and help evolve positions which serve our common interests. The intellectual links between research institutions of developing countries which we are now setting out to do  
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will reduce our vulnerability to outside pressures. It will also increase our influence in evolving the new consensus on development.

## SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION

Our research and information system is not merely a tool in the North-South dialogue. Even more, it can become a key to meaningful South-South cooperation. Fruitful economic cooperation is based on complementarities. Developing countries taken together possess complementary resources of raw materials and manufacturing capacity, finance and credit, managerial and production skills, and a range of matching technologies. We have hardly begun to tap the immense potential of these complementarities. Where such cooperation has taken place, it has been demonstrably in the interest of both parties. If the scale of such cooperation today is small in comparison to the possibilities, this is mainly because the countries of the South lack sufficient information about their existing and potential complementarities. Centuries of colonialism have snapped traditional links and prevented new ties from growing amongst us.

## GROWING ECONOMICS

The information available in any one of our countries about potential in the North is almost always greater than the information available about similar potential elsewhere in the South. Our success in achieving closer interaction amongst the countries of the South depend on a thorough mapping of the possibilities of mutually beneficial cooperation. It is this task that we entrust to the RIF. This will not be a one-off exercise, but a continuing necessity. Our economies are growing, evolving and dynamic. So also do our complementarities progressively increasing, widening to cover newer areas and capabilities. The North-South Dialogue and South-South cooperation are not separate unrelated matters. They impinge on each other.

Greater cooperation among the developing countries will, I believe, spur the will in the North to look into the South as partners. Equally, a better North-South economic relationship will engender the resources for increased South-South cooperation. When we assert the inter-dependence of countries as a rationale of mutually beneficial cooperation, we do not have in mind only the countries of the North. The logic applies in the same measure to cooperation amongst ourselves.

In the present frozen stage of the North-South dialogue, perhaps it will be best to set an example to the North by promoting cooperation amongst ourselves. Hopefully, as the results of a renewed North-South dialogue begin to flow, cooperation amongst ourselves would be reinforced by the benefits of North-South cooperation, and in turn reinforce North-South cooperation. In this endeavour, our research institutions have a vital role to play in making us stronger and more capable of achieving our goals. Some impediments have been identified and ways and means of overcoming these suggested. We need these intellectual inputs on a continuing basis. The Research and Information system should serve us no less in the think-tank of the developing countries.

I wish you all the best in your noble endeavour.  
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DIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC SRI LANKA FRANCE RUSSIA

**Date :** Nov 20, 1985

## Volume No

1995

NORWAY

Indo-Norwegian Agreed Minutes Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Nov 20, 1985 on the signing of the Indo-Norwegian agreed minutes:

The agreed minutes of the Indo-Norwegian country programme were signed here today on the conclusion of the two-day talks on economic co-operation between the two countries.

The talks were mainly about the ongoing projects and programmes and were in the nature of a mid-term review of the entire Indo-Norwegian country programme.

Norwegian assistance to India for the calendar year 1985 has been of the order of N. Kr. 175 million (Rs. 25.4 crores approximately). It is provided entirely on a grant basis and will be utilised 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. This aid is also used for commodity imports, such as fertilizers, paper and fisheries equipment. Norwegian assistance is primarily meant for the special target

groups among the poorer sections of society aiming at increasing the long term effects of the assistance.

The Indian delegation was led by Shri M. S. Mukherjee, Joint Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs and consisted of representatives of the Ministries of Agriculture, Health and Family Welfare, Human Resources Development and Petroleum. The Norwegian delegation was led by Mr. Sven A. Holmsen, Director, Department of Projects I Programmes, NORAD and included H.E. Mr. Tancred Ibsen, Ambassador of Norway in India.

RWAY INDIA USA UNITED KINGDOM

**Date :** Nov 20, 1985

## Volume No

1995

### PRIME MINISTER'S TOUR ABROAD

Reception at Hanoi in Honour of Shri Rajiv Gandhi - Prime Minister's Speech

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Nov 28, 1985 of the speech by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, at the reception held in his honour in Hanoi on November 27, 1985:

Prime Minister, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, my wife and I are delighted to be here. The people of Vietnam are heirs to a proud past. They have earned the world's admiration through their epic struggle for freedom from foreign domination. While in British prison, Jawaharlal Nehru often reflected on what Ostrovsky said of freedom: "Man's dearest possession is life, and since it is given to him to live but once, he must so live that, dying, he can say: All my life and strength were given to the first cause of the world - the liberation of mankind." It is this spirit  
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which inspired the heroic achievements of the people of Vietnam, as did our fight for liberation.

### HISTORICAL LINKS

Vietnam and India have old historical links. We came together again in the fight against colonialism. We produced leaders of 'outstanding stature - Mahatma Gandhi, Ho Chi Minh and Jawaharlal Nehru. Their ideals and examples sustain us as we face the harsh

realities of our strife-torn world.

The anti-imperialist fight entailed untold sacrifice and suffering on the part of both our peoples. India won independence through a non-violent struggle. The people of Vietnam had to take up arms. Your travails and ours did not end even after throwing off the colonial yoke. India had to face more than one invasion. And you - even after Dien Bien Phu - had to make more sacrifices - until you reunited Vietnam. You have withstood military intervention and political pressure. You have shown that neither force nor threat subdues a free people. I salute your indomitable spirit.

India had always stood by you in your struggles. India is with you as you build your nation. Jawaharlal Nehru said:

"There is a time for work and there is a time for play. Today is the time for work for the nation. For, this generation of ours is condemned to hard labour. No man has ever died of hard work if he is working in a good cause, if his spirit is in it. So you and I have got to work."

When in prison, the great Ho Chi Minh wrote:

Under the pestle how terribly the rice suffers!

But it comes out of the pounding white as cotton.

In this world the same happens to humans.

Hard trials turn them into diamonds bright.

Like war, the task of nation-building demands diamond-like qualities from people. We know the dedication with which you are building a new Vietnam. In India, soon after winning independence, we embarked on planned economic development. We have achieved self-sufficiency in grain production. We are in the mid-passage of our industrial revolution. Our scientists are doing notable work in advanced fields like nuclear energy, space technology and genetics. We have shown that whatever India sets out to achieve, it does.

#### TOGETHER FOR WORLD PEACE

Many developing countries face similar problems. We are glad to share our experience with others. Indo-Vietnam friendship is based on such sharing. We share a love of freedom. We share a determination never "to bend our knee before insolent might". We share a resolve to build our countries out of our own toil. We are together for world peace and cooperation.

Jawaharlal Nehru, accompanied by Indira Gandhi, was here in 1954. We were privileged to play host to President Ho Chi Minh in India

in 1958. You, Mr. Prime Minister, visited us in 1978 and again in 1983 for the Non-Aligned Summit. These close relations were further enhanced when the General Secretary of the Vietnam Communist Party, Mr. Le Duan, paid an official visit to India last year.

## ECONOMIC CONTENT

Indo-Vietnamese relations have also acquired a strong economic content. We already cooperate in agriculture, in animal husbandry and in railways. Just yesterday, the Indo-Vietnam Joint Commission has taken some important decisions. These will impart a new dynamism to our relations.

We must and will continue to work together for freedom, justice and peace. Over a hundred nations won their freedom since you proclaimed your independence in 1945. But vestiges of colonialism and  
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racism remain. We cannot rest until they are eliminated. We look forward to the day when Namibia will march with us as a free and sovereign nation, and the oppressed people of South Africa are masters in their own home.

Kampuchea has lived through the horror of genocide. India has expressed its solidarity with the Kampuchean people in their resolve to rebuild their shattered country. South-East Asia has been an arena of mounting conflicts and tensions. Various proposals have been put forward to initiate a dialogue. We hope that these efforts will succeed. They should lead to a comprehensive solution, ensuring peace and stability in the region free from external interference.

The arms race is unabated. We must intensify the movement for general and complete disarmament. That is the only alternative to a nuclear holocaust. The responsibility for avoiding a nuclear conflict rests on the nuclear-weapon States. The leaders of the Soviet Union and the United States have just met in Geneva. We welcome their categorical declaration that nuclear war cannot be won and must never be fought. We hope that the negotiations to be resumed in Geneva will yield concrete measures of nuclear disarmament and prevent extension of the arms race to space. Humankind has a stake in survival.

Every peace-loving individual in every country of the world must continue to work for the reduction of distrust and tension. It is the pressure of public opinion that overcomes the inertia of Governments. In this world nothing is more important than to find a path away from annihilation.

Vietnam and India, working together, are making a contribution to the lessening of tensions. On this occasion let us jointly renew

our resolve to labour for the freedom of peoples, for peace and security, and for greater understanding among nations.

Excellency, may I again say how deeply grateful my wife and I are for your gracious hospitality? We value the warm friendship and affection shown by the people of Vietnam.

I propose a toast to the health of our host, Prime Minister Pham Van Dong; to the success and prosperity of the heroic people of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam; and to the further growth and consolidation of Indo-Vietnamese friendship and cooperation.

ETNAM INDIA USA NAMIBIA SOUTH AFRICA SWITZERLAND

**Date :** Nov 28, 1985

## Volume No

1995

### PRIME MINISTER'S TOUR ABROAD

#### Public Rally in Hanoi - Prime minister's Address

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Nov 28, 1985 of the speech by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi at a public rally in Hanoi on November 27, 1985:

I am delighted at this opportunity to speak to you. I thank your leadership for making this possible. I bring you the greetings of the 750 million people of India.

India and Vietnam have been friends through the millennia. In its long history India has had extensive interactions with a large number of nations. These have been guided solely by the spirit of peace. The give-and-take has been in philosophy, art, sculpture and commerce. We have never played the giant, in spite of our size.

Just before I left for your country, one of our scholars told me of the large number of old Sanskrit inscriptions in Vietnam as evidence of our past connection.

In later centuries our friendship fell into disrepair. Alien rule and colonialism disrupted the links between us.

It was not until the third decade of our own century that we re-establish these

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links. Most countries of Asia began dreaming of freedom. The leaders of freedom movements sought out one another. So did our scholars. Our great poet, Rabindranath Tagore, urged us to rediscover and cherish the Asian personality. He reminded India of its duty to befriend other nations of Asia as in the past.

#### NEHRU AND Ho CHI MINH

Although Ho Chi Minh and Jawaharlal Nehru had not yet met, they had high regard for each other.

In 1942, Ho Chi Minh, who was in a Chinese prison, wrote a poem addressed to Jawaharlal Nehru, who was in a British prison. The poem read:

"I am struggling, you are active, You are in jail, I am in prison  
We

we now communicate with words as well as with our hearts.

India and Vietnam were among the first Asian nations to break the colonial fetters. Even the imperialists had known that once India won its freedom, the whole edifice of imperialism would totter. And so it happened.

#### ASIAN RELATIONS CONFERENCE

Independent India spoke out firmly and clearly in international fora on the right of all Asia to be free. Jawaharlal Nehru declared at the Asian Relations Conference held in Delhi in 1947 that no longer would the people of Asia be petitioners in Western courts and chancelleries. In the United Nations, India took every opportunity to plead the cause of fellow-sufferers from colonial rule. We rejoiced as each new nation won its freedom.

It took many years of toil, blood and tears for Vietnam to wrest its independence. Even then you had no respite. You were not allowed to look back on the long fight you had fought. There was no rest for your limbs. You had to take up arms again and again - to defend that freedom.

Your epic fight will ever remain an inspiring chapter in human history. Your victory will be a byword for the small and the supposedly weak defying and ultimately vanquishing the big and the mighty. During your fight there were countless young people in India who chanted:

"Vietnam, Vietnam, my name is Vietnam."

Your fight was our fight as well. Whoever secures freedom in any part of the world serves freedom everywhere. That is the meaning of the phrase "Freedom is indivisible". Many of the outstanding

leaders of that struggle comrades in arms of the great Ho Chi Minh, are here with us. I salute them on behalf of the people of India. I offer the Indian people's admiration to all of you.

The example and precepts of the immortal Ho Chi Minh, like those of Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru, will inspire you as they will inspire us.

Both our nations must carry forward the Ho Chi Minh-Nehru legacy.

What is that legacy? What are the ideals and principles that our national liberators have left for us?

- The preservation of our national freedom. The sovereignty of our peoples.

- The development of our economies The attainment of self-reliance.

- Resistance to all forms of intervention and interference.

- Support to all people struggling against racism or colonialism, old or new.

- Unrelenting support to global peace and peaceful coexistence.

- The policy of Non-alignment.

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Vietnam and India are now engaged in the battle against poverty. Both. our economies were ravaged by colonialism. In your case you had also to bear the brunt of long years of war. You were invaded. The invaders' strategy was to bomb and burn your land and destroy its productivity. But your nation has been reborn, phoenix-like, out of the ashes. It is India's privilege to cooperate with you in your economic endeavours.

On the international stage, Vietnam and India have been together and will always be together. We shall together oppose all forms of domination and discrimination.

We shall fight for peace and cooperation, for disarmament and the reduction of economic disparities.

I shall go back and report to my people about the warmth with which you have received me. I shall tell them of your staunch friendship for India. I shall narrate to them your valiant efforts to rebuild Vietnam.

As the great Ho Chi Minh said, there is nothing more precious than freedom and independence.

Long live Vietnam. Long live Indo-Vietnamese friendship.

**Date :** Nov 28, 1985

## Volume No

1995

### PRIME MINISTER'S TOUR ABROAD

#### Posthumous Award for Indira Gandhi - Prime minister's Speech

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Nov 28, 1985 of the speech by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, at Hanoi yesterday on the occasion of accepting the Gold Star Order conferred on Shrimati Indira Gandhi:

The people of India greatly value this gesture of the people of Vietnam in conferring Vietnam's highest honour, the Gold Star Order, on Indira Gandhi.

Indira Gandhi had tremendous admiration for Vietnam's glorious struggle against foreign powers. She greatly valued her friendship with the leaders of Vietnam. President Ho Chi Minh was "Uncle" to her.

Indira Gandhi was against every form of injustice. She spoke up for people fighting against foreign domination. Someone described her as a flame clad in a sari. The people of India and people all over the world will long remember her as a symbol of courage and compassion, of strength and determination.

Indira Gandhi led India courageously and unswervingly along the path of freedom, development and justice. Under her leadership, India became self-sufficient in food, self-reliant in industry, and secure in its defences. The achievements enabled our people to withstand foreign pressures and meet internal challenges.

She was a far-sighted and eloquent leader of the Non-aligned Movement. She dedicated her life to peace and cooperation among peoples and nations. She was tireless in pleading for coexistence not confrontation; in pointing out that hatred only begets more hatred. Hers was a voice of sanity in a world threatened with annihilation by nuclear weapons.

This Gold Star Order is an expression of the close friendship which exists between Vietnam and India. We were together in adversity. We remain together in freedom.

In honouring Indira Gandhi, you honour all those who labour for freedom, resistance to domination, national development and cooperation among peoples. You honour a great leader who gave strength to the weak and hope to the forlorn. I thank you.  
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A INDIA VIETNAM

**Date :** Nov 28, 1985

## Volume No

1995

### PRIME MINISTER'S TOUR ABROAD

#### Prime Minister's Arrival Speech in Tokyo

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Nov 28, 1985 of the speech by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, today on his arrival at Tokyo:

My wife and I are delighted to be in Japan, famed for its beauty and dynamism. I bring the Japanese people the cordial good wishes of the people of India.

Mine is a mission of understanding. I hope it will deepen the goodwill and cooperation between our two countries. Centuries ago Japan and India established cultural and spiritual links. Today the old friendship has taken new forms.

We should both impart greater content and momentum to these exchanges. That will benefit our two countries. It would also contribute to stability, peace and progress in Asia and in the world. We in India are engaged in modernising our ancient society. We hope to learn from your experience in achieving technological advance without sacrificing traditional values.

You were the first Asian country to overcome poverty and enter the ranks of the advanced nations. The majority of the world's population still lives in want. In our interdependent world, the advancement of all developing countries is a historic necessity. We trust that Japan will play a positive role in creating an international climate which will help the weak countries to build their productive capacities.

Japan has also an important role to play in humankind's search for nuclear disarmament and peace. I look forward to my talks

with Prime Minister Nakasone and other distinguished leaders of Japan on major international issues as also on bilateral matters. I am confident they will deepen our bilateral relations and contribute to a better international climate.

Long live Japan-India friendship.

PAN INDIA USA PERU

**Date :** Nov 28, 1985

## Volume No

1995

### PRIME MINISTER'S TOUR ABROAD

#### Prime Minister's Speech at Banquet

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Nov 29, 1985 of the speech by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, at the banquet hosted in his honour in Tokyo on November 28, 1985:

Mr. Nakasone, Ladies and Gentlemen, I thank you for your cordial welcome, your warm hospitality, and your generous words. It is a pleasure to be here in Japan especially in the autumn when one sees beautiful trees in your land.

#### LAMP-LIT CORRIDORS OF HISTORY

Japan and India are old friends two great Asian nations, who have interacted down the lamp-lit corridors of history. Our philosophers and pilgrims have nurtured a similar approach to right and wrong, to the perennial and the perishable.

This old relationship received a new impetus in our century. Japan was the first Asian country to assimilate the new scientific knowledge. Its achievements were viewed with pride by India and other nations of our continent.

With India's independence, our political dialogue was placed on a new basis. We attach great importance to friendship with Japan and to exchanging views with Your leaders. It has been a privilege for me to meet Prime Minister Nakasone  
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four times within a year in four great cities of the world - New Delhi, Moscow, New York and now Tokyo.

Japan's achievements in the last four decades have been acclaimed as a miracle. The miracle is the outcome of your resolve more than a century ago to bring your century on a level with the technologically advanced nations. Today Japan sets the pace for the world in several areas of technology. Your production and management methods are studied with admiration and even awe. You have upset many old notions about man and machine, about individual attitudes and corporate performance.

#### AESTHETIC TRADITION

At the same time, you have retained your distinctive aesthetic tradition. Your feeling for landscape, your love of serenity, the manner in which your artists reflect the Japanese spirit - all these are widely admired.

India's path to development has been different from yours. We started later. Unlike you, we had been colonised. We had to undo the effects of colonial rule. In the last four decades, we have modernised our agriculture and laid the foundations of self-reliant industrial growth. The stress has been on growth as well as social justice. Our plans respond to the compulsions of a demanding democracy. We have also had to cope with a number of external attacks.

#### METICULOUS PURSUIT OF QUALITY

We regard development as a continuation of our quest for independence. All our faith and energy go into it. The resources for nation-building have come overwhelmingly from our own savings. The foreign component is related to technology for modernisation and the modernisation of technology. India has much to gain from Japan's meticulous pursuit of quality.

#### TECHNOLOGICAL EXPERTISE

We value the assistance that you have given us. We look forward to learning more from Japan's technological expertise and experience. The agreement that is to be signed for cooperation in science and technology will be a significant step. It will promote more fruitful exchanges between our scientific communities.

Our dialogue cannot remain confined to industry and technology. Our philosophers and writers, our painters, musicians and film makers must come close together. Our cultures and peoples should intermingle.

Sustained development depends on peace. Japan's phenomenal post-war growth is in many ways due to your having channeled your boundless creative energies into peaceful pursuits. India too seeks peace for its development.

The world today is beset with the danger of a nuclear conflict. The annihilation of humankind is now more than just a possibility. It could happen by accident or by design. Any effort which will lessen that possibility deserves Welcome. The Reagan-Gorbachev Summit in Geneva has been an essay in hope. Firm and enduring steps in nuclear disarmament must follow.

#### RECORD OF HISTORY

History, it is said, is the record of the contest between aggression and restraint. Recent experiences have predisposed the Japanese people towards peace. How can Japan, or the world, forget Hiroshima and Nagasaki? Japan's revulsion against nuclear war is in the forefront of building a world without war.

Excellency, you have spoken about a global ethic, we too believe that such a global system must be built. Over centuries, man has developed a society, developed a system. Today, the system has progressed from a system encompassing small initial societies building  
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slowly and, now we have an international system based on the United Nations. The system has many shortfalls, but it has the basic strength. It is for us to work together to strengthen the system to remove the deficits, to make it much stronger. This could be the basis of the global ethic that you talked about.

My conversations with Prime Minister Nakasone have been most useful.

They have impressed on me Japan's keen desire to work for peace and for development. I should think a new phase of Indo-Japanese relations has started.

Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, may I ask you to raise your glasses to the good health and well-being of the Prime Minister of Japan and greater successes to the people of Japan.

DIA JAPAN USA RUSSIA SWITZERLAND

**Date** : Nov 29, 1985

**Volume No**

1995

PRIME MINISTER'S TOUR ABROAD

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Nov 29, 1985 of the speech by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, addressing the joint session of the Japanese Diet (Parliament) in Tokyo today:

Hon'ble President Kimura San, Hon'ble Speaker Sakata San and Hon'ble Members of the Diet.

It is an honour to address the Diet, one of the world's great Parliaments. I bring you greetings from the Parliament of India. Through you, I convey to the people of Japan the warm and sincere good wishes of the people of India.

This is my first visit to your beautiful country. I have come on a journey of friendship. I hope to tell you something of what we are doing in India. Even more, I want to learn about Japan and its gifted people who have carved out for themselves a special niche in History's Hall of Fame.

Natsume Soseki, your great novelist, entered college in 1884. He wanted to be an architect. He was told that 'there was no glory in being an architect in such a poor country as Japan, where there would never arise the opportunity of building a great monument of the order of St Paul's'.

How strange these words sound today. You have become a leading industrial country, accounting for one-tenth of world's Gross National Product. And Fumihiko Maki, one of your foremost architects, is helping us to choose a suitable design for the Indira Gandhi Arts Centre.

#### SPIRITUAL WISDOM

India and Japan have known each other for a long time. Indo-Japanese friendship is not a young and tender sapling. It is a sturdy tree. It was planted fourteen hundred years ago when Buddhism reached these shores. Through history, scholars and pilgrims have travelled between our two countries. With their deep spiritual wisdom, they linked together our minds and spirit. A great body of Indo-Japanese art grew up which:

Calms us, gives us a tranquil mind, Every vulgar shadow  
dissipated, And caprice subdued.

#### BUDDHISM

Buddhism proclaims the greatest conquest as the conquest of the Self. Through the ages, millions in your country and ours have sought to live up to this precept. The ideals of Dharma have lit our path.

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It is only in this century that Japan and India are rediscovering each other. India hailed the resurgence of Japan. We also admired Japan's resolve to preserve its traditions of spirituality, tranquility and beauty. Japan has achieved technological mastery without sacrificing its cherished value system. It has viewed every detail of the cosmos, every aspect of nature and every human act as a delicate object of art.

#### INNOVATIVE SPIRIT

Japan's progress fills other Asian peoples with pride. It spurs their self-confidence. You have built up an extraordinarily dynamic economy. You have done so by developing your people and their innovative spirit. And you have shown that progress is not contingent on the dogma of individual acquisitiveness. Rather, it means learning to work together, caring for each other, sharing, placing common goals before self-interest. Mahatma Gandhi's insight that rights and duties are two sides of the same coin has found practical expression in modern Japan.

Japan is a homogeneous society. India, by contrast, is a land of ethnic, religious, linguistic and cultural diversity. Races and tribes have poured in from far and near to make India their home. The genius of India has always been to synthesise these diversities into a deeply experienced unity.

One-in-many and many-in-one has been the essence of our philosophy of life. Our ancient sages said, "truth is one, -but the wise know it differently". We accept and respect difference. Tolerance is the hallmark of the Indian outlook. The mission of the Buddha and the life work of Asoka, Akbar, Gandhi and Nehru enriched this tradition of tolerance.

It is this tradition that has helped us to create a viable modern State out of a vast array of heterogeneous elements. India's age old cultural unity has been transformed into a politically united nation.

#### MAHATMA GANDHI

In modern history, few nations have been born out of a non-violent struggle. Non-violence, under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi, was the outstanding feature of our freedom movement. Men like Gandhi come but once in centuries. Rallying behind this saint and liberator, our people launched the biggest mass movement the world has known.

Political liberation was the beginning of a long journey to social and economic emancipation. We had to find our own path of development. It was not easy. Our economy had been sapped by two hundred years of colonial blood-letting. Our resources were further plundered for the second world war. Our people's needs

were neglected. Millions died of hunger in the Bengal famine of 1943. Imperialism laid waste the entire economic, social and cultural life of India.

Against this background, we set out to build a modern, self-reliant society. We had to strike a balance, as each country must, between our own historical experience and the experience of others who had entered the modern age earlier. And we had to compress this period of transition into decades compared to the centuries taken by the pioneers.

We gave voice to our aspirations in our Constitution. Independent India was to be democratic India, seeking justice, social and economic, for her people. Eight General Elections have vindicated the faith of the founders of our Republic.

We could do what we had resolved to do only through planned development. It meant careful husbanding of our resources and their direction into priority areas. It involved shunning the easy choices and willingly accepting the difficult ones that would make for self-sustaining growth.

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At Independence, India had to import food to feed 350 million people; today we are self-sufficient for a population of 750 million people.

In 1947, we did not produce even lathes; today, we build our own fast breeder reactors and launch our own satellites.

When freedom came, we had only 24 million children in schools; today, we have 128 million.

Four decades ago, only 4400 science students graduated from our universities; this year, there will be 73,000.

When planning began, our rate of savings was only 10 per cent; today, it is 23 per cent.

Honourable members: India comprising one seventh of the human Emily, has accomplished this transformation within a democratic framework. Coercion has not been the instrument of change. We have shown that development with consent works. India has demonstrated that social and economic change endures only when the people willingly participate in its making.

Jawaharlal Nehru, whom you, Mr. Prime Minister, met in 1957, was the architect of modern India. He saw science and technology as the revolutionary force of our age. He put science to fight hunger and poverty. He built our infrastructure of science and technology. Under Indira Gandhi, India moved rapidly forward to substantially fulfil the promise of the earlier years. Our science is only for peace. Our nuclear programme is purely for

peaceful purposes.

#### TURNING POINT IN DEVELOPMENT

Today, we are at a turning point in our development process. Our strategies, policies and programmes are accelerating the momentum of growth. Our agricultural revolution is spreading. This will help reduce poverty and vastly increase the demand for industrial products. Our industrial strategy is to enhance efficiency and ensure quality. Industry will be rapidly modernised. New technologies will be inducted into our production processes. Competition will spur the drive to reduce costs. The new pattern of growth flows from the successes of our past effort. It will move our economy to a qualitatively higher stage and enable us to eradicate poverty. We are in an exciting phase of our journey. We travel with confidence and optimism.

We value Japan's assistance in our development effort. As you, Prime Minister, recalled in your speech to our Parliament last year, it was to India that Japan extended its first yen credits. The next phase of development in India should enlarge the scope of our bilateral economic and technological cooperation. We welcome the agreement reached on cooperation in science and technology. It is in tune with the rising level of exchanges between Japan and India. India's expanding market, the stability of its political institutions, its large entrepreneurial base and its growth oriented policies provide a favourable setting for fruitful cooperation. Let us work together boldly to build a durable partnership.

#### REDISCOVERY OF EACH OTHER

Our rediscovery of each other must not be limited to market-place. Let us rediscover ourselves in the minds and hearts of our people. We shall renew and develop our ancient intellectual and cultural ties. We need a much higher level of exchanges between our academics, our artists, our sportsmen and our youth.

It is not only for mutual benefit that we should work together. We must do so in the larger interest of humankind. Man has always longed for freedom from fear and freedom from want.

We share with Japan the deep conviction that the world must be saved from nuclear holocaust. We must not forget

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the tragedy of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. That deep wound in human spirit can heal only with the elimination of nuclear weapons.

We have welcomed the efforts of the United States and the Soviet Union to explore positive and concrete steps to reduce nuclear armaments. The recent Reagan-Gorbachev summit has helped in the resumption of serious dialogue on the perils facing mankind. But

the forward movement has still to take place. In the meantime the arms race continues to escalate. Outer space is being appropriated for the engines of war.

Japan and India have both drawn sustenance from Gautama Buddha's message of peace. Although Japan's foreign policy orientation is different from India's, it need not prevent us from joining hands in the world-wide campaign for peace, for life, for a future for humankind. The people everywhere desire to break the barriers to peace. Governments cannot ignore this powerful movement. Reason and self-interest point in one and only one direction - dismantling the terrible apparatus of nuclear war.

## WORLD PEACE

India is Non-Aligned and has striven consistently for world peace. Our passionate commitment to the cause of peace and disarmament is reflected in our world outlook. We think each nation must have the freedom to determine its own path, but none should force their system on others. We refuse to be drawn into the rivalries and conflicts of the military blocs. We want to judge international issues independently. But Non-alignment is not mere abstention from conflict between the blocs. It is fundamentally a philosophy of international cooperation - cooperation to achieve peace, cooperation to reduce disparities between the rich and the poor and cooperation to enhance the quality of human civilisation. That is the essence of non-alignment.

Violation of human rights concerns us all. Vestiges of racism and colonialism are an affront to freedom and justice. India and the Non-aligned Movement have raised their voice for an immediate end to apartheid in South Africa and to the enslavement of Namibia.

PAN INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC USA NAMIBIA SOUTH AFRICA

**Date :** Nov 29, 1985

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### SARC

India has always worked for amity and cooperation with all its neighbours. Our sincere effort is to build goodwill and enduring friendship for the welfare of our peoples. We have taken several initiatives to improve bilateral relations. At the same time, we are engaged in constructing a larger framework of cooperation in South Asia. In the next few days Heads Of States and Governments of seven countries will meet in Dhaka to launch the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation. We have evolved specific programmes of regional cooperation in the areas of agriculture, communications, meteorology, transport, arts, youth and culture, planning and health. This is a

major step forward in the direction of a new pattern of relationships in South Asia based on equality, trust and mutual benefit. INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER An outstanding issue of our times is how to create a just and equitable international economic order. So much has changed since the second world war. Colonialism has been forced to retreat into oblivion. The United Nations reflects this basic political reality. But the pre-war economic and financial relationships have not changed in their essentials to correspond to the new political reality. Even the minor gains of the sixties and seventies are being eroded. Development assistance has become unfashionable. Financial flows are being curtailed. Protectionism is raising its head in industrially advanced countries. Debt crises in several countries have made prospects of growth highly uncertain. Most developing countries are facing extreme hardship. Some are having to contend with hunger and starvation. This is one side of the picture. The other side is the continuing crisis in the developed world. Recession alternating with short-lived recoveries continues to be the norm. Unemployment is proving resistant to conventional policy prescriptions. There is a sense of a loss of direction. These are not problems which one country or even a group of countries can solve by themselves. They are global in their character and sweep. They can be resolved only when all countries, the developing and the developed alike, sit together to search for a new framework. All of us have a common stake in world prosperity. In the long run, all stand to lose from confrontation, and all to gain from cooperation. Inflexible attitudes and hardened stances will take us nowhere. The need of the hour is to shed pre-conceived notions and to examine realistically how a new consensus can be evolved. Let me illustrate our basic approach with reference to the proposal for a new round of trade negotiations. The crisis in world trade must be resolved to enable the fruits of growth to reach all countries. Therefore, we do not have any doctrinaire opposition to a new round. Does, that however, mean that we must ignore the agreements of the Tokyo round? Shall we leave that work incomplete? And in our anxiety to handle new areas, shall we brush aside the genuine difficulties faced by developing countries due to rising protectionism? With goodwill, we can smoothen the path to negotiations which will be fair and equitable to all. Threats are not the currency of cooperation. Scientific and technological changes are rendering obsolete the existing ways of ordering human affairs. Science has placed at our disposal the means to banish hunger and poverty. But our institutions are unable to utilise these means to alleviate human suffering. Philanthropy is no substitute for rational arrangements to eliminate want. In our interdependent world, starvation cannot co-exist with mindless extravagance, nor acute and degrading poverty with squandering of resources on the sudden death of humanity. Let us remove the mental partitions which obstruct the ennobling vision of the human family linked together in peace and prosperity. The Buddha's message of compassion is the very condition of human survival in our age. GOOD OF ASIA AND GOOD OF HUMANITY I am grateful for this opportunity to address the distinguished members of the Diet. My talks with Prime Minister Nakasone and his colleagues have been most useful and valuable. I have seen at first hand the vitality of your culture and your achievements in technology. We look forward to a new era in the friendly relations between Japan and India. Japan and India must work together. The good of Asia and the good of humanity have cast this duty on us.

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#### Prime minister's Speech to Economic Organisations in Tokyo

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The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Nov 30, 1985 of the, speech by Shri Rajiv Gandhi in Tokyo on November 29, 1985 addressing the Economic Organisations:

It is a pleasure to meet you this evening. I am thankful to you for hosting this dinner and for your words of welcome.

Stable and prosperous societies owe much to the leadership provided by the institutions that speak for industry and trade. They are valuable links between business, government and society.

They  
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provide - a forum for discussion of policy and implementation. Increasingly, they have come to articulate the social role of business.

Of course, it won't always be that their role was thus appreciated. You will, no doubt, recall the famous quote from Adam Smith: .

"People of the same trade seldom meet together, even for merriment and diversion, but the conversation ends in a conspiracy against the public or in some contrivance to raise prices".

Times have changed, and I am sure when you now meet, apart from serious discussion there is plenty of fun and laughter, but perhaps never a conspiracy against the public. And, of course, prices are never raised in a large meeting like this.

Japan's industrial and technological achievements are admired throughout the world. Your economy is of tremendous importance today. The organisations represented here have an impressive contribution to the making of Japan into a major industrial nation.

The circumstances of Japan's development were different to India's. You were never colonised. We were. You had not to reckon with the calamitous consequences of colonialism. It destroyed the organic relation between our agriculture and industry. It ruined our arts and crafts. Our manufacturing industry, which was substantial and which embodied the state of the art in the early eighteenth century, was wiped out.

With independence came the challenges of rebuilding our society. Jawaharlal Nehru believed that development in a vast country like India would only be achieved through scientific planning. The nation agreed with him. Three decades of progress vindicate the wisdom of his profound insight.

In 1947, India had barely recovered from one of the worst famines in her history. Food production had remained virtually stagnant for half a century. We had been turned into a food deficit country. Now we have tripled food production to over 150 million tonnes. India is today self-sufficient in grain. In years to come, we will produce not only enough for ourselves, but also for export. Rural India is changing.

#### CHANGE IN ALL SECTORS OF ECONOMY

Change has spread to all sectors of our economy. The first phase of industrialisation is complete. A large and diversified industrial base has come into existence. It is supported by trained manpower in all fields of basic sciences and technology. Impressive strides have been made in developing certain sophisticated areas of modern technology. In certain strategic areas, both military and civil, our technology is comparable to what is available even in some highly developed countries.

Planning has given us the strength to deal with the outside world

with confidence. We have relied on domestic resources for most of our investment. All our plans have aimed at self-reliance. It was no surprise to us, as perhaps it was to many, that the growth process in India in the last five years showed vigour and dynamism, even when confronted with the deepest international economic crisis since the Great Depression. The balance of payments was managed with quiet competence at a time when many were struggling under a mounting burden of debt.

## DEMOCRATIC FRAMEWORK

There is another noteworthy aspect of India's development experience. Our progress has not been produced by State fiat. The State in India has invested, regulated, guided and encouraged. But much of our significant agricultural and industrial progress is the achievement of millions of individual decision-makers.  
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What the State has done is to liberate and direct the productive forces of our society. This qualitative change has come about within a democratic framework. We have held eight General Elections. We have political parties spanning the full spectrum of modern political ideologies. We have a free press and a vigorous public opinion. Political activity is not confined to meeting halls and chambers of legislatures. It spills over into the street as it sometimes does in Japan too.

Our experiment, if I may say so, is without a historical parallel.

The changes that have taken place since independence are truly remarkable. But we cannot be satisfied. We want to do more - much more and much faster. This determination is reflected in our Seventh Five Year Plan.

The Plan will tackle the major emerging issues of the economy in the eighties.

Our prime concentration is on expanding the domestic market which is already large. The most effective way of doing this is to work for a sustained rise in agricultural productivity. The green revolution is spreading to new regions and population strata. Modern technology in agriculture has now become the basis of production for millions of farmers. It will generate employment and incomes for the millions of small and marginal farmers and agriculture labour in our countryside. It is the single most important component of a whole range of anti-poverty programme. Rural India will attain higher standards of living.

In industry, the emerging possibilities call for imagination and innovation in policy, in production and in management. In the next phase of industrial revolution we shall concentrate on:

- absorbing and developing new technologies
- improving quality
- reducing costs, and
- enhancing competitiveness.

#### CLEAR DIRECTION

The transition to a new regime cannot be abrupt. Nevertheless, the direction is clear. The signals have been given. And our industry is beginning to respond. We are marching ahead to realise the vision of the founders and builders of modern India- Jawaharlal Nehru and Indira Gandhi. With a solid basis of infrastructure and industry, our task is to create within the next 15 years economic edifice. It will be self-supporting in terms of facing the challenges of technological innovations and in terms of its ability to mobilise resources for higher and higher levels of investment.

#### TECHNOLOGY IS KEY TO PROGRESS

Technology is the key to progress. Much of it we are developing ourselves. But we do not wish to be isolated from what others are doing.

The Indian perspective is one of steady growth in an environment of political and social stability. We have stressed self-reliance as the basic tenet of our economic philosophy. But self-reliance has never meant autarchy. We have collaborated with the developed world -both Western and Socialist - to establish our industrial base. Now we look both within and outside for qualitative improvements.

Japan and India can increase their cooperation to mutual advantage. Such cooperation is not for today or tomorrow, but it must extend over a long period. Asia is the fastest growing continent in the world today. India will play its part in building Asia's strength.

We have much to learn from Japan -the technologies you have mastered -your methods of organising production - the science of human relations in industry - and above all, the art of blending modern industrialisation with  
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ancient values Just as you have created according to your genius, Indis too will adapt the knowledge it gains to suit its own specific social and cultural milieu.

Already the pace of cooperation between Indian and Japanese industry has quickened. You are involved with us in many

important sectors of industry, such as machine-building, transport equipment, power generation, electronics. We would like this mutual cooperation to gather momentum. A new outlook on both sides is required to turn this exciting prospect into reality. We both have to consciously look for ways to overcome attitudes, practices and procedures that come in the way of cooperation and collaboration.

We have already taken a major step. An agreement on cooperation in science and technology has been signed. This will immeasurably broaden the scope of exchanges between our countries.

#### INTERDEPENDENT WORLD

We live in an interdependent world. The growth of modern technology leading to phenomenal increases in production has changed the entire context of international economic relations. But international institutions and policies have still to come to terms with this changed situation. Trade policies, financial flows, development assistance and adjustment programmes have to form an overall pattern that helps both the developed and the developing.

Japan's productive genius has sustained a growing and vibrant economy. The aesthetic sense and cultural roots of its people have given this growth balance and harmony.

India too has a heritage of balance and harmony. Japan and India may meet, if we so work, as friends for the cause of a better life for all peoples.

DIA BANGLADESH USA JAPAN RUSSIA

**Date :** Nov 30, 1985

## Volume No

1995

SARC

Prime Minister's Statement in Parliament on His Foreign Visits

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Nov 26, 1985 of the statement in Parliament today (November 26, 1985) on his foreign visits by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi:

During the Parliament recess, I visited Bhutan from 29th

September to 1st October and Britain, Cuba, Netherlands and the Soviet Union from the 14th to 27th October. I attended the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in the Bahamas from the 16th to 21st October and the 40th anniversary of the United Nations in New York from the 21st to 24th October. I also participated in the celebrations of the 15th anniversary of Oman's National Day on the 18th November.

I was touched by the overwhelming welcome that I received from His Majesty's Government and from the people of Bhutan. I accepted on behalf of my mother, the Drak Wangyal, Bhutan's highest award. My visit has greatly strengthened our existing excellent relations with Bhutan.

We have long historical and cordial relations with Britain. The cooperation between our countries has brought mutual benefit to both. I had very useful talks with Mrs. Margaret Thatcher and her cabinet colleagues. I explained to her our concerns arising from the anti-Indian extremist activity from British territory, the imbalance in our economic exchanges and the consular and immigration problems faced by our nationals. I believe that my visit has led to a better comprehension of our concerns.

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#### COMMONWEALTH SUMMIT

The situation in South Africa was the focus of attention at the Commonwealth Summit in the Bahamas. Consistent with our position, we called for comprehensive mandatory sanctions. The Commonwealth Accord on South Africa was adopted. We would have preferred a stronger statement, but the Accord represents a step forward. For the first time it commits Britain to specific closely monitored economic measures against South Africa. A group of eminent persons is being appointed to monitor the effective implementation and impact of the measures and to assist in a political dialogue with South Africa, including the genuine representatives of the black people. We have nominated Sardar Swaran Singh on this group. The CHOGM also adopted a Declaration on World Order which was essentially based on a draft submitted by the Indian delegation.

Besides addressing the United Nations General Assembly on October 24, I also addressed special meetings of the Nonaligned group and of the Special Committee Against Apartheid. Both in the Bahamas and in New York, I took the opportunity of separate meeting with a large number of Heads of State and Government and had useful discussions with them on bilateral and international issues. We also held a meeting in New York of the leaders of the six countries which had jointly launched the Delhi Declaration for nuclear disarmament. We sent an appeal to President Reagan and General Secretary Gorbachev, text of which is laid on the Table of the House.

I was the first Indian Prime Minister to visit Cuba. Indiraji had accepted President Castro's invitation, but unfortunately could not undertake the visit. my discussions with President Castro on issues of bilateral and international interest were most useful. President Castro has heroically guided his people along the path of national reconstruction. We were deeply impressed with the visible progress Cuba has achieved under his leadership. I accepted, on behalf of my mother, the Jose Marti Award, posthumously bestowed on her by the Government of Cuba as a tribute to her stature as a world leader. I was deeply moved by the mass send off that I was given by the population of Havana.

A visit to the Netherlands by an Indian Prime Minister was overdue. Our relations are close and cordial. I had very useful talks with Prime Minister Lubbers. We appreciate Netherlands' very positive stand towards the developing countries and North-South dialogue.

I paid a brief visit to the USSR on the return journey to Delhi. I had an extensive and very useful exchange of views with General Secretary Gorbachev which carried forward the discussion that I had held during my visit there in May this year. We are in continual touch on matters of common interest.

My visit to Oman was in response to a personal and cordial invitation from His Majesty Sultan Qaboos. From ealy times India and Oman have had friendly contacts in the fields of commerce and culture. There are about a quarter of a million Indian nationals working in Oman in different sectors of the economy. There are promising possibilities of further expansion of our relations with Oman.

Tonight I shall be leaving for visits to Vietnam and Japan. Our relations with both these countries are close. I am confident that these visits will be as fruitful as those which I have undertaken so far.

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DIA BHUTAN CUBA BAHAMAS USA OMAN SOUTH AFRICA THE NETHERLANDS CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC JAPAN VIETNAM

**Date :** Nov 26, 1985

**Volume No**

1995

SARC

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## Text of Six-Nation Message

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Text of the Six-Nation Joint Message of Oct 24, 1985 to  
Ronald Reagan, President of the USA and Mikhail Gorbachev,  
General Secretary of the C.P.S.U. Central Committee:

The world's highest expectations are focussed on your meeting in Geneva next month. All peoples and Governments hope that you will be able to stop the deepening of tensions of the last years, opening an era of peace and security for humanity.

You know, as we do, that the growing stockpiles of nuclear weapons, if used, even though by accident or by miscalculation, will engulf us all in complete destruction. No interest can justify this threat to present and future generations. Hence the prevention of nuclear war is a key issue not only for your peoples and their destinies but for all people on every continent. Since the citizens of all nations are equally threatened by the consequences of nuclear war, it is of utmost importance to us also that your meeting should create appropriate conditions and produce concrete step towards disarmament and peace.

The tragedy of our time is that, mainly due to mutual distrust, so far it has been impossible to end the nuclear arms race. For your own security and that of all nations and human beings and in order to ensure the preservation of the planet we all share, it is of paramount importance to build mutual confidence.

Your meeting offers a historic opportunity to step boldly out of the vicious circle of the escalating arms race. We hope that through the demonstration of will to establish mutual confidence by overcoming differences, new impetus will be imparted to your bilateral negotiations and also to multilateral negotiations in Geneva, Stockholm and Vienna.

We recognize as a positive development that during the present year your governments have initiated in Geneva negotiation covering both space and nuclear arms to be considered in their interrelationship. We are concerned that such negotiations have not yet produced results. We feel however that various recent proposals and developments seem to offer new hope that both deep cuts in the arsenals of nuclear weapons and effective measures for the prevention of an arms race in outer space will now be seriously considered in the bilateral negotiations in Geneva in conformity with the conclusions we expect you to reach at your meeting.

In our Delhi Declaration of January this year, we called for a complete halt in the testing, production and deployment of nuclear weapons and delivery vehicles, and of space weapons, to be immediately followed by substantial reductions in nuclear forces. This would facilitate the task of preventing an arms race

in space and terminating it on earth, ultimately eliminating nuclear arms everywhere.

Since January, some of us have had the privilege of discussing our proposals with you in person, as well as with the leaders of the other nuclear weapon States. One suggestion which we particularly emphasized in our message from Delhi was for a halt to all nuclear weapons testing and the early conclusion of a comprehensive test ban treaty, in the light of these valuable discussions, we have decided to put forward some ideas for consideration at your meeting in Geneva.

We propose that you suspend all nuclear tests for a period of twelve months. Such a suspension could be extended or made permanent. We expect that the other nuclear weapon States also should take corresponding action.

We believe that this would improve greatly the prospects for substantive agreements and would restrain the development of new, faster and more accurate weapons, which continues unabated even while negotiations are underway.

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The problems of verifying the suspension we propose are difficult, but not insurmountable. We believe that you yourselves could find a solution satisfactory to both. If you could consider it helpful, we are ready to offer our good offices in order to facilitate the establishment of effective verification arrangements.

Third party verification could provide a high degree of certainty that testing programmes have ceased. We propose to establish verification mechanisms on our territories to achieve this objective.

The responsibility entrusted to you is indeed awesome. We are convinced that the international continuity will support you in your endeavours. For our part, we reiterate our readiness to work together with you for the common security and survival of humanity.

Raul Alfonsin, President of Argentina; Miguel De La Madrid, President of Mexico; Cof Palme, Prime Minister of Sweden; Rajiv Gandhi, Prime Minister of India; Julius Nyerere, President of Tanzania; Andreas Papandreou, Prime Minister of Greece.

A SWITZERLAND AUSTRIA SWEDEN ARGENTINA SPAIN MEXICO INDIA GREECE TANZANIA

**Date** : Oct 24, 1985

**Volume No**

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1995

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SOVIET UNION

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Agreed Minutes of Indo-Soviet Planning Group Signed

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The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Nov 06, 1985 of the signing of the agreed minutes of the Indo-Soviet planning group:

The agreed minutes of the ninth meeting of the Indo-Soviet Planning Group were signed here today. On behalf of India, the minutes were signed by Shri Abid Hussain, Member, Planning Commission and leader of Indian delegation. On behalf of the Soviet Union, the minutes were signed by Prof. S. A. Sitaryan, Vice-Chairman of the State Planning Committee of the USSR (GOSPLAN) .

The week-long discussions of the group which concluded today centered round financing of five-year and annual plans; planning and execution of large housing construction projects in urban areas; and foreign trade planning.

The deliberations of the group were conducted in a frank, cordial and friendly atmosphere. Both sides gained experience on the topics which were . discussed in detail in working groups set up for the purpose.

The Indian side, in its presentation, explained the system of financial planning in India. The financial resources plan is synchronised with the physical plan. After determination at the national level of the overall objectives to be achieved during the Five Year Plan, the basic tasks are to ensure that the level of savings in the economy is adequate to finance the overall requirements of both the public and private sectors and an adequate proportion of it is mobilised for financing the public sector outlay. The flow of funds within the financing plan is so worked out as to ensure the public sector requisite funds without impinging on the requirements of the private sector. The Plan is financed  
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overwhelmingly through domestic resources in the form of budgetary savings, savings of public sector enterprises and internal borrowings; external borrowings usually finances about 6-7 per cent of Plan investments.

#### DISCUSSIONS

During the discussion on "planning and construction of large housing projects in urban areas", the Indian side explained that

in India as land is owned by individuals, labour is not a constraint. Therefore, major portion of the housing construction takes place in the private sector. The Government on the other hand, concentrates its efforts on the provision of housing for the economically weaker sections of society and low income groups.

In its presentation "planning of foreign trade", the Indian side outlined the main objectives of the foreign trade planning which are to ensure adequate availability of imports, progressively diminish dependence on foreign savings, better exploit comparative advantage and accelerate the process of modernisation. The five year and annual trade plans for commercial. exchanges with East European countries, in particular with the USSR which is one of the major trading partners are based on principles of equality and mutual benefits within the framework of bilateral trade agreements. The exploration of new areas of mutually beneficial trade involves continuing improvement in exchange of commercial information and identification of new means of attaining levels of trade turnover.

It was agreed that the next meeting of the planning group would be held in Moscow in the third quarter oi 1986 on dates to be decided by mutual consultation. The forthcoming meeting would discuss planning of human resources, science and technology, strategic task, financing priorities and monitoring of programmes, and criteria for appraisal of investment projects.

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

DIA USA RUSSIA

**Date :** Nov 06, 1985

## Volume No

1995

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Procurement and Launching of a Fourth INSAT-1 (INSAT-ID) Spacecraft

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Nov 08, 1985 on the procurement and launching Of a fourth

Insat-1 (Insat-ID) spacecraft:

The Department of Space of the Government of India today signed a supplementary agreement with the Ford Aerospace and Communications Corporation (FACC) of the United States of America for an additional INSAT-1 spacecraft called INSAT-ID. The agreement was signed by Prof. U.R. Rao, Chairman, Space Commission and Secretary to the Government of India in the Department of Space on behalf of the Government of India and <pg-376>

Mr. J. L. Ruby, Vice President, Ford Aerospace and Communications Corporation on behalf of the Ford Aerospace and Communications Corporation. Mr. John G. Dean, Ambassador of the United States of America in India, attended the agreement signing function, which was held at the Department of Space in Bangalore.

The first generation Indian National Satellite System (INSAT-1) achieved initial operational status in October, 1983 following the successful launch of the INSAT-IB satellite on 30th August 1983 by U.S.-NASA space shuttle. The INSAT-IB satellite is now in its third year of operations. The next INSAT-1 satellite, INSAT-IC is to be launched in third quarter of 1986, also by the US-NASA space shuttle. A successful launch and operationalisation of INSAT-IC will complete the two satellite space-segment of the first generation INSAT system. An Indian payload specialist will also fly along with INSAT-IC on the US-NASA space shuttle (STS) flight.

#### MULTI-MISSION CONFIGURATION

INSAT-IB, which is currently operational, has been providing domestic telecommunication, television coverage and radio network services and also meteorological imaging from space to aid weather forecasting. This multi-mission configuration is a unique feature of INSAT-1 satellites and this cost-effective approach is being carried over to the next generation of indigenously built INSAT-11 series also.

The INSAT-ID satellite, along with INSAT-IC to be launched in the second-half of 1986, will provide the requisite INSAT-1 space-segment operational capability in the first-generation to the second-generation INSAT transition period during the early 1990s. The second-generation INSAT (INSAT-11) space-segment definition has already been completed during 1984-85 and the project on building two INSAT-11 test satellites has already been started in April 1985. The operational INSAT -11 satellites will follow INSAT-11 test satellites and will be identical in configuration as well as in the payload service capabilities to the INSAT-11 test satellites except for any minor changes that may result from the INSAT-11 test spacecraft flight experience. The launch of the first INSAT-11 test satellite is expected in 1990. The second-generation INSAT-11 satellites are being built by the Indian

Space Research Organisation (ISRO) of the Department of Space.

The INSAT-ID satellite, the agreement for which has been signed today with a start date of 1st October 1985 and a delivery date of June 1, 1988, is functionally identical to INSAT-IB and INSAT-IC except for certain improvements such as increased battery capacity for a larger payload operation during eclipse periods, A 3:2 redundancy for C X C transponder channels 11 and 12 output devices, a larger propulsion tank to provide increased propellants for increased life in space, etc.

The Space Transportation System (STS) of the United States National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) has been selected by the Government of India for the launch of INSAT-ID. Though the launch date will be firmed up later, it is expected during October 1988-September 1989. The Government of India have also elected the option of flying another Indian payload specialist on US-NASA space shuttle in connection with the launch of INSAT-ID.

Mr. John G. Dean, the US Ambassador of India, also presented a plaque to Prof. U. R. Rao, Chairman, Space Commission and Secretary, Department of Space on behalf of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) of USA in recognition of the significant contribution to the global meteorological systems, on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the launch of the first weather satellite by USA (April 1, 1960).

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A INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date :** Nov 08, 1985

## Volume No

1995

YUGOSLAVIA

Shri Venkataraman Receives Warm Welcome in Belgrade

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Nov 10, 1985 on the visit of Shri R. Venkataraman, Vice-President of India to Yugoslavia:

The Vice President of India, Shri Ramaswamy Venkataraman, arrived in Belgrade yesterday. He was accorded a colourful ceremonial welcome which included a guard of honour of the three military services of Yugoslavia. The Yugoslav dignitaries present at the

airport included, besides the Vice President of the Presidency of Yugoslavia, H.E. Sinan Hasani, the Chairman of the Federal Chamber of the Assembly of the SFR Yugoslavia (the counterpart of our Lok Sabha), H.E. Dr. Miodrag Trifunovic, the Vice President Prime Minister) H.E. Dr. Mijat Sukovic, of the Federal Executive Council (Deputy Member of the Federal Executive Council Mr. Dimitrijo Tasic, Member of the Presidency of the S.R. of Serbia Mr. Riste Jovanovic and other senior dignitaries and officials. The Vice President was also warmly greeted and garlanded by the Indian community.

Earlier at a touch down at Zagreb, capital of the Republic of Croatia, the Vice President of India was received by H.E. Dr. Todo Curubija, Member of the Presidency of Croatia, by Ambassador L. L. Mehtotra and by other senior dignitaries of the Government of Croatia and the city of Zagreb..

Shortly after the arrival of the Vice President of India, talks were held between the Indian and Yugoslav delegations led by the respective Vice Presidents. Among those who attended the meeting from the Yugoslav side were, besides Vice President Hasani, Mr. Domitrijo classic, Cabinet Minister, H.E. Dusan Gaspari, Head of the Foreign Relations office of the Yugoslav Presidency and other senior officials from the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Defence. From the Indian side, Ambassador Mehrotra, Shri Gopal Krishna Gandhi, Secretary to the Vice President, and Mrs. Shyamala B. Cowsik, Political Counsellor in the Embassy, participated.

The Vice President stressed the very close and long-lasting relationship between India and Yugoslavia and the continuing tradition of cooperation between the two countries within the Non-Aligned Movement, at the United Nations and other international fora. He referred to the late President Tito's visit to India in 1956, when the dialogue on NAM had begun, and his earlier presence at the Avadi session of the Indian National Congress. Later, he noted, the 1956 Brioni meeting between Pandit Nehru, President Tito and President Nasser had laid the foundation of Non-Alignment. The Non-Aligned Movement had grown from a small beginning to its present status as the largest movement working for peace, disarmament and development. Today, when the world seemed to be caught up in a perpetual race between those wanting to destroy it and those wanting to preserve it, its role was vital. The Vice President referred to the call by the last NAM Summit in New Delhi for a freeze on nuclear weapons and, what was also very important, for a new, equitable international economic order. Today, it was the duty of the NAM to influence world opinion in favour of saving the human race from nuclear holocaust, which the current talk of "Star Wars" seemed to be bringing dangerously close.

The Yugoslav Vice President, Mr. Sinan Hasani, referred specifically to Bloc pressures on Non-Aligned and developing

countries, and to the increasing  
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number of crisis spots world-wide which was worsening the international environment. However, he added, there were many forces in the world working for detente and for peaceful constructive cooperation among nations. Such views and concerns had been forcefully expressed at the 40th anniversary session of the UNGA recently.

In the same context, Mr. Hasani referred to the renewed dialogue between the US and the Soviet Union on arms control which, he said, seemed to promise greater room for broader international dialogue within the framework. But, he stressed, agreements between the Super Powers should not be limited to them or to their respective Blocs. Yugoslavia had always been very active in search for peace, both at the UN and within the CSCE framework. He referred to the forthcoming UN Conference on Disarmament and Development due to be held in Paris in 1986, saying that it would be of specific significance for the Non-aligned and developing countries.

#### SIMILAR AND IDENTICAL VIEWS

The Vice President of India said that on these issues the views of India and Yugoslavia were not only similar but identical. He mentioned the recent meetings between Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and US President Reagan on the one hand and the Soviet General Secretary Gorbachev on the other. Our Prime Minister had tried to influence coming together of the two sides on the vital issues of a nuclear freeze so that a dialogue could begin and progress. India, he said, was very hopeful that the Reagan-Gorbachev meeting in Geneva would produce initial steps towards an understanding on nuclear arms control. Referring to the importance of peace in Europe for world peace, he mentioned India's appreciation of the continuing Yugoslav efforts to promote peaceful coexistence in Europe.

#### ECONOMIC ISSUES

Coming to economic issues, Shri Venkataraman stressed the need to correct, at an early date, the critical imbalances in the international economic system. He referred to the attempts by the late Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi, to start a North-South dialogue. She had met President Reagan at Cancun in 1981 and had tried to convince him about the need for such a dialogue. The developed countries should recognise the inter-dependence between them and the developing countries. Our Vice President also stressed the need for greater South-South Cooperation, and pointed out that often the most appropriate technology for developing countries was available with other developing countries rather than with developed countries. India, he said, had consistently tried to promote economic and other cooperation

between itself and other developing countries.

The Yugoslav Vice President in his reply agreed with Shri Venkataraman's evaluation of the international economic situation and stressed the importance of an early convening of Conference on International monetary and financial issues to help tackle the issues of critical importance to the developing countries, such as high interest rates, high foreign debts, low raw material prices, and increasing protectionism in the developed world. He also called for accelerated South-South cooperation.

#### BILATERAL COOPERATION

The two sides discussed in detail ways and means of intensifying their bilateral cooperation. Satisfaction was expressed at the way in which this had developed over the last three decades. It was felt that there was a need to strengthen the relationship even further at all levels, bilaterally and in the international fora. Shri Venkataraman congratulated Yugoslav on its election as Chairman of Group of 77 and, wished them all success in their efforts. India and Yugoslavia, he said, not only shared views on important issues but were in many ways very similar, being both countries with great diversity among their people. India admired Yugoslav efforts to unite all its people into a har-

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monious national entity. This was exactly what our late Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi, had striven for, and she had to pay with her life to maintain the unity of India. He expressed the hope that both our countries would achieve their goal of a diverse but a well-knit homogenous nation, united by common ideals, sharing of historical experiences and common goals for the future.

The Yugoslav Vice President stressed that they had always considered India as one of their most important foreign partners. He quoted Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi as having said that relations between India and Yugoslavia should serve as an example of cooperation to the other Non-Aligned countries. He stressed that the longstanding tradition of frequent exchanges of high level visits between the two countries should be maintained, and referred to the open invitation to President Zail Singh of India to visit Yugoslavia that had been extended by Yugoslav President Mr. Veselin Djuranovic in 1984. The present Yugoslav President, Mr. Redovan Flajkovic had conveyed a similar invitation to the Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi in New York recently, and Shri Rajiv Gandhi had accepted it. Yugoslavia was greatly interested in seeing these meetings take place in the near future.

In conclusion, the Yugoslav President paid warm tributes to India's role within the Non-Aligned Movement. Yugoslavia, he said, was very grateful to India, to Smt. Indira Gandhi and to Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi for all the efforts they had

made to further the development of Non-Alignment and to advocate its principles, and for the dynamic and active role India had played in giving a new impetus to strengthening relations among the Non-Aligned countries and Non-Alignment in general. He expressed warm appreciation specifically for India's efforts to promote political and economic equality among all the countries of the world, which he stressed was vital for the solution of many serious international problems.

The Indian Vice President extended a cordial invitation to his Yugoslav host to visit India at a time convenient to him to continue the very good and useful dialogue they had just had. The invitation was accepted with pleasure.

The talks, which lasted for nearly two hours, were followed by a dinner hosted by the Yugoslav Vice President in honour of the Vice President of India.  
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GOSLAVIA INDIA UNITED KINGDOM CROATIA USA FRANCE SWITZERLAND

**Date :** Nov 10, 1985

## December

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1995

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VIETNAM OMAN ROMANIA USA RUSSIA

**Date :** Dec 01, 1985

## Volume No

1995

CANADA

Shri Bhagat Hosts Dinner in Honour of Canadian Foreign Minister- Text of Shri Bhagat's Speech

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 18, 1985 of the speech by the Minister of External Affairs, Shri B. R. Bhagat at a dinner hosted by him in honour of Rt. Hon'ble Charles Joseph Clark, Secretary of State for External Affairs of Canada here today (New Delhi, December 18, 1985):

It has been a pleasure to have you with us in India. We see your visit as part of a new phase in Indo-Canadian relations - a phase ' whose tone was set by the successful meeting of our Prime Ministers in the Bahamas last October.

We would like to see such high level contacts intensify and I was particularly pleased at your immediate acceptance of my suggestion yesterday that we make our contribution to this process by taking on the responsibility of regular bilateral consultations at our level.

#### SISTER DEMOCRACY

I would like to extend a special welcome to the Hon'ble Members of Parliament who form part of your delegation. As a sister democracy we realise the important role played by parliamentarians both in the formulation of policy as well as influencing public opinion, and we are happy that they found it possible to come here.

A group of Canadian businessmen and representatives of Canadian media are also in India these days and I would extend to them also a warm welcome. We regard the presence of this representative group as a reflection of the importance attached to the visit of the Secretary of State and the interest in pushing our bilateral relations forward.

I have already said that we had been looking forward to this visit in the expectation that it would make an important contribution to strengthening our friendship. I believe it has done so.

Mr. Secretary, I have an old association with Canada which goes back three decades. In fact I visited your capital city in connection with a Colombo Plan meeting in 1954, even before you perhaps saw Ottawa. (But then I also have a head start on you in age) - I carry warm memories about Canada and the Canadian people from those early days which was also the time when the foundations of our close ties and cooperation were laid. We need to build further on that edifice to broaden our relationship in keeping with the changing situation in both our countries.

India and Canada have a long history of constructive cooperation. We deeply appreciate Canadian assistance in a variety of economic sectors. Your visit provided a focus for reviewing our bilateral relations and we hope to keep up this momentum. Separately, the business communities of both sides will need to interact closely and take advantage of the opportunities.

#### OPTIMISM AND CONFIDENCE IN COUNTRY

We have come a long way in developing a strong infrastructure, in building up expertise and capacities. The Govern-

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ment has introduced economic policies that will give the economy a push. There is a new mood of optimism and confidence in the country. I am sure you were able to get some sense of it even during your short stay here.

In conclusion, I would simply like to reiterate our happiness that you were able to come. We hope you will come again and that in any case we will keep UP our close consultations. and dialogue. We have seen how in spite of what appear obvious differences in our populations, geographical location and stage of development, we are able to cooperate both on bilateral matters as well as on questions of international importance such as South Africa. We would Eke to continue our joint efforts in addressing the problems of peace, disarmament and development.

I would request you, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, to join me in a toast to the health of the Right Honourable Mr. Joe Clark, to the prosperity of the Canadian people and to greater friendship between India and Canada.

NADA INDIA USA BAHAMAS SRI LANKA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC SOUTH AFRICA

**Date :** Dec 18, 1985

## Volume No

1995

DISARMAMENT

Beyond War Award Presented - Prime Minister's Speech

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 15, 1985 of the speech by the Prime minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi after receiving the "Beyond War Award" at Doordarshan studios here last night (New Delhi, December 14, 1985):

Our six-nation initiative has, I believe, evoked a ready response from people throughout the world.

The presentation of the Beyond War Award to the six authors of the Delhi Declaration of January 1985 will further focus the world's attention on the dangers of a nuclear holocaust. For this, I extend my sincere appreciation to the Beyond War Foundation.

The format of your Award presentation ceremony - the technological wonder of spacebridge to highlight the dangers of nuclear war - shows at once the marvels of modern science and the menace of its misuse.

It is the unfortunate perversion of scientific knowledge that has led to nuclear weapons. Deterrence by definition fuels the arms race.

To be credible, it envisages, at the very least, an ultimate resort to nuclear war.

It is this that insidiously breeds irresponsible theories of limited nuclear engagements and impenetrable spaceband systems.

The doctrine of nuclear deterrence is a doctrine based on raw emotions: of fear and envy; of hatred, anger and violence.

We advocate the alternative of peaceful co-existence based on nuclear disarmament.

We believe that nations, big or small, powerful, or apparently weak, can and must learn to live together, in mutual recognition, and trust. We believe that

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weapons of collective suicide cannot be the guarantors of a durable peace.

We believe that a system of security which contemplates self-destruction is inherently unstable and fragile. We believe in the sovereign equality of States and in the diversity of social and economic systems.

Perhaps, in the ultimate analysis ours is a faith founded in the essential goodness of human nature.

Throughout history, men of violence have sought to prevail. But no weapon has been found for which a shield has not been invented, no weapon so powerful that one more powerful could not be made nor a shield that could not be penetrated.

Empires have come and gone, conquest has been succeeded by liberation.

What has endured is the abiding non-violence of the Buddha, of Jesus Christ, and of Mahatma Gandhi.

It takes greater courage, and a stronger moral fibre, to face injustice unarmed and without hate in one's heart than to take refuge behind nuclear weapons or strive for an illusory glory through arms.

We, the co-authors of the six-nation initiative, have gone beyond merely pleading for disarmament. We have made a specific proposal for a 12-month moratorium on all nuclear weapon tests.

Furthermore, we have offered to monitor the implementation of the moratorium through our own monitoring stations.

We look forward with some anticipation to the resumption of the negotiations in Geneva in January.

We have no illusions, but we do harbour the hope that the people's yearning for a secure and lasting peace will find reflection at the negotiating table.

We must - all of us - keep up the pressure of public opinion..

The five other leaders who jointly received the award were: President Raul Alfonsin of Argentina, President Miguel de la Madrid of Mexico, President Julius Nyerere of Tanzania, Prime Minister Olof Palme of Sweden, and Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou of Greece.

DIA USA SWITZERLAND ARGENTINA MEXICO SPAIN TANZANIA SWEDEN GREECE

**Date :** Dec 15, 1985

## Volume No

1995

ETHIOPIA

Giani Zail Singh Welcomes Ethiopian Chairman - Text of AirportSpeech

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 20, 1985 of the speech by the President, Giani Zail Singh welcoming H.E. Mengistu Haile Mariam, Chairman of the Provisional Military Government of Socialist Ethiopia on his arrival at Palam Airport on a seven-day State visit:

On behalf of the Government and the people of India, I have great pleasure in extending to Your Excellency, and the  
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distinguished members of your delegation, a warm welcome to India.

In receiving you, we welcome a distinguished leader from an ancient land in Africa, with whom India has had traditional links

in culture and commerce for over two millennia. Even before our independence, India's ties with Ethiopia were qualitatively of a different kind as compared to links with other African countries, where Indians were taken mostly as bonded labour to serve a common colonial master. With Ethiopia, on the other hand, the early Indian commercial presence on the Red Sea served as the vehicle of rich cultural contacts, evidence of which may be seen to this day. This ancient relationship has acquired a new dimension in recent years and will surely benefit both countries as they move on the road to modernisation.

Ethiopia, like India, is a land of contrasts, 'a museum of peoples'. We share common interests and aspiration. The political, economic and commercial relations between our two countries are excellent and are being further strengthened by frequent mutual exchanges of visits, covering various aspects of economic activity. I hope during your stay with us, you will be able to see some of our economic, social scientific and technological achievements. I need hardly emphasise how pleased we will be to share with you our experience in these fields.

#### PRESERVATION OF PEACE

Mr. Chairman, under your dynamic leadership and wise guidance, Ethiopia has progressed a great deal and has become capable of facing adverse circumstances with courage and determination so as to overcome them. Ethiopia is making a valuable contribution to the preservation of peace, to the struggle for the elimination of racism and for the maintenance of African unity.

We are indeed relieved to see that the afflictions of drought and famine which cast a dark spell of suffering and poverty over large areas of Africa are slowly being countered. We in India have followed with great admiration the various measures and concrete steps taken by Ethiopia under your dynamic leadership, to meet this grave situation, and hope that your country would soon be able to tide over this crisis and achieve its goal of self-sufficiency in food.

India and Ethiopia have an identity of views on many major international issues and hold mutual consultations at various international gatherings. We look forward to further fruitful exchanges with you on international issues and matters of bilateral interest.

Mr. Chairman, I hope you and your delegation will have a very happy and pleasant stay in our country.

HIOPIA INDIA USA

**Date :** Dec 20, 1985

# Volume No

1995

ETHIOPIA

Giani Zail Singh Hosts Banquet in Honour of Ethiopian Chairman- Text of President's Speech

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 20, 1985 of the speech by the President Giani Zail Singh at a banquet hosted by him in honour of H.E. Mr. Mengistu Haile-Marian, Chairman of the Provisional Military Government of Socialist Ethiopia here tonight (New Delhi, December 20: 1985):

Mr. Chairman, distinguished guests from Ethiopia and friends, on behalf of the Government and people of India, and on my own behalf, I have great pleasure in extending to Your Excellency and the distinguished members of your delegation a warm welcome to our country.

We feel privileged to have you tonight amongst us as this is your first State visit to India after you assumed the leadership of your country. Your earlier visit in 1983 was for a shorter period and for a specified purpose. We, therefore, attach great im-  
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portance of this visit and are confident that it will provide a unique opportunity for further strengthening our relations with your country.

## PEACE AND STABILITY

In welcoming you, Excellency, we welcome a distinguished leader of the African continent, whose relentless and determined efforts and dedication have brought peace and stability to Ethiopia. We in India appreciate the historic role played by you in the affairs of your country, and as a Chairman of the OAU. Under your dynamic leadership and guidance, Ethiopia has grown in stature in the international arena. We have followed with much interest your courageous and single-minded efforts to make Ethiopia overcome the grave situation created by the drought and famine and move forward on the path of progress and prosperity. We have contributed to the best of our capacity to the various relief measures that are being taken by international agencies to assist the drought affected countries in Africa.

The relations between India and Ethiopia are age old. We have a long history of amicable relations as well as social, cultural and commercial contacts. Ethiopia, like India, is the home of diverse peoples, practising different religions or speaking

different languages. Yet, there is an underlying unity and feeling of oneness among our peoples. Political changes in either country have not affected our cordial relations. These close and friendly relations stem from our common interest in peace, progress, independence, racial equality and our aspirations as developing countries.

#### EXCHANGE OF VISITS

The growing exchange of visits between our two countries in various fields of economic activity stands as a testimony to the intensity of our desire to advance our bilateral economic relations. During your visit, you will, no doubt, have an opportunity to have a glimpse of the economic and technological progress that India has made. We are always happy to share our experiences with our friends.

It is a matter of satisfaction for us to see the good image created by the involvement of Indian teachers with the educational system of Ethiopia. We are confident that Indian experts living and working in your country will continue to contribute to your country's progress, and to the growth of mutual understanding between our nations.

We are pleased to note that there is considerable appreciation in Ethiopia of our foreign policy, and our initiatives 'towards our neighbours. Within the Non-Aligned Movement, India has always enjoyed a close rapport with Ethiopia, and I am sure this will continue to grow.

It is a matter of concern that lately we have been witnessing increasing global tension and intensification of Great Power rivalries. We consider nuclear disarmament to be the crucial issue of our times, because on it depends the very existence of mankind. Almost all of humanity has expressed its concern over the dangers of escalating the nuclear arms race and the militarisation of outer space. This is also evident from the support received from the Declaration of the Six-Nation Summit held in New Delhi in January this year. We are glad that Ethiopia has welcomed and supported the Declaration. Your positive attitude will encourage us to persevere in our efforts.

India views with deep concern the situation in South Africa. The loathsome policy of Apartheid practised by the racist regime there has aroused the condemnation of the world. India fully supports the people of South Africa in their just struggle for the attainment of their human and political rights. As Your Excellency is aware, the recent Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Nassau has decided upon a common programme of action designed to exert pressure on the South African Government to dismantle the system of Apartheid and to establish a nonracial and representative Government on the basis of adult suffrage, without racial

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distinction. Our efforts should now be to see that the measures envisaged in the common programme of action are implemented effectively.

#### SUPPORT TO SWAPO

It is a matter of deep concern and regret that South Africa continues to disregard and defy world opinion over its illegal occupation of Namibia. We shall continue to extend our support to SWAPO, the sole and authentic representative of the people of Namibia, in their struggle for freedom and the independence of their country.

In our neighbourhood, the Indian Ocean continues to be an area of great power rivalry posing a grave threat to security and stability in the region. We earnestly hope that the Conference on the Indian Ocean, scheduled for 1986, will be held without any further postponement, with a view to arriving at concrete plans for the implementation of the 1971 Declaration.

Disparities between developed and developing countries persist and continue to grow. The establishment of a New International Economic Order calls for a recognition of global interdependence, and more effective and meaningful cooperation among the developing countries. We are confident that the visit of Your Excellency to our country will provide an opportunity to identify fresh areas of mutually beneficial bilateral cooperation, in economic, commercial, scientific, technological and other spheres.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, may I now request you to join me in a toast to the health and happiness of His Excellency Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam and the distinguished members of the Ethiopian delegation; to the progress and prosperity of the people of Ethiopia and to the everlasting friendship between our two peoples and countries.

HIOPIA INDIA USA SOUTH AFRICA BAHAMAS NAMIBIA

**Date :** Dec 20, 1985

**Volume No**

1995

ETHIOPIA

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 20, 1985 of the speech by H.E. Mr. Mengistu Haile-Mariam., Chairman of the Provisional Military Government of Socialist Ethiopia at a banquet hosted in his honour by President Giani Zail Singh here tonight (New Delhi, December 20, 1985):

At the very outset I wish to express, on behalf of my colleagues and on my behalf, my profound gratitude and appreciation to the Government and people of India for the warm welcome and the generous hospitality accorded us from the very moment we set foot on this beautiful city of New Delhi, as well as for the kind and constructive remarks which Your Excellency President Zail Singh has just made about the Government and People of Ethiopia.

May I also seize this opportunity to express my particular pleasure at the realization of our longstanding desire to pay a visit to India.

#### EPIC EXAMPLE

Although we are deeply grieved by the passing away of Madame Indira Gandhi, the late Prime Minister of India and a close friend of the Ethiopian people, who initially invited me to pay a visit to your country, we are, however, consoled by the fact that her own son has succeeded her to ensure the fruition of the unparalleled struggle which she waged during her life time for the welfare of her beloved people and the progress, peace and security of all mankind. Mr. President, Mr. Prime Minister, Ladies and Gentlemen, it is a historical fact that India is one of the few cradles of ancient civilization. The heroic struggle waged by the great people of India, under the eminent leadership of Mahatma Gandhi, against colonialism and foreign domination, which temporarily deprived

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India's age-old independence through military superiority, remains an epic example worthy of emulation.

The attainment by modern India of a high level of economic, social, scientific and technological development in the wake of its independence, as well as the all-round assistance it has provided for the accession to independence by the people of Africa, Asia and Latin America under colonialist domination and its efforts to promote understanding, equality and cooperation for mutual benefit are greatly admired not only by Ethiopia but also by the world at large.

The active role that India has played in the founding and strengthening of the Non-Aligned Movement, as well as its uncompromising stand for the scrupulous respect and implementation of the Movement's principles, attest not only to

the vanguard role that India has played over the 25 years history of the Movement but also to its unswerving commitment to the maintenance of world peace and the socioeconomic progress and prosperity of all mankind.

#### HIM LEVEL OF DEVELOPMENT

The high level of development which this great nation has achieved is evidently the result of the concerted efforts of its industrious people, and the wise and courageous leadership provided by Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru and Indira Gandhi, all of whom are renowned for their compassion, dedication to peace and indomitable character in struggle.

Mr. President, Mr. Prime Minister, Ladies and Gentlemen, the relations between the people of India and Ethiopia are laid on a firm foundation of friendship and understanding which is deep-rooted in history. The steady development of gratifying cooperation in the political, economic, cultural and trade fields is, likewise, a clear testimony to the determination of the two countries to exert joint efforts for the mutual development of their two peoples.

#### NAM AND UN

As members of the Non-Aligned Movement and the United Nations, our two countries, have rendered every support they can to liberation fighters and have thus made considerable contribution for the emancipation of many countries from colonialist bondage.

We are convinced that India and Ethiopia will continue to stand together and jointly struggle for the just cause of independence and equality of peoples; as well as the preservation of international peace and security. The political support extended to us by the people and Government of India at a time when the Ethiopian revolution, our historical unity and territorial integrity were endangered by external aggressors and interventionist forces is a living testimony for the goodwill friendship and solidarity which they have for the people and Government of Ethiopia.

Mr. President, Mr. Prime Minister, Ladies and Gentlemen, ever since the broad masses of Ethiopia have chosen the path of socialist development, we have been confronted with manifold and complex manmade and natural disasters. Nevertheless, through the steadfastness and the sacrifices paid by the Ethiopian people, we have been able to save our revolution from reversal and our motherland from disintegration. Moreover, we are today exerting every effort to develop our backward economy.

In this context, over the last eleven years of our revolution, we have deployed considerable effort to reconstruct the economic infrastructures which were destroyed by the aggressions committed

by our enemies and develop our stagnant economy by carrying out all-round and consecutive development campaigns. However, the severe drought and consequential famine that has struck several million of our people has adversely affected our construction efforts.

By utilising the country's material, financial and manpower resources and coordinating international relief assistance, our party and Government have taken urgent

measures to save the lives of millions of the drought victims. We are also embarked on a resettlement programme as a lasting solution. In this connection, I would like to express our heart-felt gratitude to the people and Government of India for their generous assistance in our struggle to save the lives of millions of my compatriots that were hit by the drought. We shall ever remain indebted to you.

With the founding of the Workers' Party of Ethiopia as the vanguard of our long range development endeavours, a Ten Years Indicative Economic and Social Development Plan has been launched with a view to laying down the necessary material and technical foundations of socialistic transformation and the building of an independent national economy.

On the political front, we are at present engaged in the task of establishing the People's Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, wherein the political supremacy of the people in the affairs of the nation will be assured.

#### FOREIGN POLICY

In the arduous task of extricating our country from backwardness, ensuring food self-sufficiency and developing light and cottage industries are our immediate priorities. We expect that, during our present visit, we will be able to learn a great deal from the wide experience of the people of India in these spheres.

Mr. President, Mr. Prime Minister, Ladies and Gentlemen, the foreign policy of Ethiopia is based on strict adherence to the principles of independence, national sovereignty and territorial integrity of States and non-interference in the internal affairs of other countries. While scrupulously respecting these cardinal principles, the aims of our policy are endeavouring to promote and strengthen the economic development of the country, to liberate our people from backwardness and raise their living standard and to eradicate disease and illiteracy.

Ethiopia is, therefore, committed to work towards mutually advantageous cooperation with her neighbours and all other countries on the basis of the principle of peaceful co-existence.

The preservation of peace is indispensable for social progress and prosperity. Yet, the present international political situation is a matter of serious concern more than ever before.

By establishing military bases in different regions and expanding existing ones and organizing a rapid deployment interventionist force, imperialism is increasingly assuming provocative postures, and pursuing a policy of military superiority. As a result, the popular demand for peace is being severely compromised.

Oblivious of the insistent demand by the peoples of the world for peace, imperialism is arrogantly continuing the production and stockpiling of weapons of mass destruction. The unbridled arms race, in particular the nuclear arms race, is pushing the human race to the precipice of catastrophe. It is, therefore, imperative that the peace-loving countries shoulder our historic responsibilities to arrest this dangerous tendency.

#### HISTORIC DOCUMENT

In this context, I wish to underscore our view that the New Delhi Declaration, issued after six-nation Summit hosted by India, is a historic document which deserves the support of all who espouse peace.

Everyone knows that the racist regime of South Africa, in a futile attempt to perpetuate the odious system of Apartheid and to suppress the struggle of black Africans for their basic rights, has proclaimed a state of emergency empowering it to massacre, jail and banish black Africans with Fascistic brutality. Nor is the puppet administration installed in Namibia by excluding SWAPO, the sole and genuine representative of the Namibian people, designed to seek solution to the problem, but rather a political fraud calculated to delay the territory's  
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independence and divert international public opinion from the central issue. Hence, all freedom and peace-loving forces should wage a relentless struggle for the implementation of the resolutions of the United Nations Security Council demanding that the racist regime of South Africa put an end to its barbaric actions against the Namibian people and its arrogant aggressions against the Front-line States.

It is a fact that the non-implementation of the decisions of the United Nations,, the Non-Aligned Movement, the Organisation of African Unity and peace-loving countries of the area declaring the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace has resulted in an ominous cloud to gather over the region, thereby threatening world peace and security.

Moreover, the resolution of the persisting issues of the Palestine question, the war between Iraq and Iran and similar

other problems deserve particular attention. Failure to find urgent solutions to these problems can only lead to situations endangering world peace.

Likewise, the existing unjust international economic relation has become a fetter for the economic development of the developing countries. In this inequitable and unjust economic relation, the affluent developed countries continue to grow richer while the developing increasingly sink to abyssmal poverty. In short, so as long as this unfavourable international economic order is not rectified, and, in particular, unless the question of external debt burden of developing countries is not resolved, the progress and, indeed, the very survival, of these nations will increasingly become critical.

#### SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION

In the circumstances, we believe that, in order to withstand the pressure from developed countries, developing nations should forge unity in respect of the North-South dialogue and strengthen South-South co-operation at the regional, continental and on international levels.

Mr. President, Mr. Prime Minister, Ladies and Gentlemen, the active role of the Non-Aligned Movement can significantly contribute to the resolution of the existing international political and economic crisis. To this end, I strongly believe that India and Ethiopia will need to further strengthen their mutual cooperation.

Moreover, it is my ardent hope that the existing political, economic, technical and cultural co-operation between our two countries will be further strengthened and expanded for the mutual benefit of our two peoples.

Finally, in wishing continued peace, prosperity and all-round progress for the friendly people of India, I request you all to join me in a toast to the lasting friendship of the peoples of India and Ethiopia, for the health and long life of President Zail Singh, for the health and long life of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, for international peace, security and progress.

HIOPIA INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC SOUTH AFRICA NAMIBIA IRAN IRAQ

**Date :** Dec 20, 1985

**Volume No**

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1995

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India and Ethiopia Sign Memorandum of Understanding in Economic Field

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The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 22, 1985 of the Memorandum of Understanding signed between India and Ethiopia:

A Memorandum of Understanding between India and Ethiopia on Mutual Cooperation in the economic field was signed here today. On behalf of India, the Memorandum of Understanding was signed by Shri B. R. Bhagat, Minister of External Affairs, and on behalf of Ethiopia by Comrade Goeshu Welde, Member of the Central Committee of

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Workers Party and Minister of Foreign Affairs.

The Memorandum of Understanding has identified 12 sectors as priority areas for bilateral cooperation. They are: agricultural research and development, development of water resources, industrial cooperation, cooperation in joint ventures, promotion of small scale industries, development of railways and maritime transport, cooperation in science and technology, technical assistance, trade relations, inter-institutional cooperation, cooperation in project preparation and consultancy work, financial cooperation. Ethiopia has suffered from drought and famine and , therefore, the Government of India Will provide field research experts, opportunities for study tours and short courses, reference books and scientific journals, and general cooperation in water resources research and training.

#### WAPCOS

The Water and Power Consultancy Services Ltd. (WAPCOS) has prepared a consultancy report on Ethiopia's needs in the field of agriculture, livestock development, and water resources, under India's Technical and Economic Cooperation Programme (ITEC). Under this programme, a team of Indian experts will visit Ethiopia to prepare further detailed programmes of cooperation.

#### INDUSTRIAL FIELD

In the industrial field, India will assist in the field of sugar, textiles, bicycles and motorised two-wheelers and industrial estates. Under the ITEC Programme, India will help set up a pilot weaving unit and equip a common facility workshop for servicing small-scale industries. The scope for joint ventures in various fields will be further explored. The National Small Industries Corporations (NSIC) will hold an exhibition in Addis Ababa of small-scale industrial equipment in 1986, for which ITEC assistance will be extended. There will also be further

collaboration in the fields of railways and maritime transport. Rail India Technical and Economic Services (RITES) have already done some pre-feasibility studies in connection with the Addis Ababa-Assab railway line, partly as an assistance.

#### MANPOWER DEVELOPMENT

There will be cooperation in science and technology through manpower development, supply of relevant scientific literature and dissemination of scientific information, under ITEC. India will offer 50 training places every year under the ITEC Programme and will also undertake five techno-economic surveys in mutually agreed fields. Under the ITEC Programme, India will provide instructors and teaching materials for the Institute of Geology and Mining in Ethiopia. Inter-institutional cooperation in the fields of agriculture, water resources, small-scale industries, and geology is also envisaged, which will include training, back-up-services, exchange of literature, organization of seminars and exchange of specialists. India will also assist Ethiopia in project preparation and consultancy work and the provision of suppliers' credit on mutually agreed terms.

India and Ethiopia have old links, and have very close and friendly political relations. It is in this context that efforts are now being made to step up economic, technical, industrial and agricultural cooperation.

#### SHRI BHAGAT'S ADDRESS

Speaking on the occasion, Shri B. R. Bhagat, Minister of External Affairs, said:

"We are happy to welcome your delegation, led by His Excellency Chairman Mengistu Haile-Mariam, at our country. This visit has provided us with an opportunity to share our experiences in econo-  
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mic advancement an endeavour that is so vitally important for both our developing countries. We are glad that our discussions have resulted in an identification of area of bilateral economic and technical cooperation. The Memorandum of Understanding which we have signed today, encompasses a wide range of economic cooperation between our two countries, while concentrating on the priority sectors in Ethiopia's economic development. These sectors cover agricultural development, the improvement of livestock, the maximised utilisation of available water resources, small-scale industries, and the promotion of integrated rural development schemes.

#### TECHNICAL COOPERATION

We are particularly pleased that our collaboration in the field

of technical cooperation is growing so rapidly. We have done our best, within the constraints placed by our own shortage of resources, to assist Ethiopian nominees in acquiring training in selected fields in our country. We would also be prepared to depute our experts and skilled personnel to work in your country to assist in its efforts for self-renewal. We are also trying to assist in undertaking techno-economic surveys and feasibility studies in areas that we know are of deep interest to your country. In this context I can only cite the work done by the Water and Power Consultancy Services Ltd. (WAPCOS), Rail India Technical and Economic Services Ltd. (RITES), and Educational Consultants (India) Ltd. We are expecting that the National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC) will be able to mount an exhibition of small-scale industrial equipment in Addis Ababa in 1986. We are also hopeful that Indian private sector companies will, within the overall parameters laid down by the Ethiopian Government, be able to assist Ethiopian organisations in various industrial ventures.

The Memorandum of Understanding which we have signed today, in my view, should lead to an increase in opportunities for fruitful cooperation between our two countries. We regard this step, in many ways, as a beginning, and as both our countries develop their capacities, it is my belief that our ability to interact and collaborate with each other in the task of economic development will also grow correspondingly. Once again, I would like to wish your delegation a warm welcome to our country, and hope that you will be able to see, during your stay, some of our achievements in fields which are of common interest to us.

ETHIOPIAN FOREIGN MINISTER  
RECIPROCATES

Reciprocating the sentiments expressed by Shri B. R. Bhagat the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ethiopia Comrade Geshu Welde said that he was happy to sign the Memorandum of Understanding during the State visit of his Chairman, to India. He said that the Memorandum of Understanding will lay solid foundations of cordial and friendly relations existing between the two countries. He further said that the Memorandum of Understanding will also strengthen economic links between India and Ethiopia.  
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HIOPIA INDIA USA

**Date :** Dec 22, 1985

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India and France Agree on Enlarged Trade Relationship

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The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 06, 1985 on the conclusion of the fifth meeting of the Indo-French Joint Committee on Economic and Technical Cooperation:

The fifth meeting of the Indo-French Joint Committee on Economic and Technical Cooperation was concluded here this afternoon with the signing of agreed minutes by Mrs. Edith Cresson, French Minister of Industrial Redeployment and Foreign Trade and Shri Arjun Singh, Union Minister of Commerce.

The talks were held in an atmosphere of great cordiality and understanding. Shri Arjun Singh thanked the French Minister for the positive and sympathetic attitude adopted by her.

The agreement provides for French assistance to several industrial and infrastructural projects and for the exploration and enlargement of markets for Indian goods and services with the assistance of French enterprises. France is likely to give a larger share of her investment and technology to India, particularly for export-oriented ventures in this country. Indo-French cooperation would encompass several areas like electronics, energy, mining, telecommunications, agriculture, water resources, transport, housing, steel and chemicals. In this connection, Shri Arjun Singh observed that the session Of the Joint Committee had been of great importance as views could be exchanged on several subjects of international significance including multilateral issues of trade and finance, as well as India's commercial and economic relations with the European Economic Community. He invited the French Minister to continue the process of close consultations to deepen and intensify the understanding between India and France.

During the negotiations, the attention of the French side was drawn to the low level of Indo-French collaborations and the almost total absence of French interest in India's Export Processing Zones and 100 per cent Export-Oriented Units. This is a sector which could be of much mutual benefit. It was pointed out by the French side that this situation was due to lack of information available with them. They suggested that expositions and seminars should be organised in France for bridging the gap. They promised their support to such activities by India. The French side had also agreed to identify specific manufacturing lines which are likely to be phased out in France, such as ancillaries and intermediates. Another important sphere of Indo-French cooperation would be the joint projects in third countries.

In the field of electronics, 30 concrete projects have been identified. These will be utilized for cooperation in the production of hard-ware, soft-ware, instrumentation and components. The French side have offered favourable financial terms, including grants of free technical assistance. Collaboration in the power, mining, chemicals and petro-chemicals sectors has also been provided for. France has also offered its expertise in computerisation of integrated steel mills. India and France are also likely to cooperate in oil exploration, underground coal gasification, horizontal drilling and oil-field corrosion studies.

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ANCE INDIA USA RUSSIA

**Date :** Dec 06, 1985

## Volume No

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FRANCE

Shri Arjun Singh Inaugurates Plenary Session of Indo-French Joint Committee

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 05, 1985 on the inauguration of the plenary session of the Indo-French Joint Committee by Shri Arjun Singh:

The plenary session of the fifth meeting of the Indo-French Committee on Economic and Technical Cooperation was inaugurated here this afternoon by the Commerce Minister, Shri Arjun Singh. He extended a warm welcome to the French Minister for Industrial Rehabilitation and Foreign Trade, Mrs. E. Cresson, who is leading the French delegation. He said that this was a special occasion as it came in the wake of the 'Year of India' in France and the visit of India's Prime Minister to that country in June last. He expressed his gratitude to the French Minister and the French delegation for their sympathetic understanding and interest in India's efforts for improving the standards of living of its people. Their visit, he said, was in the spirit of partnership in our endeavour through interdependence and joint ventures.

### MAJOR TRADING PARTNERS

Shri Arjun Singh explained India's need for substantial foreign exchange resources for the stupendous development effort undertaken by it. The importance of France as a major trading

partner was emphasized by him. The relatively small level of Indo-French trade at present and the substantial imbalance was pointed out by the Minister. He called for the implementation of certain specific measures which had been agreed at the last Joint Committee meeting as these were necessary for ensuring better access for Indian goods to the French and European markets. He called for diversification of Indo-French trade and for imparting a general dynamism to the trade turn-over. He felt that the French side could render help in identification and development of Indian products which could find acceptability in France and for their marketing in third countries where the French firms are already established. He called for drawing up a specific plan of action for a closer inter-action with regard to trade promotion measures such as market surveys, training of artisans and product development in sectors like leather footwear and goods, garment designing and jewellery manufacture.

E. E. C.

The Commerce Minister acknowledged the useful role of the E.E.C. scheme of Generalized System of Preferences, but felt that it needed improvement with regard to certain products which India could export, such as leather and leather products, marine products, tropical fruits and juices, tobacco and hand-knitted carpets. He also raised the question of restoration of the preferential sugar quota and flexibility in the textiles quota through inter-country transfers. He sought the support of the French Government for a satisfactory solution of these matters.

Another important area of Indo-French interest was industrial collaboration and investment. The Minister called for a higher-level of French financial participation in Indian industry which was at present, only one per cent of the total foreign investment. He expressed his happiness at the presence of representatives of French business and industry as members of the French delegation. It was pointed out by him that India was very suitably placed geographically for joint Indo-French production of goods in India for supply to several countries in the region. Several specific areas have already been identified and the Minister wanted effective follow-up action by both countries. In this context, Shri Arjun Singh pointed out that there was very good scope

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for joint production of components and intermediates in Free Trade Export Processing Zones which had 100 per cent export-oriented units. He was convinced that India and France will cooperate profitably in the supply of goods and services to several countries in Africa with which France had close trade links.

**Date :** Dec 05, 1985

## Volume No

1995

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

India and GDR Agree on Trade Turn-over of Rs. 414 Crores In1986

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 17, 1985 on the signing of a trade protocol between India and the German Democratic Republic:

A trade protocol for the year 1986 was signed here this afternoon between India and the German Democratic Republic, It provides for a trade turn-over of Rs. 414 crores, with imports and exports projected at Rs. 207 crores on a balanced basis.

The major items of import from GDR would be machine tools, steel and steel products, printing machinery, mining equipment, diesel generating sets, potash fertilizers, urea, jumbo roll films, newsprint, cement and equipment for power stations. India will export to GDR shoe-uppers, finished leather, iron ore, deoiled cakes, pepper and spices, tea, tobacco, castor oil, roller chains, machine tools and hand tools, readymade garments, jute manufactures etc.

Indo-GDR trade has been conducted in non-convertible rupee and the imports and exports balance each other. This arrangement has been extended to a further period of five years from 1st January, 1986 to 31st December, 1990, by an agreement, signed in New Delhi on 1st November 1985. The trade between the two countries has increased significantly from a level of Rs. 20 lakhs in 1954 to Rs. 242 crores in 1984. The flow of trade between India and GDR during the last five years is as follows:

(Rs. in crores)

1980 1981 1982 1983 1984

(Estimated)

Exports 40629084112

Imports 31808680130

Total 71142176164242

Balance

Of

Trade (+)9 (-)18 (+)4 (+)4(-)18

<pg-394>

DIA RUSSIA

**Date :** Dec 17, 1985

## Volume No

1995

HOLLAND

Indo-Dutch Cooperation in the Implementation of Ganga Action Programme

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 17, 1985 on Indo-Dutch cooperation in the implementation of Ganga Action Programme:

Five areas have been identified for possible Indo-Dutch cooperation in the implementation of schemes under Ganga Action Plan. The areas include integral sanitation projects at Kanpur, worth about Rs. 18 crores, sanitation project at Mirzapur worth about Rs. 6 crores industrial counselling to control the industrial pollution from selected industries such as tanneries, sugar industries, textiles, fertiliser and power plants costing about Rs. 2.4 crores, master plan for environmental protection in the Ganga Rivers Basins to look into the problems in the fields of air and soil pollution worth Rs. 10 crores and strengthening of industrial capabilities and capacities transferring expertise and experience as to organisational aspects, integral environmental planning etc. worth Rs. 80 lakhs. The total financial package for the five schemes will be Rs. 37.2 crores.

This was discussed by the Indo-Dutch delegation in New Delhi yesterday. The Dutch delegation was led by Minister. of Transport and Waterstat, Government of Netherlands, Mr. Neelie Smit Kores and the Indian delegation was headed by Shri Z. R. Ansari, Minister of State for Environment and Forests. During the discussions Shri Ansari expressed gratitude to the Dutch Government for coming forward with a package of cooperation programme between the two countries and expressed the hope that the cooperation will further strengthen the friendly relations between the two countries. He said that the proposals for assistance by the Netherlands Government are very good and acceptable to India. The modalities of their utilisation and mode etc. have to be worked out at the official level meeting which will follow.

Under the Indo-Dutch Cooperation Programme, a Dutch Mission visited Patna, Kanpur, Mirzapur and Lucknow and held discussions

with officials of Ganga Project in August-September this year. The report of the Mission was submitted to the Government of India at the end of the last month which necessitated this meeting.

DIA USA THE NETHERLANDS

**Date :** Dec 17, 1985

## Volume No

1995

ITALY

Avoidance of Double Taxation Agreement Between India and Italy Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 16, 1985 on the signing of a double taxation avoidance agreement between India and Italy:

The agreement for the avoidance of double taxation and the prevention of fiscal evasion with respect to taxes on income has been signed here today between India and Italy by Mr. M. S. Narayanan, Chairman, Central Board of Direct Taxes and His Excellency Dr. Rinieri Paulucci di Calboli, the Ambassador of Italy in New Delhi on behalf of their respective Governments.

This agreement is retrospective in operation and will apply in the case of  
<pg-395>

India in respect of income assessable for any taxable period/previous year commencing on or after the 1st day of April, 1977. In the case of Italy, the agreement will apply in respect of income assessable for any taxable period commencing on or after January 1, 1977.

This agreement contains provisions regarding taxation of income from immovable property, business profits, air transport, shipping, dividends, interest, royalties etc. It also empowers the competent authorities of the two Governments to exchange information not only for carrying out its provisions but also for the prevention or detection of evasion or avoidance of taxes covered by the agreement.

ALY INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date :** Dec 16, 1985

## Volume No

1995

KOREA

### India and North Korea Agree on Trade Expansion

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 18, 1985 on the sixth round of trade talks between India and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea:

The sixth round of trade talks between India and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea were concluded here today after detailed discussions during the official level talks which began on December 14, 1985. The purpose of the talks was to review bilateral trade for further expansion and development. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea's delegation was led by Mr. Zo Sung Bom, Vice-Minister in the North Korean Ministry of Foreign Trade.

The need for expansion of trade and closer economic relations between the two countries was stressed during the talks, particularly in the context of the difficult world trading environment for developing countries. It was felt that the present level of trade was not commensurate with the existing potential and that effective steps need to be taken to expand trade in a balanced manner to the mutual advantage of India and the DPRK.

The Indian side expressed its concern at the declining trend in Indo-DPRK trade, the 1984-85 level being only one-third of that in 1979-80. India has an adverse balance in trade and immediate measures are required to increase exports from India to North Korea.

The North Korean side has favoured trade expansion through link deals. They have suggested that the additional cement exports to India may be linked with imports of wheat. Among the measures proposed by them are reduction of customs duties, closer economic and technical co-operation, exchange of information about requirements of both sides and visit of business-level delegations. Both delegations discussed solutions to their pending problems due to delays in implementing contracts already signed. It was agreed that bilateral trade should be diversified and its level raised both in terms of items as well as quantities.

In order to facilitate the achievement of these objectives, the two countries will give all assistance to relevant trade corporations and agencies to exchange commodities during 1986-87. These commodities have been indicated by both sides. India's list of about 20 commodities includes iron ore, high carbon ferro <pg-396>

manganese, low carbon ferro chrome, wheat, raw - cotton, coffee, groundnut extractions jute bags and jute products, cotton fabrics, tyres and tubes, textile machinery, trunks, machine tools, mining equipment and electronic items etc.

The North Korean list identifies railway wheels and axles, steel plates and alloy tools, steel, cement, rayon, silk and tussar silk yarn, staple fibre, cutting tools, chemicals, HDPE, PVC and Insulators etc.

Another meeting of the delegations is likely to be held in Pyongyang during 1986-87.

REA INDIA NORTH KOREA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC ITALY

**Date :** Dec 18, 1985

## Volume No

1995

PAKISTAN

Attack by Canadian Pilgrims on Indian Diplomats in Pakistan -Shri Bhagat's Statement

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 02, 1985 on the statement made by the Minister of External Affairs, Shri B. R. Bhagat, on the attack by Canadian pilgrims on Indian diplomats in Pakistan:

The Minister for External Affairs Shri B. R. Bhagat, made the following statement in the Lok Sabha today in response to the calling attention notice on the situation arising out of the reported attack by the Canadian based pilgrims on the Indian diplomats in Pakistan and the encouragement being given by certain foreign countries to extremists in imparting training in terrorism, collection of funds for purchase of arms and other facilities in their bid to destabilise India and steps taken by the government in that regard.

My colleague, the Minister of State for External Affairs, has

made a statement in the House on November 20, 1985 regarding the deplorable attack on two senior Indian diplomats by some Canadian Sikhs in Dera Saheb Gurudwara Complex on November 26. The statement expressed our concern, distress and disappointment and the action which we expect the Pakistan Government to take in this matter. I shall, therefore, confine myself to briefly highlighting the salient points of this incident. First, no arrests were made in the first 48 hours of the incident despite our having brought the matter to the attention of the authorities and the assailants were able to move around freely between Lahore and Nankana Saheb. Second, when they were finally arrested, the six Canadian Sikhs were immediately released on bail furnished by a Pakistani national who was the main instigator of the attack on the Indian diplomats in the first instance. On our insistence they have since been rearrested. Third, the six Canadians were charged only for minor offences. Fourth no action was taken against these foreign nationals for their anti Indian activities including their provocative speeches calling for the assassination of the Indian leaders. The chain of events surrounding the incident lead to the unfortunate conclusion that Pakistan authorities have treated the Canadian Sikh extremists in a lenient manner and seem to be proceeding against them at a leisurely pace. It is our hope that Pakistani authorities will recognise their responsibility in this matter, including their obligations under

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the Vienna Convention and take speedy and effective steps to punish these individuals.

Extremism has unfortunately become a way of life with a small section of Indian origin community abroad who seem to take heart from either active sympathy or normal protection of laws extended to them. There is evidence that there are some training camps across the border for extremist elements and they are given some financial and other help. This was brought to the notice of the Foreign Minister of Pakistan when he visited New Delhi in July this year for the Indo-Pak Joint Commission meeting. The matter was again taken up by the Foreign Secretary with his counterpart in New York in October this year. This was followed by a note to the Ambassador of Pakistan in the first week of November on this subject. Thus the House will observe that the Government is fully alive to this problem and is pursuing it actively through diplomatic channels. At the same time, suitable steps have been taken at the border to prevent the infiltration of extremist elements.

There are certain institutions in the USA and Canada which claim to impart military type of training to individuals. The fact that some of the extremist elements were attempting to benefit from the training imparted at such schools was first brought to our notice earlier this year. A statement had been made in the House on 24th July, 1985 regarding the mercenary training school run by

one Frank Camper at Hueyville in the Alabama State of the USA. The matter was taken up with the US authorities at various levels and the dangerous potential of such institutions emphasized. Various US authorities at Federal and State level are examining the legal position. A US State Sub-Committee is also holding hearings on such schools.

The Government received information from our High Commission in Canada that ten Sikh youths believed to be residents of Canada sponsored by the International Sikh Youth Federation (an extremist organization) received paramilitary training in an institution called "Eagle Combat and Bodyguard Training School" in New Westminster, British Columbia, Canada, run by one Roy Maia. The Government has drawn the attention of the Government of Canada to this development and requested urgent investigation and appropriate corrective action. The matter is being investigated by the Canadian authorities and we are in touch.

The Government have received reports from time to time regarding fund raising by extremist elements of the Sikh community abroad. Different pretexts are used for raising the funds such as assistance to people in India, legal assistance to such extremists as are facing court action abroad and occasionally the professed objective is to purchase arms. Rival extremist factions have treated charges of misuse of funds. Government are alive to all the possibilities and preventive measures have been taken.  
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KISTAN INDIA USA AUSTRIA CANADA COLOMBIA

**Date :** Dec 02, 1985

## Volume No

1995

PARLIAMENTARIANS FOR WORLD ORDER

Text of Shri Rajiv Gandhi's Message and Shri Bhagat's Speech

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 18, 1985 on the inauguration in New Delhi of the Indian Chapter of Parliamentarians for World Order by the Minister of External Affairs, Shri B. R. Bhagat, on December 18, 1985:

The Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi in his message for the inaugural meeting said:

"The need for peace and nuclear disarmament and for setting up a world order based on mutual respect and mutual trust between nations is of vital importance today. The alternate situation threatens the very existence of mankind.

India continues to strive for mobilising world opinion for the achievement of these objectives. It is our moral duty towards our own people and to all of mankind to help build a world free of fear and distrust.

The Parliamentarians for World Order are today a major force working towards the ideals of peaceful co-existence, freedom from oppression and injustice, a clean environment, and a better life for all peoples. It is heartening that we are now establishing the Indian Chapter to share the privilege of working for the fulfilment of these laudable goals.

I send my best wishes for the inaugural meeting of the Indian Chapter of the Parliamentarians for World Order."

#### WORLD PEACE THROUGH DISARMAMENT

The following is the text of Shri Bhagat's address:

"It gives me great pleasure to be present here today to inaugurate the Indian Chapter of Parliamentarians for World Order.

The Parliamentarians for World Order is an organisation which has over the years, worked for securing world peace through disarmament and equitable economic development. It has through its actions been able to influence parliamentarians and policy-makers throughout the world to throw in their weight behind its efforts. Therefore, it is very significant that today we are inaugurating the Indian Chapter of this worthy organisation.

It is well-known that even without being formally organised in an Indian unit, Members of our Parliament have been very active in international forums on behalf of the Parliamentarians for World Order. The recent "Beyond War" Award given to our Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, and five other world leaders is the outcome of the strenuous and dedicated efforts made by Members of our Parliament, along with colleagues from all over the world, in the specific field of disarmament.

#### SIX-NATION INITIATIVE

It can be said that, through the mobilisation of public opinion all over the world, leaders of the nuclear weapons States were forced to take heed of the SIX-Nation initiative on nuclear disarmament which came about mainly due to the sustained efforts of the Parliamentarians for World Order in the years prior to 1984. The summit meeting of the six nations - Argentina, Greece, India, Mexico, Tanzania and Sweden - which was held in January

this year adopted a comprehensive statement on the need for urgent steps to halt the nuclear arms race. This document, referred to as the Delhi Declaration, specifically calls for: (a) the prevention of the arms race in  
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outer space; and (b) the conclusion of a comprehensive test ban treaty.

I am happy to recall for this august gathering here today the fact that both the 1984 six-Nations appeal and the Delhi Declaration were welcomed widely by non-Governmental organisations and public opinion all over the world.

However, the response of the nuclear weapons States have not been very positive. Although the Soviet Union so far has been the only nuclear weapon State that has reacted to both these initiatives and supported the measures called for in them, China, the United Kingdom and France have not reacted at all. The U.S.A. has, moreover, not endorsed the specific steps called for in the Delhi Declaration.

In such an alarming international environment, the role and relevance of Parliamentarians for World Order becomes all the more significant. It is my view that the Indian Chapter of this Organisation will effectively formulate Indian public opinion on issues such as nuclear disarmament, and coordinate our formulations with those of the world body so that we are able to effectively ventilate the views of a major segment of the human population on issues which are of immediate relevance today.

#### GLOBAL MONETARY SYSTEM

Apart from disarmament, another major issue facing the world today is the need for reviewing the international monetary and financial arrangements. The institutions which were set up following the Second World War have not been able to keep in step with the issues posed by an often changing international situation, in which the emergence of scores of newly independent nations from colonial rule has been undoubtedly been the most significant event. The developing countries, as most of these newly emerged nations are today, face inbuilt disadvantages within the prevailing international economic and financial and monetary system, in which they have to operate. Therefore, I feel, the Indian Chapter of the Parliamentarians for World Order must address itself to the problems being faced by developing countries in this respect.

One possible avenue in which future activities of the Parliamentarians for World Order could be channelised is In supporting efforts being taken at regional cooperation. Recently,

we participated in the first summit of the South Asian Organisation for Regional cooperation. Nine specific areas have been identified for cooperation between the countries of our region. The speed at which cooperation in these areas is furthered would depend to a large extent on the attitude of individual States in the region towards specific programmes of cooperation. In this context, the Indian Chapter of Parliamentarians for World Order could play a pivotal role in firstly, explaining to the general public the benefits of such regional cooperation, and secondly, initiating a dialogue with Parliamentarians and policy-makers in the countries of our region to ensure the success of such cooperation.

To conclude, I would like to thank Shri Digvijay Singh, Vice President of the Parliamentarians for World Order, for having invited me to inaugurate the Indian Chapter of that organisation. I am sure that in the years to come, this organisation will be able to achieve the noble objectives which it has set itself in the cause of mankind.

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DIA USA ARGENTINA GREECE MEXICO SWEDEN TANZANIA CHINA FRANCE

**Date :** Dec 18, 1985

## Volume No

1995

POLAND

Indo-Polish Trade Turnover of Rs. 460 Crores in 1986

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 17, 1985 on the signing of a trade protocol for 1986 between India and Poland:

A trade protocol for 1986 was signed here today between India and Poland. The protocol provides for a trade turnover of about Rs. 460 crores in the coming year. A long-term trade plan for the period 1986-1990 in regard to certain specific commodities has also been concluded. It has been agreed to continue the rupee trading arrangements for the next five years. A trade and payments agreement is due to be signed at a Minister - level meeting when the Commerce Minister, Shri Arjun Singh visits Poland shortly.

The main items of import from Poland in 1986 will be machinery and equipment for power stations, metal working machinery,

machine tools, mining machinery, ship engines and fishing vessels, steel products, copper and copper products, chemical fertilisers, sulphur, coking coal, cement and rapeseed oil. India will export groundnut extractions and other oilcakes, tea, pepper, iron ore, textile machinery, machine tools and hand tools, mica, finished leather and leather goods.

There has been a steady growth in the bilateral trade between India and Poland since 1980. The figures for imports and exports during 1980 were 37 crores and 43 crores respectively. During 1984 imports from Poland had risen to Rs. 96 crores and exports to Rs. 104 crores. Thus ' the trade has been in India's favour which has resulted in a Pressure on the technical credit provided by India to Poland regularly during the past three years. This was necessary to provide adequate rupee funds for the bill Of Indian exports to Poland. Poland has been the second biggest buyer of tea from India after the Soviet Union, in the East European region. Tea and deoiled cakes account for about 80% of Indian exports to Poland. Mica and mica products, jute manufactures, cotton textiles, pepper, tanned and untanned hides and skins account for the remaining 20%. India has been trying to buy more power station equipment, cutting tools, equipment for railways, rolled steel products, sulphur, chemicals and pharmaceuticals from Poland in order to generate larger rupee funds. It is expected that cement, sulphur, fertilizers and coking coal will also be imported from Poland in the coming years. The Metals and Minerals Trading Corporation has already signed a contract for the import of 50,000 tonnes of sulphur from Poland. Possibilities of imports of urea and coking coal are being explored by the MMTC. Poland has offered a much larger quantity of rapeseed to the State Trading Corporation in 1986.

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LAND INDIA USA RUSSIA

**Date :** Dec 17, 1985

## Volume No

1995

PRIME MINISTER'S TOUR ABROAD

Shri Bhagat's Statement in Parliament on Prime Minister's Visitto Vietnam and Japan

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 31, 1985 of the statement made by the Minister of External Affairs, Shri B. R. Bhagat, in both Houses of Parliament today (December 3, 1985) on the Prime, Minister's visit to

Vietnam and Japan:

The Prime Minister, accompanied by Shrimati Sonia Gandhi, paid an official visit to Hanoi on 27th November 1985, and thereafter to Tokyo from 28 to 30 November followed by a short halt in Kyoto. The delegation included the Minister of External Affairs and Shri L. K. Jha as well as senior officials. - In Hanoi, the Prime Minister was received by Mr. Duan, General Secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam; Mr. Phan Van Dong, Chairman of the Council of Ministers; other senior Ministers and dignitaries. The Prime Minister laid a wreath at the mausoleum of Ho Chi Minh. He also attended a ceremony for renaming a Park after the late Shrimati Indira Gandhi.

Prime Minister accepted the Gold Star Order, the highest Vietnam Decoration, from the Vietnamese President, conferred posthumously on Shrimati Indira Gandhi in recognition of her great contributions as an "indefatigable fighter for the cause of national independence, peace solidarity and cooperation amongst nations, as well as the growth of the Non-Aligned Movement". He also addressed a large public meeting held at the Independence Hall.

The official talks with Mr. Le Duan and Mr. Pham Van Dong were held in an atmosphere of great cordiality and friendship. It was noted that Vietnam and India shared identical or similar views on a number of important international issues. On Kampuchea, the Vietnamese leaders reaffirmed their desire to arrive at an early political solution and emphasised their commitment to withdraw Vietnamese troops by 1990 or even earlier, in the event of an acceptable political solution being found.

Both sides endorsed the traditionally close relations between the two countries and resolved to further consolidate, expand, and diversify these relations.

The second Session of the India-Vietnam Joint Commission had been held from November 23 to 26 in Hanoi, on the eve of Prime Minister's visit. The Indian delegation was led by the Minister of External Affairs and the Vietnamese delegation by Deputy Prime Minister Truong Chin. The Vietnamese indicated certain priorities in this regard. Agreement was reached on a new line of Government-to-Government credit of Rs. 15 crores, the terms and conditions to be decided subsequently. Previous credits from these have been utilised for the supply of diesel electric locomotives, passenger coaches and wagons as well as textile machinery to Vietnam. It is expected that this assistance will help to increase Vietnam's productivity and export efforts.

It was also agreed to extend a commodity loan of one lakh tonnes of wheat over a two year period 1986 and 1987. This would help Vietnam to overcome scarcities caused by serious damage to food crops due to their recent floods and cyclones.

Technical collaboration will also be extended in such areas as small scale industries, rubber and cotton cultivation and processing, dry farming and afforestation of coastal areas. Of considerable mutual

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importance was an understanding reached between the Oil and Natural Gas Commission of India and Petro Vietnam for possible cooperation in the exploration of oil in the South Vietnamese offshore area. ONGC will conduct further studies and evaluations in this regard.

## JAPAN

During the Prime Minister's visit in Japan, apart from meeting the Emperor, and holding extensive talks with Prime Minister, Yasuhiro Nakasone, the Prime Minister's programme included:

i) an address to the Japanese Diet (Parliament); ii) an address to Koidanron which is the main grouping of Japanese Economic Organisations; iii) a luncheon hosted by the Emperor and Empress in honour of the Prime Minister and Shrimati Sonia Gandhi; iv) an address to the joint meeting of the India-Japan Business Cooperation Committee; v) a reception hosted jointly by the India-Japan Association and the Dietmon's League for Japan-India Friendship; vi) a press conference at the Japan Press Club; vii) a visit, accompanied by the Prime Minister of Japan and Madame Nakasone, to UENO Zoo in Tokyo where two baby elephants "Asha" and "Daya", sent as a gift by the late Prime Minister, Indira Gandhi, are lodged; viii) Separate meetings with members of the Indian community at Tokya and Kobe; and ix) a visit to Kyoto, the ancient capital of Japan.

An agreement between the Government of India and the Government of Japan on cooperation in the field of science and technology was also signed by me with my Japanese counterpart Mr. Shintaro Abe, followed by separate talks with him. The agreement provides for the setting up of a joint committee to decide upon agreed programme of action.

The exchange of views between the two Prime Ministers covered bilateral relations as well as international issues of mutual interest. The Japanese Government has agreed to extend a 30 billion Yen (about Rs. 160 crore) special credit for a gas-based power plant for Assam. This would be in addition to the annual Yen credit of 39 billion Yen. Japan also agreed to assist India in setting up the Sanjay Gandhi Memorial Hospital in Lucknow.

The Prime Minister emphasised the need for enhancing cooperation between India and Japan in economic, commercial, scientific and technical fields, as well as in increasing exchanges in the cultural, educational and academic areas to promote better

understanding between the peoples of the two countries. In this regard, the possibility of organising a Festival of India in Japan in 1987-88 and a Japan Week in India was discussed.

The Prime Minister's visit to Japan, following as it did, Prime Minister Nakasone's visit to India in May 1984, can be considered as marking a new stage in the consolidation and development of our bilateral relations, not only for the mutual benefit but also for strengthening peace and prosperity in Asia and in the world.

PAN VIETNAM INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC MALDIVES

**Date :** Dec 31, 1985

## Volume No

1995

ROMANIA

India and Romania Agree for Trade Turn-over of Rupees Six Thousand Million by 1990

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 05, 1985 on the trade protocol signed between India and Romania:

The Indo-Romanian Joint Commission for economic, technical and scientific cooperation concluded its meeting today and a trade protocol was signed by the Commerce Minister, Shri Arjun Singh, and the Romanian Minister of Metallurgical Industry, Mr. Neculai Agachi. The leader of the Romanian delegation, Mr. Agachi, <pg-403>

had meetings with Shri K. C. Pant, Minister of Steel, Shri Vasant Sathe, Minister of Energy and Shri Nawal Kishore Sharma, Minister of Petroleum, during the past few days. The protocol provides for attaining a minimum trade turn-over of Rs. 2800 million during 1986, which indicates a growth of almost 16 per cent over the expected figure for 1985. The two sides also agreed to aim at a trade turnover of around Rs. 6,000 million by 1990, which will more than double the total existing trade.

During the talks, it was felt that the present level of bilateral trade did not reflect the good political and economic relations between India and Romania. The two sides, therefore, agreed to take steps for further expansion and diversification of trade in accordance with the economic potential and requirements of the two countries. A draft long-term trade and payments agreement for the period 1986-1990 was discussed and adopted. The next round of

discussions is due to be held in Romania late this month.

The protocol expresses satisfaction of the long-term contracts concluded for annual export of five million tonnes of iron-ore, 150,000 tonnes of manganese ore and 100,000 tonnes of bauxite between 1986-1990. It was also agreed to consider long-term arrangements for import from Romania of oil drilling and prospecting equipments, rolled steel and steel products, fertilizers, newsprint, railway equipments, ball roller and toper bearings, electronic components, instruments and systems, machine tools and metallurgical equipments of various types. Romania would import on a long term basis from India iron ore, concentrates and pellets, pepper and spices, mica and mica products, leather goods, shoe uppers and footwear components, machine tools and hand tools, bauxite, manganese ore, engineering goods and electronic components, instruments and systems, besides consumer goods soya and other deoiled extractions, cotton and coffee.

#### NON-TRADITIONAL ITEMS EXPORT

The level of exports of non-traditional items from India is sought to be steadily increased. These would include machinery and equipment, electronic goods, chemicals and allied projects, textiles and finished leather products.

It was noted in the protocol that the foreign trade organisations of the two countries had signed contracts totalling 613 million rupees during the Joint Commission meetings. Several projects for modernisation of plants, blast furnaces, material handling plants, etc. are being finalized with Romania. The other sectors in which Romania's assistance and technology will be utilized by India include hydroelectric generation, petroleum prospecting and refining, automobile ancillaries, earth-moving equipment and tractors, machine tools and electronics items. Romania has offered a full range of technology and equipments for manufacture in India of black and white T.V. picture tubes and parts. Cooperation in, third country markets is also envisaged.

AN ROMANIA INDIA USA RUSSIA

**Date :** Dec 05, 1985

## Volume No

1995

ROMANIA

Shri Arjun Singh Inaugurates Plenary Session of Indo-Romanian Joint Commission

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 02, 1985 on the inauguration of the plenary session of the Indo-Romanian Joint Commission by Shri Arjun Singh:

The eighth session of Indo-Romanian Joint Commission was inaugurated here this afternoon by the Commerce Minister. The 12 member Romanian delegation is led by H.E. Mr. Neculai Agachi, Minister of Metallurgy of the Socialist Republic of Romania.

Addressing the Plenary meeting, Shri Arjun Singh said that in spite of impres-  
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sive growth of trade between India and Romania in the last two years, the level of trade and the limited range of the commodities covered did not give ground for satisfaction. He said that, in the context of the close political relationship between the two countries and the potentialities and requirements of their economies, India would like to see a speedy growth of bilateral trade towards increasingly higher levels in the coming years. He felt that it would be necessary to have a continuous review of ways in which the range and volume of trade could be increased. He pointed out that the rapid change and modernisation of Indian industries would enable it to offer large quantities of non-traditional items, covering a very wide range of products in the fields of engineering, electronics, chemicals, consumer durables and various other items.

Referring to the rupee trade arrangements, the Commerce Minister said that it had contributed significantly to the increase of trade between the two countries. Indo-Romanian trade had reached a figure of 2310 million rupees in 1984 from the low level of around 818 million rupees in 1976. India, at present, is importing a large quantity of PVC resins, metallurgical equipments, steel products, fertilizers, oil prospecting and drilling equipments as well as railway equipment. India's major exports to Romania consist of iron ore, leather, manganese ore, de-oiled cakes and graphite electrodes.

Shri Arjun Singh referred to the important developments taking place in India's political and economic life which aimed at the achievement of the national objectives of growth, equity and social justice, self-reliance and higher efficiency with optimum productivity and a rise in the G.D.P. of around five per cent. He said that the total investment in the seventh Five Year Plan period would be over Rs. 3200 billion, of which the public sector outlay would be Rs. 1800 billion. In the ambitious plan of the public sector, he said, power would account for Rs. 340 billion, petroleum around Rs. 120 billion railways nearly Rs. 120 billion and telecommunications about Rs. 45 billion. The Minister pointed out that in terms of physical targets, it is expected to instal an additional generating capacity of 22,245 MW, increase of crude

output from 29 million tonnes to 34.5 million tonnes and natural gas from 7.2 million cubic metres to 14.9 billion cubic metres by 1989-90. The domestic production of electronic goods is to be raised to the value of Rs. 7 billion, coal production to 226 million tonnes and steel output to 12 million tonnes.

In view of these developments, the Commerce Minister called upon the Joint Commission to draw a suitable plan which would provide the frame-work and opportunity to further the common objective of a big expansion in Indo-Romanian trade.

AN ROMANIA INDIA USA

**Date :** Dec 02, 1985

## Volume No

1995

ROMANIA

India and Romania Sign Lon-term Trade and Payments Agreement

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 25, 1985 on the signing of a long-term trade and payments agreement between India and Romania:

A long-term and payments agreement between India and Romania for the years 1986 to 1990 was signed in Bucharest on December 20, 1985 by Shri P.A. Sangma, Minister of State and Mr. Vasile Pungan, Romanian Minister of Foreign Trade and International Economic Cooperation. The agreement envisages a total turn over of rupees six billion in 1990 and provides that both sides will export commodities and manufactures on a balanced basis.

Wide-ranging talks were earlier held between Shri P.A. Sangma and Mr. Vasile Pungan, the leaders of the two delegations.  
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The two sides agreed that necessary conditions exist for further strengthening and diversifying the trade and economic cooperation between the two countries. The scope for cooperation in the third country projects was also underlined.

Indo-Romanian trade is presently around rupees two billion and is expected to grow three times during the next five years. India exports a variety of items including iron ore, manganese, bauxite, soya extractions, cotton, machine tools, tea and coffee etc. to Romania. The oil field equipment steel, chemicals and

fertilisers etc. are the major imports. A special feature of the agreement is the long-term trade plan under which both sides have agreed on long-term contracts for selected commodities. These include import of steel products and fertilisers from Romania and higher quantities of iron ore (5 million tons in 1986), manganese and bauxite from India. The annual trade plan for the year 1986 envisages in actual turnover of rupees 280 crores on a balanced basis. This represents about forty per cent growth over the trade figures for 1985.

Shri P. A. Sangma also called on Prime Minister Constantin Dascalesou. Satisfaction was expressed at recent positive developments in Indo-Romanian economic and commercial relations and both sides agreed to make further efforts to achieve the higher potential of exchanges between the two countries.

AN ROMANIA INDIA RUSSIA

**Date :** Dec 25, 1985

## Volume No

1995

### SOUTH ASIAN REGIONAL COOPERATION

#### Text of Prime Minister's Address

The following is the text of the address by Shri Rajiv Gandhi, Prime Minister of India, to the first South Asian Regional Cooperation Summit, Dhaka, on Dec 07, 1985:

Mr. Chairman, Majesties, Presidents, Excellencies, Distinguished Guests, today is an important day in the history of resurgent Asia. Seven neighbours have come together in an act of faith. The South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation is born. So this city, famed for its gossamer weave, capital of golden Bangladesh, witnesses the birth of a promising Institution.

#### GREAT CRUCIBLES OF HUMAN CREATIVITY

The South Asian region has been one of the great crucibles of human creativity. Here, an indigenous civilization, whose origins stretch back into an unfathomed antiquity, interacted with peoples and races who poured in from distant parts of the world. Out of the intermingling of their ideas, philosophies and ways of life grew the noble heritage to which all our seven countries can lay claim.

Through recorded history, this fruitful interaction continued, both within the region and with those who came from outside. We have venerated the Vedas, the Dhammapada, the Quran, the Bible and the Granth Sahib. On our soil have been born saints and sages, seers and epic poets, men and women of profound wisdom who have given to the world some of its great religions and many of its deepest philosophies. South Asia is the home of Mohenjodaro and Anuradhapura and the Taj Mahal; Patan and Kyi-chu; Mainamati and the Mukuru Mosque.

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Nature gave us mighty mountains, fertile plains, lush forests, teeming rivers and bountiful oceans. We developed into one of the most advanced regions of the world, always in the forefront, sometimes ahead of everyone else. Our agriculture and our textiles, our arts and crafts, our sculpture and architecture, our painting, music and dance matured into one of the great splendours of the world. The world sought us out. Perilous voyages and dangerous journeys were undertaken to see something of the glory of this fabled land, bounded to the north by the majestic Himalayas and on all sides by the vast ocean.

And then came the dark age of imperialism. Our economies stagnated, our societies stultified, our cultures turned in upon themselves.

We emerged from two centuries of colonial oppression as free, independent, equal countries. We each have our personalities, our particular characteristics, our nuances of culture and spirituality. We vary in size. Our endowments differ. Our paths to development are our own. Our political systems are not all the same. But we are all of us animated by a shared spirit of South Asia. Among our peoples, there is an immediate recognition and familiarity, a sense of shared values, fellow-feeling and brotherhood. It is upon this natural goodwill that we build.

#### DIVERSITY OF REGION

India welcomes the diversity of our region. We affirm the sovereign equality of the seven States of South Asia. We have much to learn from one another and much to give. We have a profound faith in peaceful coexistence. We are confident we share these beliefs with all our partners in the region.

We of South Asia constitute one-fifth of the world population. Cooperation amongst us constitutes cooperation within a vast segment of humanity. At the Asian Relations Conference in New Delhi in 1947, Jawaharlal Nehru declared, "We meet together, we hold together, we advance together". South Asian cooperation is an important step towards realising the larger Asian consciousness.

The Nonaligned Movement, to which all of us belong, has made the

pursuit of peace, progress, prosperity and the establishment of a new world order the centre-piece of its efforts. SARC gives practical form in our region to the Declaration on Collective Self-reliance adopted at the New Delhi Nonaligned Summit.

It was at the initiative of our host country, Bangladesh, that South Asian regional cooperation began taking shape five years ago. We have made modest but important beginnings in key areas of development. We have provided SARC with a functioning institutional base. We have dispelled the suspicions that were thought to exist and demonstrated the possibilities of mutual cooperation in our region. South Asian regional cooperation is now generating its own momentum and itself providing the impetus for further cooperation.

#### SPIRIT OF SOLIDARITY

Today, we move from only having a programme of cooperation to forming an Association, A spirit of solidarity, sharing and unity of purpose has brought us together. We celebrated the completion of the initial phase and together move into the next.

Certainly we have problems and difficulties, and these do impose constraints on us. Enduring cooperation is cooperation adapted to the realities of our condition. The model we have evolved for ourselves is a model which is in accord with our realities, our compulsions and our genius. We have not sought to melt our bilateral relationships into a common regional identity, but rather to fit South Asian cooperation into our respective foreign policies as an additional dimension. We have evolved modalities which do not allow bilateral stresses and strains to impinge on regional cooperation. Our cooperation tempers enthusiasm with pragmatism, and initiative with consensus. At  
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the same time, in the light of our experience of the recent past, we have every reason to hope that the practice of regional cooperation will have a beneficial impact on bilateral relationships.

#### TURBULENT TIMES

We are living in turbulent times. The world economy remains immersed in deep crisis. International economic institutions are in disarray. The consensus on development has broken down. Multilateralism has come under severe strain. In most developing countries, growth has sharply decelerated or ground to a standstill. On the whole, our region has weathered the crisis well. But all seven of us continue to be confronted with formidable problems of poverty, illiteracy, malnutrition and disease. We have to overcome these problems in a highly adverse external environment. South Asian cooperation points the way to collective self-reliance. Our endeavours strengthen the forces of

multilateralism and world-wide cooperation.

This Summit has given rise to great expectations among our peoples and in the outside world. We have taken a decisive step forward in establishing the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation. Its success will depend on the involvement of our peoples in their hundreds of millions.

The developing countries seek peace and stability to pursue their development. Prevailing tensions and the continuing nuclear arms race pose a serious threat to our progress and prosperity. We must make a conscious effort to remain outside the vortex of these tensions and conflicts. In the true spirit of Nonalignment, our cooperation should set an example for others.

This Summit broadens the vision of South Asian cooperation. It gives a new impetus and fresh direction to our endeavour. It consolidates the institutional basis of our cooperation. Above all, it fosters peaceful and good neighbourly relations between our countries. We are happy to belong to this family of South Asian nations. Gurudev Rabindranath Thakur's prayer for his country could well be the prayer for our family:

"Let the earth and the water, the air and  
the fruits of my country be sweet,  
my God.

Let the homes and marts, the forests  
and fields of my country be full,  
my God.

Let the promises and hopes, the deeds  
and words of my country be true,  
my God.

Let the lives and hearts of the sons and  
daughters of my country be one,  
my God.

To our Chairman, President Ershad, and to the Government of Bangladesh we extend our grateful thanks for the excellent arrangements they have made. And to the people of Bangladesh our gratitude for the warmth of their welcome and the generous hospitality for which they are renowned.

Thank you.

DIA BANGLADESH USA UNITED KINGDOM

**Date :** Dec 07, 1985

# Volume No

1995

## SOUTH ASIAN REGIONAL COOPERATION

### Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's Speech at the Concluding Session of First SARC Summit

The following is the text of the address by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, at the concluding session of the first South Asian Regional Cooperation Summit at Dhaka on Oct 08, 1985:

Mr. Chairman, Your Majesties, Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies  
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and Gentlemen, we came to this Summit two days ago with confidence in our plans and high hopes of realising our aims. Here in Dhaka, we have witnessed the coming of a new dawn.

We have experienced the warmth of the fraternity to which our billion people belong. We have emerged as a democracy of nations, where each has an equal voice, where each is listened to with equal respect and where conclusions are reached in unanimity through consensus and concord.

Through the Charter, which this Summit has adopted, we engage ourselves in making South Asia a region of peace and a haven of harmony. We shall do so while preserving the indomitable independence of our countries and the rich diversity of our cultures.

The South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation is the world's most populous regional grouping. We have agreed on a programme and schedule of work that will engrain in us the habit of cooperation. We have given ourselves institutions which will adapt to our widening cooperation. These decisions have been arrived at with rapidity, great cordiality and a striking unity of purpose.

We have discovered that in seeking the destiny of South Asia we speak in the same idiom. We draw our inspiration from similar sources. Our aspirations for our peoples have much in common. Cooperation in our region will buttress and reinforce our national development plans.

Our Foreign Ministers will be meeting twice within the next few months, and our experts even more frequently. We must demonstrate achievements in the nine areas where preparatory work has been completed. Technical work must begin in the new areas we have

identified. Above all, let us involve our people in every facet of our activity, for South Asian Regional Cooperation must be a people's movement, involving the hearts and minds of all our people.

We must be neither constricted in our ambitions nor superficial in our endeavours. As we advance we must consolidate. Enduring cooperation deepens even as it widens itself.

The leadership which you, Mr. Chairman, have provided has contributed greatly to our success. We have been the beneficiaries of the hard work and long hours which Bangladesh has put into making such meticulous arrangements for our meeting. We have been welcomed in the city of Dhaka at its beautiful best. Every event has been organised with precision. All of us are deeply appreciative of your dedication and devotion to the high ideals of cooperation in South Asia.

All of you have done India a great honour by requesting us to host the next Summit of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation. It is our great privilege to accept your kind invitation to do so. We are thankful for the confidence you have reposed in us. We look forward to welcoming you in India in the autumn of 1986.

As we take leave of each other, Kazi Nazrul Islam's words ring in our ears:

Knocking at the door of dawn We shall usher in a new morning We shall overcome the dark night And mountains of obstacles.

BNGLADESH USA INDIA

**Date :** Oct 08, 1985

## Volume No

1995

SOUTH ASIAN REGIONAL COOPERATION

Fourth Meeting of the Foreign Ministers of SARC - Text of Shri Bhagat's Address

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 06, 1985 of the speech by the Minister of External Affairs, Shri B. R. Bhagat at the fourth meeting of the Foreign Ministers of SARC countries in Dhaka on December 5.1 1985:

Allow me, at the outset, to extend to you, Mr. Chairman, our

warmest felicitations on your assumption of the  
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Chairmanship of this important meeting. We are very happy to see in the Chair a person of your wealth of experience, wisdom and keen interest, in and commitment to, South Asian Regional Cooperation. I am confident that under your stewardship, we would be able to prepare fully for the historic summit which will follow our meeting.

It is very appropriate that the first ever Summit of the South Asian countries is being held in your great country. It is a fitting tribute to the initiative taken by your country for launching the SARC, and the active role that Bangladesh has since played in its evolution. I would also like to express our deep appreciation for the generous hospitality that we have received and for the excellent arrangements that have been made for the Summit conference and for the meetings preceding it. This is in true tradition of the generosity, and hospitality characteristic of our region. We owe a special debt to the distinguished Foreign Minister of Bhutan, H.E., Dawa Tshering, for the able guidance that he has provided for the work of SARC since the Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Thimpu.

The international environment in which our meeting is taking place is no source of encouragement for us. International relations continued to be marred by tensions, strike and conflicts. The arms race, particularly, the nuclear arms race, is continuing unabated. There are now more than 50,000 warheads in the arsenals of the nuclear weapon States. This can destroy our planet, including all traces of human civilisation on it, many times over. The nuclear arms race is now acquiring new dimensions with plans for the development and deployment of new weapon systems in the outer space and new generation of nuclear and conventional weapons. The expenditure being incurred on this irrational quest for power and supremacy is about to reach the staggering figure of one trillion dollars. This has deprived the civilian sectors of the resources that are sorely needed for recovery and modernisation. It has also emerged as the principal factor responsible for the continuing global economic crisis.

#### CONFLICTS OF MAJOR POWERS

Unfortunately, all of this has spilled over into the third world. Too many developing nations are today compelled to spend their precious resources on weapons rather than for peoples' welfare, as they get drawn into the conflicts of the major powers.

#### WORLD ECONOMY

The world economy is yet to recover from the crisis of the early 80's. Much hope had been placed on the recovery in some of the developed countries in 1984. But this has turned out to be a

short-lived phenomenon. The rate of growth of these countries has already slowed down considerably in 1985, and the prognosis for the future is still slower rate of growth. These countries face the formidable problems of very high rates of interest, structural budget deficits, unacceptably high level of unemployment, and various kinds of structural problems.

The growth process in most of the developing countries has slowed down considerably. Many of these countries are carrying an excessively heavy burden of debts and debt repayments. In the foreseeable future, all their foreign exchange earnings will not be adequate even to pay for their debt servicing liabilities, thus making prospects for growth very grim indeed. In our region we are grappling with the problems of mass poverty, illiteracy, squalour and disease in an extremely unfavourable external environment. There is a substantial decline in the level of concessional development financing. Prospects for mobilising resources from private foreign sources, remain uncertain and unpredictable. The prices of commodities of interest to us remain depressed. And most of the manufactured goods in which we have acquired a comparative edge are gradually being shut out of the markets of the developed countries,

This situation has made it imperative for us to pool our own resources to solve  
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our problems. Cooperation among our countries has become essential for building both national and collective self-reliance. It also constitutes an important contribution to South-South cooperation to which we are all committed in the various declarations and resolutions adopted by the forums of the Non-aligned Movement as well as by other international forums. We are convinced that our regional cooperation will go a long way towards strengthening the forces of peace, stability and cooperation at a time when international cooperation is at its lowest ebb and multilateralism, is being fast eroded.

#### COMMON HISTORY

We share common history, tradition, culture and values. We have inherited many common institutional and physical infrastructures. We have had the privilege of leading the struggle for independence among the newly independent nations. And today we are waging a common struggle for improving the lot of our peoples and establishing a world order based on equality, justice, and fairplay.

In spite of these commonalities, we are late starters in the movement for regional and sub-regional cooperation. It should, therefore, be a matter of satisfaction for us that during the last two years since SARC was launched, we have been able to overcome the initial hesitations and have undertaken intense

activities of regional cooperation in as many as nine areas. We have made considerable headway in identifying our capabilities and needs and mapping out the scope of regional cooperation. We have also started implementing some of the programmes of cooperation, particularly through the Organisation of workshops and seminars, exchange of expertise and experience and provision of training facilities. We have also identified a number of regional projects designed to build institutions which can serve as a framework for continuing exchange of experience, solving problems, and putting cooperation on a lasting and continuing basis. We have achieved these results at a time when regional and sub-regional groupings all over the world are encountering tremendous problems and some of them are even stagnating.

In spite of the spurt in activities under SARC, we should not forget that our achievements are still very modest and that we have made just a beginning on the road towards full-fledged regional cooperation. The vast potentialities of cooperation in the region derived from geographical continuity and the numerous complementarities in our economies still remain largely untapped. Some of the major areas of development, such as trade, industry, energy and environment have yet to be brought within the scope of SARC.

#### PRAGMATIC APPROACH

We have, indeed, been very wise in following a cautious and pragmatic approach to regional cooperation in the beginning. We have very rightly proceeded on the assumption that confidence begets confidence and that cooperation in One area provides impetus for cooperation in other areas. This approach should continue to be a guiding factor in future cooperation. We must remain sensitive to the difficulties and problems of the individual countries of the region and adjust the pace and scope of our cooperation accordingly.,

At the same time, the full potentialities of regional cooperation cannot be realised until the hard core sectors of development are brought within its ambit. This is also the only way in which we can ensure equitable distribution of the benefits of regional cooperation. Moreover, projects and programmes of SARC will not acquire internal coherence and consistency and cannot be integrated with the development plans and policies of the individual countries until we start cooperation in these areas of economic activities also. I would, therefore, urge that the possibility of cooperation in some of these areas should be examined at the technical level in order to facilitate decision on this matter subsequently.

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#### SECRETARIAT

Another important subject on which we should seek to arrive at a

consensus is the question of the establishment of a Secretariat for SARC. It is true that until now the need for a Secretariat has not been felt very acutely. But, as more and more regional projects mature, we will be faced with common technical and financial problems. I fully share the view of some of my colleagues that we should avoid the pitfall of costly bureaucracy - which we cannot afford - until there is an acute need for it. But we do need a mechanism to ensure better coordination and implementation and to establish inter-sectoral priorities.

Mr. Chairman, SARC will enter a new phase altogether with the convening of the Summit. It will be the realisation of a dream for which so many of us have worked for such a long time. SARC will now be established as an Association and will have a Charter of its own, embodying the goals, objectives and guiding principles of South Asian cooperation. The Council of Ministers to be established under the Charter and the periodic summit meetings will facilitate political-level decision making. Moreover, the Summit, by putting SARC on a solid institutional basis, will improve implementation of programmes and projects. Finally, it will provide SARC the political impetus for its more effective and ambitious functioning.

#### CHARTER

The charter which will be adopted at the Summit lays down the objectives which should govern cooperation among the countries of the region. From amongst them, I would like to highlight what I think is the ultimate and all-embracing objective, i.e. "to promote the welfare of the peoples of South Asia and to improve their quality of life". If we keep this objective constantly in mind, our movement will go from strength to strength and will constantly acquire new dimensions, going beyond the social, economic, cultural and scientific cooperation to which SARC is supposed to remain confined. SARC has already started fostering habits of cooperation among our countries and has created a climate which will facilitate the solution of not only our common economic problems, but also our bilateral political problems. We must keep the process going and continue to import strength and vigour to it even in the midst of vicissitudes of our bilateral relations.

DIA BANGLADESH USA BHUTAN CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC RUSSIA PERU

**Date :** Dec 06, 1985

**Volume No**

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1995

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Foreign Minister's Statement in Parliament on SARC

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The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 10, 1985 of the text of the statement made by the Minister for External Affairs, Shri B. R. Bhagat., in both the Houses of Parliament on December 9 on the SARC Summit conference held in Dhaka on 7-8 December, 1985:

The first Summit conference of South Asian countries was held in Dhaka on 7-8 December, 1985. Prior to the Summit, a meeting of the Standing Committee, comprising the Foreign Secretaries followed by a meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the seven countries were held from 4-5th December to prepare for the Summit.

The Heads of State or Government of South Asian countries adopted a Charter and a Declaration and issued a Joint Press Statement containing certain important decisions on the last day of the Summit. Copies of the Charter, the Declaration and Joint Press Statement are laid on the Table of the House.

I am glad to inform the House that our Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi  
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was unanimously requested to convene the next Summit meeting in India. Our Prime Minister's offer in response, to host such a Conference has been accepted. The Prime Minister's offer for convening a Ministerial meeting on the participation of women in activities at regional level within the framework of SAARC has also been accepted.

The Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, met all participating Heads of State and Government. Both bilateral and multilateral issues of mutual interest were discussed. In the meeting with President Ershad of Bangladesh, satisfaction was expressed at the present state of relations. Besides other matters, an understanding has been reached that India and Bangladesh will jointly deal with the Mizo, Chakma and TNV insurgencies. With the King of Bhutan the two leaders carried forward the discussions held only a few months ago when the Prime Minister visited the Kingdom of Bhutan. The President of Maldives extended an invitation to Prime Minister to visit the Maldives. This has been accepted with pleasure. King Birendra and the Prime Minister reviewed the development of relations since the King's visit to India. It has been agreed that President Zia of Pakistan will come to New Delhi for a day on the 17th December when discussions on bilateral matters will be continued. The Prime Minister exchanged views with President Jayewardene of Sri Lanka on the Sri Lankan ethnic problem.

## HISTORIC EVENT

The Summit can be rightly described as an historic event. It formally brought into being what the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, called in his concluding statement: "The most populous regional grouping in the world".

The decision at the conference to have more frequent meetings of the Heads of State or Government and of the Foreign Ministers of the member-countries has created a much-needed forum for regional consultations at a very high level. Such consultations are expected to promote goodwill, understanding and friendship among the member-countries of SAARC which will have a positive impact on the bilateral relations between these countries. New areas of cooperation have been identified and instructions given to intensify South Asian Regional Cooperation. The Heads of State or Government have placed considerable emphasis on people-to-people contacts and their involvement in the activities under the aegis of SAARC. From now onwards, the activities under SAARC will be vested with the authority of the political will and determination of the member-Governments at the highest level.

## INDIA'S ROLE

Under the leadership of the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, India played an important role in the Summit conference. That role was well appreciated and widely recognized.

While the Summit conference has ushered in a new era of cooperation among the South Asian countries, we should not underestimate the difficulties that we are going to encounter in this ambitious venture. We have still to overcome the bitterness of the past and satisfactorily resolve some of the current problems in our relations. There are also, inevitably, differences in our perception of both national interests and global issues. SAARC provides both a challenge as well as an opportunity to overcome these difficulties.

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## CHARTER OF SOUTH ASIAN ASSOCIATION FOR REGIONAL COOPERATION

We, the Heads of State or Government of Bangladesh, Bhutan ' India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka;

Desirous of promoting peace, stability, amity and progress in the region through strict adherence to the principles of the United Nations Charter and Non-Alignment, particularly respect for the principles of sovereign equality, territorial integrity, national independence, non-use of force and non-interference in the internal affairs of other states and peaceful settlement of all disputes;

Conscious that in an increasingly interdependent world, the objectives of peace, freedom, social justice and economic prosperity are best achieved in the South Asian region by fostering mutual understanding, good neighbourly relations and meaningful cooperation among the Member States which are bound by ties of history and culture;

Aware of the common problems, interests and aspirations of the people of South Asia and the need for joint action and enhanced cooperation within their respective political and economic systems and cultural traditions;

Convinced that regional cooperation among the countries of South Asia is mutually beneficial, desirable and necessary for promoting the welfare and improving the quality of life of the peoples of the region;

Convinced further that economic, social and technical cooperation among the countries of South Asia would contribute significantly to national and collective self-reliance;

Recognising that increased cooperation, contacts and exchanges among the countries of the region will contribute to the promotion of friendship and understanding among their peoples;

Recalling the Declaration signed by their Foreign Ministers in New Delhi on August 2, 1983 and noting the progress achieved in regional cooperation;

Reaffirming their determination to promote such cooperation within an institutional framework.

Do Hereby

Agree to establish an organisation to be known as South Asian Association For Regional Cooperation hereinafter referred to as the Association, with the following objectives, principles, institutional and financial arrangement;

Article I

OBJECTIVE

1. The objectives of the Association shall be:

a) to promote the welfare of the peoples of South Asia and to improve their quality of life;

b) to accelerate economic growth, social progress and cultural development in the region and to provide all individuals the opportunity to live in dignity and to realise their full potentials;

c)to promote and strengthen collective self-reliance among the countries of South Asia;

d)to contribute to mutual trust, understanding and appreciation of one another's problems;

e)to promote active collaboration and mutual assistance in the economic, social, cultural, technical and scientific fields;

f)to strengthen cooperation with other developing countries;  
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g)to strengthen cooperation among themselves in international forums on matters of common interests; and

h)to cooperate with international and regional organisations with similar aims and purposes.

## Article II

### PRINCIPLES

1.Cooperation within the framework of the Association shall be based on respect for the principles of sovereign equality, territorial integrity, political independence, non-interference in the internal affairs of other States and mutual benefit

2.Such cooperation shall not be a substitute for bilateral and multilateral cooperation but shall complement them.

3.Such cooperation shall not be inconsistent with bilateral and multilateral obligations.

## Article III

### MEETINGS OF THE HEADS OF STATE OR GOVERNMENT

1.The Heads of State or Government shall meet once a year or more often as and when considered necessary by the Member States.

## Article IV

### COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

A Council of Ministers consisting of the Foreign Ministers of the Member States shall be established with the following functions:

a)formulation of the policies of the Association;

b)review of the progress of cooperation under the Association;

c)decision on new areas of cooperation;

d) establishment of additional mechanism under the Association as deemed necessary;

e) decision on other matters of general interest to the Association.

2. The Council of Ministers shall meet twice a year. Extraordinary session of the Council may be held by agreement among the Member States.

#### Article V

#### STANDING COMMITTEE

The Standing Committee comprising the Foreign Secretaries shall have the following functions:

a) overall monitoring and coordination of programme of cooperation;

b) approval of projects and programmes, and the modalities of their financing;

c) determination of inter-sectoral priorities;

d) mobilisation of regional and external resources;

e) identification of new areas of cooperation based on appropriate studies;

2. The Standing Committee shall meet as often as deemed necessary.

3. The Standing Committee shall submit periodic reports to the Council of Ministers and make reference to it as and when necessary for decisions on policy matters.

#### Article VI

#### TECHNICAL COMMITTEES

Technical Committees comprising representatives of Member States shall be responsible for the implementation, coordination and monitoring of the programmes in their respective areas of cooperation

2. They shall have the following terms of reference:

a) determination of the potential and the scope of regional cooperation in agreed areas;

b) formulation of programmes and preparation of projects;

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- c) determination of financial implications of sectoral programmes;
- d) formulation of recommendations regarding apportionment of costs.
- e) implementation and coordination of sectoral programmes;
- f) monitoring of progress in implementation.

3. The Technical Committee shall submit periodic reports to the Standing Committee.

4. The Chairmanship of the Technical Committees shall normally rotate among Member States in alphabetical order every two years.

5. The Technical Committees may, inter-alia, use the following mechanisms and modalities, if and when considered necessary:

- a) meetings of heads of national technical agencies;
- b) meetings of experts in specific fields;
- c) contact amongst recognised centres of excellence in the region.

## Article VII

### ACTION COMMITTEES

1. The Standing Committee may set up Action Committees comprising Member States concerned with implementation of projects involving more than two but not all Member States.

## Article VIII

### SECRETARIAT

1. There shall be a Secretariat of the Association.

## Article IX

### FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

1. The contribution of each Member State towards financing of the activities of the Association shall be voluntary.

2. Each Technical Committee shall make recommendations for the apportionment of costs of implementing the programmes proposed by it.

3. In case sufficient financial resources cannot be mobilised within the region for funding activities of the Association,

external financing from appropriate sources may be mobilised with the approval of or by the Standing Committee.

Article X

#### GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. Decisions at all levels shall be taken on the basis of unanimity.

2. Bilateral and contentious issues shall be excluded from the deliberations.

In Faith Whereof we have set our Hands and Seals Here-unto.

Done in Dhaka, Bangladesh, on this the Eighth day of December of the year One thousand nine hundred eighty five.

Hussain Muhammad Ershad President of the Peoples Republic of Bangladesh

Jigme Singye Wangchuck King of Bhutan  
Rajiv Gandhi

Prime Minister of the Republic of India

Maumoon Abdul Gayoom President of the Republic of Maldives

Birendra Bir Bikram Shah Dev King of Nepal.

Muhammad Zia-ul-Haq President of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan

Julius Richard Jayewardene President of Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.  
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#### DHAKA DECLARATION

Dhaka Declaration of the Heads of State or Government of the Member States of South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation, December 8, 1985:

The President of Bangladesh, the King of Bhutan, the Prime Minister of India, the President of Maldives, the King of Nepal, the President of Pakistan and the President of Sri Lanka met in Dhaka on 7 and 8 December, 1985.

The Heads of State or Government underscored the historic significance of their first ever South Asian Summit meeting. They considered it to be a tangible manifestation of their determination to cooperate regionally, to work together towards finding solutions towards their common problems in a spirit of friendship, trust and mutual understanding and to the creation of

an order based on mutual respect, equity and shared benefits.

They recognized that periodic meetings at their level were central to the promotion of mutual trust confidence and cooperation among their countries.

The Heads of State or Government reaffirmed that their fundamental goal was to accelerate the process of economic and social development in their respective countries through the optimum utilization of their human and material resources, so as to promote the welfare and prosperity of their peoples and improve their quality of life. They were conscious that peace and security was an essential pre-requisite for the realization of this objective.

The leaders of the South Asian countries reaffirmed their commitment to the UN Charter and the principles governing sovereign equality of States, peaceful settlement of disputes, non-interference in internal affairs and non-use of threat of use of force against the territorial integrity and political independence of other States. They reiterated that the United Nations constituted the most important forum for the resolution of all issues affecting international peace and security.

They also reaffirmed their deep conviction in the continuing validity and relevance of the objectives of the Nonaligned Movement as an important force in international relations.

The Heads of State or Government acknowledged that the countries of South Asia, who constituted one-fifth of humanity were faced with the formidable challenges posed by poverty, underdevelopment, low levels of production, unemployment, and pressure of population compounded by exploitation of the past and other adverse legacies. They felt that, bound as their countries were by many common values rooted in their social, ethnic, cultural and historical traditions, regional cooperation provided a logical response to these problems. They were conscious of their individual and regional strengths, their potential as a huge market, their substantial human and natural resources and complementarities of their economies. They were confident that with effective regional cooperation, they could make optimum use of these capacities for the benefit of their peoples, accelerate the pace of their economic development and enhance their national and collective self-reliance. They were convinced that their countries, which had made important contributions to the enrichment of human civilization, could together play their due role in international relations and influence decisions which affected them.

The Heads of State or Government emphasised that strengthening of regional cooperation in South Asia required greater involvement of their peoples. They agreed to increase interaction and further promote people-to-people contacts at various levels among their

countries. To this end, they decided to take steps to create awareness and public opinion in the region.

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The Heads of State or Government welcomed the progress already made in the implementation of the Integrated Programmes of Action in the nine mutually agreed areas. They expressed their desire to consolidate and further expand cooperative efforts within an appropriate institutional framework in a spirit of partnership and equality.

The leaders were convinced that they could effectively pursue their individual and collective objectives and improve the quality of life of their peoples only in an atmosphere of peace and security. In this context, they expressed concern at the deteriorating international political situation. They were alarmed at the unprecedented escalation of arms race, particularly in its nuclear aspect. They recognized that mankind today was confronted with the threat of self extinction arising from a massive accumulation of the most destructive weapons ever produced. The arms race intensified international tension and violated the principles of the UN Charter. The leaders called upon the nuclear weapons-States for urgent negotiations for a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty leading to the complete cessation of testing, production and deployment of nuclear weapons. In this connection, they welcomed the recent meeting between President Reagan and General Secretary Gorbachev in Geneva and expressed the hope that the meeting would have a positive effect on international peace and security.

The Heads of State or Government expressed deep concern at the continuing crisis in the global economy. They underscored that deteriorating economic and social conditions had seriously retarded development prospects in South Asia and other developing countries. Sharply falling commodity prices, deterioration in the terms of trade, intensification of protectionist measures, spiralling debt burden and a decline in the flow of external resources, especially concessional assistance, had caused a serious setback to the economic development of the developing countries. These had been compounded by natural disasters and precarious world food security situation affecting developing countries. They also expressed concern over the diminishing capacity of international financial and technical institutions to respond effectively to the needs of the disadvantaged and poorer countries and regretted that the spirit of multilateral cooperation had begun to falter and weaken. This was particularly disturbing in the face of increased interdependence of developed and developing countries and the fact that economic revival of North was closely linked to economic progress in South. They believed that developments during the past decades had clearly demonstrated the structural imbalances and inequalities inherent in the existing international economic system and its inadequacy to deal with problems of development.

They strongly urged that determined efforts should be made by the international community towards realization of the goals and targets of the international development strategy as well as the Substantial New Programme of Action for the Least Developed countries. They called for urgent resumption of the North-South dialogue and early convening of an International Conference on Money and Finance for Development with universal participation.

The Heads of State and Government were conscious of the historic importance of the Dhaka Summit and reiterated their conviction that the launching of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) which they had established at this meeting, would place regional cooperation on a firm foundation, play an important role in accelerating the pace of economic and social development of their countries, promote the objectives of individual and collective self-reliance and further the cause of peace, progress and stability in their region and the world.

The Heads of the State or Government of Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka were deeply appreciative of the exemplary Chairmanship of their Meeting by the President of

Bangladesh. They expressed their profound gratitude for the warm and gracious hospitality extended to them by the Government and the people of Bangladesh and for the excellent arrangements made for the meeting.

#### JOINT PRESS RELEASE

Joint Press Release issued at the conclusion of the First SARC Summit in Dhaka on 7-8 December, 1985:

The President of Bangladesh, the King of Bhutan, the Prime Minister of India, the President of Maldives, the King of Nepal, the President of Pakistan and the President of Sri Lanka met in Dhaka on 7 and 8 December, 1985.

The Heads of State or Government signed a Charter of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation on the 8th of December, 1985. They also adopted the Dhaka Declaration.

They approved that the Standing Committee should set up a Study Group to examine the problem of terrorism as it affects the security and stability of member states of SAARC. They further directed the Council of Ministers to consider the report of this Study Group and submit recommendations to them as to how best the member states could cooperate among themselves to solve this.

They also approved that a similar exercise be carried out with

regard to the problem of drug trafficking and abuse.

They decided that the member Governments should concert their views on the ongoing discussions on New International Economic Order and the improvement of the World Trading System through GATT taking particularly into account the interest of the least developed among the developing countries. For this purpose it was decided to convene a Ministerial level meeting. The Standing Committee should convene a meeting to prepare for it. The Heads of State or Government gratefully accepted the offer of the President of Pakistan to host both these meetings.

The Heads of State or Government emphasized that women should increasingly participate in activities at the regional level within the framework of SAARC and the programmes and projects should be devised to ensure- their active participation in that development process. They therefore, directed the Standing Committee to convene a Ministerial level Conference on the subject to identify the areas of activities and plan a Programme of Action. They gratefully accepted the offer of the Prime Minister of India to host such a Conference.

The Heads of State or Government who have decided that the Association shall have a Secretariat directed the Foreign Ministers to consider details regarding its location, structure, functions and financing and submit those for the consideration of Heads of State or Government.

The Heads of State or Government decided to hold their next meeting in November, 1986. They gratefully accepted the offer of the Prime Minister of India  
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to host that meeting. They also gratefully accepted the offer of the King of Bhutan to host the annual SAARC Summit of 1987.

The Heads of State or Government unanimously accepted the recommendation of the fourth meeting of Foreign Ministers on the emblem of SAARC.

DIA USA BANGLADESH BHUTAN CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC MALDIVES PAKISTAN SRI  
LANKA NEPAL SWITZERLAND

**Date :** Dec 10, 1985

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Trade Agreement Signed in Moscow

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The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 26, 1985 on Me trade talks between India and the Soviet Union held in Moscow:

Trade talks between India and the U.S.S.R. ended in Moscow on Monday, the 23rd of December, 1985.

The Union Commerce Minister, Shri Arjun Singh, and the Soviet Minister for Foreign Trade, Mr. B. I. Aristov signed a trade agreement, deferred payment protocol and finalised the long term plan for mutual supply of goods for the period 1986-90.

Soon after the signing ceremony, Shri Arjun Singh expressed satisfaction at the stable framework of Indo-USSR trade and said that the agreement signed between the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, and the Soviet Communist Party General Secretary, Gorbachev on the main direction of economic, scientific and technical cooperation between India and the USSR for the period upto 2000 A.D., would provide for dynamic growth of trade in the coming years.

Shri Arjun Singh stressed the necessity of long-term planning to lend stability in trade relations and ensuring that trade and industry fully realised the possibilities in the long run. He further welcomed the signing of the protocol on delivery of machinery and equipment from USSR to India on deferred payment terms. He expressed gratification at contracting for 1985 which had been very good in comparison to the level of provisions in the trade plan. However, certain shortfalls had been noticed and, therefore, it was necessary that every effort should be made to see that contracting is done early in the year and supplies made according to delivery schedules.

The Commerce Minister also expressed the hope that the two sides would explore possibilities of production cooperation. The two sides had already identified a number of items of export interest as well as areas of cooperation in the field of production. He also said that there was enough scope to further expand and diversify cooperation, and, in this context, referred to execution projects and civil construction works by Indian companies in USSR and taking up of third country projects which held excellent promise. The Commerce Minister pointed out that both countries had taken up new responsibilities for growth of trade and economic relations around the same time, and thus had to address themselves to the challenging task of giving new dimensions to mutual relationship.

The Soviet Foreign Trade Minister, Mr. Aristov spoke warmly of

the ever strengthening ties between the two coun-  
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tries and assured that the Soviet side would do everything possible to facilitate better trade relations. Total trade turnover during 1986-90 is expected to increase at least by one and half times. (It is estimated to cross Rs. 45 billion by the end of this year.) He also emphasised diversification of trade relations.

An agreement for automatic renewal of trade and payments agreement at the end of the five year period was also signed.

SSIA INDIA USA FRANCE

**Date :** Dec 26, 1985

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SOVIET UNION

Indo-Soviet Cooperation in Power Sector

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 27, 1985 on Indo-Soviet cooperation in power sector:

India and the Soviet Union will cooperate with each other on projects in the power sector. Workshops will also be set up at Nagpur and Varanasi with the Soviet, assistance for repairing equipments of power projects.

The first phase of construction of the heavy equipment repair workshop at Varanasi would be completed with the Soviet assistance by 1985-86. The services of Soviet experts in training of Indian engineers and technicians for repair of heavy power equipments and manufacture of spare parts would be made available.

A protocol on cooperation between the two countries in the power sector was signed here today at the conclusion of five-day deliberations of the Indo-Soviet Joint Working Group on Power. The Soviet first Deputy Minister for Power and Electrification, Mr. G. A. Shasharin, and the Power Secretary, Shri M. M. Kohli, signed the protocol on behalf of their respective governments.

The working programme of cooperation between the USSR and India in the field of power for the years 1986-90 is aimed at

furthering cooperation in this field and is directed towards increasing power generation and reliability in the country. The programme is to be carried out by way of joint execution of power projects, both thermal and hydel, and modernisation of existing ones.

The Soviet Union is assisting India in the construction of the first phase of Vindhyachal super thermal power station in Madhya Pradesh consisting of six units of 210 MW each. The first unit is scheduled to be commissioned in June, 1987 and the progress of work is satisfactory.

The Soviet Union is also rendering assistance in the construction of the Kahalgaon super thermal power station in Bihar consisting of four units of 210 MW each. The Soviet Union is also assisting in the construction of the associated transmission lines. The first unit at Kahalgaon project is scheduled to be commissioned by July 1990, followed by subsequent units at six months' intervals each.

Both sides reviewed progress of supplies of spare parts from the USSR for units of Soviet origin. The Soviet organisations will take measures to expedite supply of spare parts that are most critical presently for power projects.

The Soviet Union also confirmed, in principle, to render assistance in renovation and modernisation of 26 thermal power stations of 50 MW and 100 MW capacity of Soviet make installed at various stations in India.

The Soviet side informed that their organisations had confirmed, in principle, their willingness for rendering assistance in the construction of the Bakreshwar thermal power station (3x210 MW) of the West Bengal State Electricity Board. The Indian side informed that the results of the consideration of this proposal, after  
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it was received, would be conveyed to the Soviet side as early as may be possible.

Taking into account the substantial untapped hydro-electric potential that exist in India and in the context of the need to rapidly develop this potential during the seventh and eighth Plans, both sides agreed to have closer cooperation in the execution of hydro-electric projects in India.

The two countries will also cooperate with each other on projects in the power sector in third countries by way of designing, delivery of equipment and materials, execution, erection and commissioning works and rendering of other services, including supply of power equipment by Bharat Heavy Electricals.  
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DIA RUSSIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date :** Dec 27, 1985